

## Services Branch Providing the ways and the means

**S**ERVICES Branch provide operational branches with access to the appropriate staffing, facilities for communications, transport and operational equipment, as well as services including legal research and advice, quality control and exhibits storage control.

The OIC of the Branch is Superintendent Wal May. The Services Branch role also includes related staffing matters and issues such as welfare, employee relations, staff movements and selections, recruitment, training selection, conducting training courses and selection of appropriate staff to ensure the most effective operation.

Detective Sergeant Alan Withers is in charge of Career Development Section and he and his staff have developed a keen interest in trying to identify the right person for the job at the right time. Within the

Logistics Support, Sergeant Wally Maier and his staff provide that necessary link between the public and police.

Some of the more well known personalities assisting include Constable Bluey Pond and Katie Eglinton, the familiar voice on the switchboard. Sergeant Jim Couzens in his role in Exhibits faithfully controls Regional drug seizures and other exhibits necessary for the smooth operation of the prosecution process.

To ensure quality legal advice, Sergeant Ray Bedford and his fellow 'legal eagles' have developed skills from courses and experience. Their advice is of valuable assistance to investigators.

In line with the organisational policy, Sergeant Carmel Crawley-Selva provides a caring Employee

Relations Officer role for all members and Sergeant Laurie D'Ekenaike organises Regional training. Detective Sergeant John Shaw is the mentor and liaison officer for the Region's 61 undergraduates within the Undergraduate Sponsorship Scheme. At present, 17 are studying at Queensland University of Technology and 44 students are studying at Griffith University. It is anticipated the first graduates will complete their courses at the end of 1993 and after skills training, those selected will be deployed in 1994.

Peter Cave, our Regional technician, ensures the region's technical systems are as free of the gremlins as possible.

Although Branch members are in a support role, their assistance is recognised and provides a valuable contribution to the 'sharp end'.

## Corporate Management Branch Simply indispensable

**T**HE Corporate Management Branch supports the Region's operational activities. Its 17 staff members are based at Regional Headquarters at Milton in Brisbane.

It is headed by Adrian Hughes, who is currently attached to the Resources Review Team, and is responsible directly to the Assistant Commissioner, Northern Region, for the provision of the wide range of corporate services such as personnel matters pay functions accounts processing, assets, purchasing, expenditure monitoring and reporting, and a full range of registry activities.

The Branch is also responsible for the maintenance and operation of a LAN Network based on Novell software and also for the maintenance and tenanting of the AFP's only staff housing.

A notable member of the Corporate Services team is Mrs Anne Ney (nee Elliott) who has worked in Northern Region, Brisbane, since

November 1980 and is also the longest serving public servant/staff member in the Region.

She came to Brisbane from Mackay to find her first job and began at the AFP as a Clerical Assistant Grade 1. Shortly afterwards she acted in charge of the growing registry. She was promoted to a staff position in Intelligence where she worked for two years and then moved to Organised Crime for four years.

In 1988 she moved to the Finance Section which became Corporate Management Branch in 1990. She is presently the Region's Collector of Public Monies and is responsible for paying accounts, administering advances and finance. She is a level 2 staff member.

During her time in the Region she met then Detective Constable (now Sergeant) Mark Ney and they were married in 1987. They have a boy, Luke, with another child expected in October.



Mrs Anne Ney

"Obviously I like it here after 12 years otherwise I would not have stayed," she said, recently.

"I enjoy working with the type of people we have in the AFP and the Region. I have worked in many different areas in Regional Headquarters in both operational and non-operational areas. This has given me a good appreciation of both roles and to see how they complement each other.

"Both are essential to resolving operations and I see it directly when I have to organise and provide the advances to allow an investigator to travel to undertake inquiries.

"The others in the Corporate Management Branch feel the same way that our work is important and we have skills the Region needs. There is a good team feeling within the whole Region.