

## 1979

Sir Colin Woods sworn in as first AFP Commissioner on 11 September.

On 19 October the AFP started its first day of operation.

In November the first edition of Platypus magazine was published.



1985 the first Neighbourhood Watch program was introduced by ACT community policing

## 1983

Major-General Ronald Grey was sworn in as Commissioner in February.

The AFP began investigating 'bottom-of-the-harbour' tax evasion.



## 1981

AFP Protective Service Officers take over responsibility for guarding Government House, The Lodge and Parliament House.

## 1985

In April, a woman's body was found in Lake Burley-Griffin, weighted with concrete blocks. A man was charged with her murder.

In July, the first Neighbourhood Watch program was introduced by ACT community policing.

## 1980

As part of Operation Global the AFP in Adelaide arrests 17 people for importation of more than 40kg of cannabis resin from India.



## 1982

Random breath testing was introduced into the ACT.

## 1984

The AFP arrested four members of one family for committing \$300,000 fraud against the Department of Social Security. All received lengthy prison sentences.



## 1986

Pope John Paul II visited Australia in November. The AFP provided officers for protection duties during his visit.

a snapshot  
of 30 years

1994 David Harold Eastman was found guilty of murdering Assistant Commissioner Colin Winchester

## 1987

Commissioner Grey became the first Australian Police Commissioner to visit the People's Republic of China.



## 1989

In January, Assistant Commissioner Colin Winchester was murdered in the driveway adjacent to his home. Operation Peat was formed to investigate the murder.



## 1991

Operation Bud investigated the theft of fossils from remote sites in South Australia and Western Australia. This was the first investigation by the AFP under the Movable Cultural Heritage Act (1986). In April 1997, three men were found guilty in Perth District Court. The fossils were returned to Australia from Germany and Japan.



## 1993

The AFP Museum opened at the Weston Police Complex.

An AFP officer was appointed head of Civilian Police for the United Nations Somalia Justice Program. Two AFP superintendents provided advice and assisted in development and training of the civilian police authority as part of the UN Operations in Somalia (UNOSOM II).



## 1988

In February, Peter McAulay was appointed as the AFP's third Commissioner.

Kathy Burdett in April became the first female officer deployed to a peacekeeping mission when she joined the AFP contingent of the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Cyprus.

## 1990

In January, smoking was banned in all AFP work areas.

Operation Dogwood resulted in the arrest of a drug smuggler in Sydney. He was convicted and sentenced in 1993 to 22 years jail.

## 1992

The AFP launch Colin Woods was used to rescue a lone yachtsman off Jervis Bay.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Canberra, and the AFP provided uniformed and plain clothes police for security.

Ten AFP officers were deployed to Cambodia in support of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

In December, President George HW Bush visited Canberra, with the AFP providing protective service.



## 1994

In May, Mick Palmer was sworn in as the fourth AFP Commissioner.

The Winchester Police Centre was opened in June.

David Harold Eastman was found guilty of murdering Assistant Commissioner Colin Winchester.

1990 smoking was banned in all AFP work areas

## 1995

In January, ACT Drug Operations branch investigated nine deaths believed to be from heroin overdoses. Analysis of the heroin seized established that heroin being sold on Canberra streets had a purity level of up to 77 per cent.

## 1997

In February, DNA profiling was introduced into Forensic Services as a routine, in-house technique.

July was the 50th anniversary of the swearing-in of the first woman police officer in the ACT.

The AFP provided a 13-member rescue team following the Thredbo landslide disaster. They played a major role in extracting Stuart Diver, the sole survivor.

## 1999

The AFP website received its one millionth visitor in May.

In July, a full-time chaplain was appointed to the AFP.

A 75-year-old man was arrested at Parliament House after he drove his vehicle through the front doors and threw two improvised bombs.

Compulsory drug testing of all AFP personnel was introduced in August.

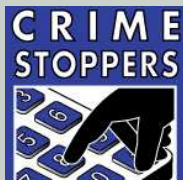
The AFP celebrated 20 years in Australian federal law enforcement.

