



Platypus — how you too can contribute

Don't forget we need to hear from you on any topic you think would be of interest to AFP members.

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In Canberra members can ring the Director, Information, Peter Windsor, on 68 3559.

And for those in the regions receiving 'Platypus' at home, if the copy is going to the wrong address please let us know immediately by writing to:

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'King Garry on the right track



Northern Territory AFP member Constable Garry Hutcheson is making a mark as a sports star.

Garry was recently crowned King of the Forrest for winning the first annual Bridgestone Forrest Car Rally.

Garry, with his wife Debbie as navigator, drove his Datsun 1600 along the dusty rural backroads of Darwin to pass a field of nine other cars.

"I owe the win to Debbie," he said. "She did the navigating. The field took the wrong track and she was dead certain that we should not follow them."

Garry started in position eight and had to live with the thick bull-dust being thrown up by the leaders. His winning time was 58 seconds and first prize was four new tyres worth \$350.

"When you drive hard on Terri-

• Garry and wife Debbie in their car.

tory roads you find out what such a prize means," he said.

Garry started rally driving in Canberra, first in his brother's car, then he bought his own.

"It's a great sport. It certainly teaches you to handle motor vehicles safely," he said.

The Bridgestone win was his first major one.

And his name joins three other AFP members who are becoming known locally as competitive sports stars.

The others are sisters Glenda and Leanne Lomas, who recently competed in the national police games in Melbourne and the Police Olympics in the US, and Noel Simmonds, who was named man of the match in the recent Rugby League grand final in Darwin.

Distance takes its toll of cricketers

AFP Cricket Club members have the classic, historical Australian excuse for their losses in the recent Australian Police Cricket Championships — the tyranny of distance.

It was the distances and the cost that made it difficult to get together the strongest AFP team, according to one of the team's organisers, Jim Searle.

"But we did reasonably well as the squad included representatives from the A.C.T., Southern and Central Regions," he added.

The AFP played three games, against the Northern Territory, South Australia and Victoria sides, and lost each one. However, on two grounds there was ample room for satisfaction.

"Our game against Queensland was rained off so we played them at indoor cricket at the South Melbourne Cricket Ground," Jim said. "We thrashed them, scoring 118 to Queensland's 29."

The other point of satisfaction was that Kel Price's 110 not out

against South Australia was the first century in the tournament's 17-year history. And it didn't go unrecognised.

"Kel received a special plaque commemorating the event and also was presented with a cricket bat for having the competition's highest aggregate score," Jim said.

Jim Searle, his captain Kel Price and vice captain Mark Jensen said shopkeepers who sponsored the ACT Regional representatives to the championships had earned the thanks of the AFP team.

"Without their help we couldn't have afforded the \$1200 accommodation charges," Jim said.

Sponsor firms were: Mobile Home Tune; Sophisticut Hair Care; Spence Shopping Centre; Esso Spence; the Sportsman's Warehouse Spence; Spence Takeaway; Edment's Jeweller; Dawes Wholesale Smallgoods; Holder SupaScoop; Evatt Newsagency; Belconnen Auto Spares; A.K. Real Estate; Hillview Video; Ampol Highway Motors.



• AFP cricketers, back row: Jim Searle, John Pearce, Kel Price, Bruce Nankervis, Mark Jensen, Phil Spence and Paul McDonald. Front row: Phil Hunter, Peter Mann, Dave McDowell, Wally Trenordan, Michael Marriott and Craig Housenloge. Missing are George Burton and John Slattery.

BASKETBALL TITLES

Darwin was host to more than 150 interstate police for the Sixth National Police Basketball Championships from 12-16 November 1984.

Organised by the Northern Territory Police, the competition saw the introduction of womens' competition alongside the established mens' series.

The AFP was represented in both competitions, with a 5-member womens' contingent from Canberra being supplemented by 4 NT Region members. From Canberra were Janette Hannon, Carolyn Elder, Delia Quigley, Linda Simpson and Denise Bird. From Darwin were Judy Howard, Sue Hammill, and the Lomas sisters, Leanne and Glenda.

Following the withdrawal of all members of the mens' team, for various reasons, a hastily-gathered



• Women — Back row: Denise Bird, Glenda Lomas, Leanne Lomas, Carolyn Elder, Delia Quigley. Front row: Janette Hannon, Judi Howard, Linda Simpson. Men — Back row: Bob Taylor, Roger Sawyer, Barry Stubbs, John White. Front row: Steve Tucker, Bill Allen.

team was formed by Darwin members Steve Tucker, John White, Bill Allen and Bob Taylor, and "Special Honorary Probationary Constables" Terry Fisk (RAAF), Ron Harris, Kevin Lyons, Barry Stubbs and Murray Cuthbertson (Ansett), Garry Gibson (TAA), Roger Sawyer and

Adrian Tatum (Customs) and Mal Purcell (Northbrick).

Five days of intense competition failed to produce a winning score for the womens' team. However, the men fared slightly better with a clear victory over the NT No 2 team.

South Australia were overall champions in both competitions.

A highlight for AFP was the inclusion of Carolyn Elder in the Police All-Star womens' team. Best player awards for AFP went to Terry Fisk and Janette Hannon.