

# Letters

Sir

I express my thanks for the assistance given me by officers of the AFP over the past few weeks. I have been harrassed and I have needed to call for police assistance.

In particular, I appreciated the sympathetic and sensitive approach of Senior Constable Mark Boyle of Belconnen Police Station.

*Margaret Groube  
Weetangera ACT*

Sir

On 10 March 1987 I had been accosted by a group of youths at the Narrabundah shops. They hurled a vicious barrage of abuse, mostly vulgar obscenities.

Upon my return home I telephoned the Duty Sergeant. With my husband I returned to the shops. To our surprise, there was a motorcycle officer interviewing the female ringleader. He received quite a hard time from her but his patience and professionalism won through.

So please pass on to the Duty Sergeant and the officer my thanks for their assistance.

*Christine McGrath  
Narrabundah ACT*

Sir

Thanks to your water policemen on Lake Ginninderra on 18 January when our sailing boat overturned. My daughters and I greatly appreciated their help and assistance in towing us to shore. We made a number of alterations to the boat following this, and it now sails quite well.

*Peter M. Gately  
Flynn ACT*

Sir

I wish to register my sincere appreciation, on behalf of my family as well as myself, for the assistance of members of the AFP when my elderly father went missing recently.

On 13 February my father, aged 83, walked out of his home in Cook, ACT, just before dark, and failed to return. My family and neighbours searched locally without success. At 9pm I called the police operations unit and the first patrol car arrived a few minutes later.

As he doesn't walk very far from home, I believed my father had had a fall close to home and would have been very confused. The police found him at about 10pm, without any ill effects from his ordeal.

The members of the police involved in the search were particularly helpful and sympathetic which made our worry easier, and confident that we would find my father.

Please pass our thanks to the operations centre and the police involved.

*Les Powell  
Macquarie ACT*

Sir

Please pass on to two of your officers the sincere thanks of me and my family for the way in which they performed their duties following my father's recent death on 16 January at his home in Ainslie, ACT.

This part of their job must be extremely trying at times and we certainly do not envy their difficult task. The officers concerned handled themselves in a very sympathetic courteous and helpful way and yet went about their business quietly and efficiently. We were all very grateful for their support and assistance and the manner in which they conducted themselves.

I suspect your officers do not get enough compliments for a job well done.

*John A. Cahill  
Macarthur ACT*

Sir

I wish to express my personal appreciation to Constable Carter and two other officers whose names I do not know for the assistance they gave me when after I had been assaulted on 23 January. I wish to thank them for having the police doctor examine me and giving me a nice drink of tea to revive me.

Their expertise and dedication to their work is a very great credit to the police force of Canberra.

Please pass my thanks to the officers concerned.

*Angelo O'Reilly  
Manuka ACT*

## VIDEO AIDS TO MENTAL, PHYSICAL FITNESS

AFP's medico, Dr Mike Dwyer, has available a series of videos aimed at keeping members physically and mentally capable of doing their responsible jobs.

One, by Dr John Taske, a sports medicine specialist, is about sensible physical exercise for police officers. Another covers ways of handling stress and anxiety. These can be shown to groups of people.

One tape, more suited for individual use, is on relaxation therapy using self-hypnosis.

These tapes run about twenty minutes each.

The obtain a copy of each tape, send a blank VHS tape to the video unit at Weston Recruit Training Centre.

Dr Dwyer is planning another video on nutrition which should be available shortly.

## COTTER MURDER

Further to the story in February Platypus about the murdered woman found near Canberra's Cotter Reserve on 25 January, following continued publicity, on 8 April she was positively identified as Mrs Debra Michelle Bush, 24, of the Canberra suburb of Kambah.

On 27 April Ian Leslie Bush, 28, a pensioner, appeared before Chief Magistrate Cahill in the ACT Magistrates Court charged with her murder.

Mr Bush, father of three children, was granted bail. He has to report to police twice a week.

The case will be brought before Magistrate Ward who is acting as Coroner for the case, for mention on 15 May 1987.

## PLATYPUS MAILING LIST

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