## 2001

In February, the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) was commissioned as part of CrimTrac.

In April, Commissioner Mick Keelty was sworn in.

On September 11 the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon in the United States were attacked by terrorists. The AFP joined other government agencies in a coordinated response to protect Australia's interests.



## 1996

The Forensic Services facilities at Weston were inspected by National Association of Testing Authorities and received accreditation against internationally recognised standards.

In April, AFP members held back 2000 protesters who tried to enter Parliament House.

The ACT region Crime-Stoppers was launched in December.

## 1998

In June, the CrimTrac database was launched by Prime Minister John Howard.

In December, a bomb exploded in Fyshwick Mail Centre, and 21 further bombs were identified. Six devices reached destinations in eastern states without detonation. A Canberra man was arrested four days after the discovery of the bombs.

## 2000

Refurbishment of the forensic laboratories at Weston was completed.

The AFP provided officers for security at the Sydney Olympic Games.

In September, ACT Policing's new Mounted Police Squad began operation after four weeks specialised training at NSW Police Academy, Goulburn.

Ten AFP members joined an international peacekeeping team sent to Solomon Islands to establish a ceasefire.



## 2002

The Australian Bomb Data Centre and Computer Forensics joined Forensic Services at the Weston Police Complex.

Janelle Paton was murdered on Norfolk Island, the first murder case there in more than 150 years. The AFP collected 1258 sets of fingerprints for comparison and elimination.

In April, the Australian High Tech Crime Centre was established in Canberra.

The Bali bombings killed 202 people, including 88 Australians. AFP forensics conducted explosive residue analysis and DNA profiling of victims.

1998 the CrimTrac database was launched by Prime Minister John Howard

## 2003

In January, bushfires struck Canberra. Four people died and 500 houses were destroyed. The AFP firing range at Weston was totally destroyed.

In April, Operation Sorbet recovered 50kg heroin off the coast near Lorne, Victoria. This resulted in the armed boarding of the Pong Su and the arrest of 34 people.



30<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY  
1979-2009

## 2009

In March, the AFP assisted NSW Police by providing cordon and containment support in response to an alleged murder at Sydney Airport.

In July, for the first time, the AFP profiled four families who shared their stories to raise awareness of missing persons as part of National Missing Persons Week, which was officially launched by Governor-General Quentin Bryce.

Commissioner Keelty announced his retirement from the AFP effective 2 September.

On 7 September Commissioner Tony Negus was sworn in.



2004 The AFP's International Deployment Group (IDG) was established

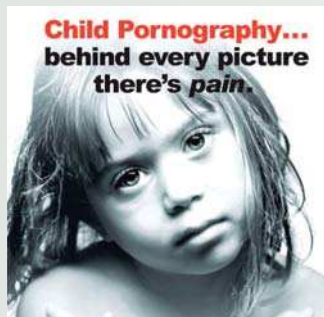
## 2005

The IDG Training Complex at Majura was officially opened by Prime Minister John Howard.



## 2007

Tony Mokbel was arrested in Greece.



## 2004

The AFP's International Deployment Group (IDG) was established in February.

In September, hundreds of people were charged with child sex offences as a result of Operation Auxin, which was coordinated by the Australian High Tech Crime Centre.



## 2006

In March, AFP officers deployed to Sudan to assist the United Nations peacekeeping mission.

The vessel Pong Su was disposed of by sinking approx 140kms off the coast of Jervis Bay.

The AFP deployed to Timor-Leste on a peacekeeping mission.



## 2008

A joint AFP and Microsoft Child Exploitation Tracking System was launched by then Minister for Home Affairs, Bob Debus.

In October, a team of AFP Disaster Victim Identification specialists deployed to Nepal to identify and recover the bodies of two Australians killed in a light plane crash.

The 100th edition of Platypus Magazine was published in October.

In December, the Clarke inquiry report into the AFP's investigation of Dr Mohamed Haneef was released.