

TOP RECRUIT



Const. Indi Nairn

The AFP's Recruit of the Year knows where she would like her career to go next.

"I joined the AFP to be a detective and I would like to get into the Drug Unit," Constable Indi Nairn said.

"That was the area I enjoyed most during training and I found I could really get involved."

"I've always been interested in the law and I hope to continue my law studies next year. I always wanted to join the police and the AFP is an organisation where I can achieve something positive and pursue my law studies at the same time. The chance of travel with the AFP is another plus.

Indi, at 21, is one of the youngest officers ever selected as Recruit of the Year.

Born in Adelaide, she was educated at the Unley High School and Adelaide University. She gave a hint of achievements to come when she graduated as dux of Recruit Training Course 1021 in May, 1987. She also received the prize for excellence in theory law.

After completing her 13 week Stage One training Indi was deployed to Southern Region (Melbourne) where she completed a local procedures course and a rotational training programme followed by Stage Four training (introduction to detective investigation). She was awarded dux of the course.

"Currently I work at Melbourne Airport where I enjoy the camaraderie. At 21 I have quite a career ahead of me but detective work still beckons," Indi said with a smile.

McCABE FAREWELL

Assistant Commissioner (Northern Command) Ray McCabe said farewell to a 35 year police career on a brilliant Canberra winter's day on August 11.

To the stirring strains of "The British Grenadiers" from the band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon, Mr McCabe as review officer, took the salute from his last ceremonial parade of AFP recruits. (A biography of Mr McCabe appears in this issue of "Platypus")

Forty seven recruits graduated from courses 7/88 and 8/88. The dux of course 7/88 is Constable Bruce Giles who has been posted to the ACT Region and Constable David Bachi topped course 8/88. The Recruit of the Year prize went to Constable Indi Nairn (Southern Region); First Constable Kenton Turner (ACT Region) was named Motorcyclist of the Year and another Southern Region officer, First Constable Clinton "Gus" Guthridge, won the Excellence in Detective Training Award.

"There is a mass of criminal enterprise outside here dedicated to committing offences," Mr McCabe told the recruits gathered before him on the parade ground.

"Many of those enemies are as well, if not better, educated than us here and they have no allegiance to any law except the law of the jungle.

*Ass Comm. Ray McCabe at his last ceremonial parade.
(Picture by 1st. Const. Carol Trevanion)*



"They live by criminal enterprise, much of it directed against the Commonwealth.

"The Federal Government has decided that the AFP is the prime law enforcement authority in Australia and this puts on us a considerable burden to discharge under a plethora of existing legislation. The current priorities for the AFP involve major drug trafficking, organised crime, fraud against the Commonwealth and ACT policing. Each one of those priorities is a very great responsibility."

Mr McCabe said the recruits were now members of a family with a very high ethical and moral structure.

"If you don't keep those high standards you will bring disgrace on the family. It is the same with a sports team — you have to play by the rules or the umpire will call foul.

"And the penalties you face are those imposed by judges, magistrates and juries and most importantly, the public.

"The AFP is a 'family' and a 'team' that has the highest standard of training and dedication. We are looking to you to uphold everything you have sworn to do and to do so to the best of your endeavour according to law. And you must carry the standards that your duty requires of you through to your private life," Mr McCabe said.