

A FRIENDLY FAREWELL

WELL-KNOWN AFP member Inspector John Friend recently retired just before his 56th birthday. His retirement ended a lifetime police career that began in England with the Bradford Police, continued through 15 years' service in Victoria Police, took in the Commonwealth Police, and then, from day one, embraced the AFP.

John's retirement was marked by a number of functions, including one at the AFP College, Barton.

Assistant Commissioner John Reilly addressed the large crowd that attended. He pointed out that John Friend's service encompassed many aspects of policing — traditional community policing, fingerprinting, Interpol specialist, even a double term as OIC at Christmas Island.

This last posting, he said, was unique in that the Island's Administration gained two police officers for the price of one. John's wife, Connie, was herself a former British and Victoria Police officer.

Assistant Commissioner Reilly praised John's dedication and loyalty, while also touching on aspects of current morale and attitudes to discipline.

Assistant Commissioner John Reilly presents a retirement gift to Inspector John Friend.



PAULA DELLAS

PAULA DELLAS joined the Victoria Police from the Police Women's Auxiliary on 3 January 1951.

It was the beginning of a career which took her into many areas of police work and endeared her to members of the public and colleagues alike.

During her service with the Victoria Police she was involved with the Women Police Division and the Public Relations Division. Her service included all areas of police work over a number of years.

In 1968 she was promoted to Sergeant and was Second-in-Charge of the Women Police Division.

She was involved in a number of career-related courses, some of them in her own time. In 1961 she was the first woman police officer to attend and pass the Sub-officer's Training Course at Airlie.

In December 1968, Paula joined the Commonwealth Police. During her service she successfully undertook many varied courses in different areas of police operation.

In 1975 she was instrumental in the formation and function of the Regional Constable's Training Course, and in 1980 she became Welfare Officer to the Southern Region.

Her death on 3 August at the age of 59 brought to a close 36 years of police service during which she received three Commissioner's Recommendations, the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and the Australia Day Medal. She held the rank of Detective Senior Sergeant.

