



NORTHAMPTON POLICE STATION

258 Hampton Road, Northampton WA 6535

e-Newsletter | August 2018

From the Officer-in-Charge

Sergeant Matt Donkin

Thanks to Chris for acting in my position for most of June while I was away. I returned just in time for the *meeting of the mob* at the *Ewe Turn Party*. And what a party it was. It was great to see so many people turn out and the organisers should be extremely proud of what they achieved. I would like to personally thank Jenny Passalacqua from *Kurrajong Farm Art* for painting our sheep with the *Rural Watch* theme. It will soon be proudly displayed at the front of the Police Station.

As Chris mentioned last month, Pete Dawson, has transferred from Northampton to Geraldton. I would like to echo Chris' remarks and thank Pete for his contribution while at Northampton and wish him all the best in Geraldton. Pete's replacement has been selected and will be arriving later this month. First Class Constable Brendan Davidson is currently a weapons/tactical trainer at the Police Academy and has previous Regional and Metropolitan policing experience and will be a great fit at the Station.

Crime Update

Crime statistics are reported on a financial year basis. Despite having a significant crime spike in November 2017 (with 34 offences reported) I am extremely pleased to report that overall we had a 6% decrease in crime last financial year. We saw a significant decrease in burglary and damage offences however what was a concern was an increase in family / domestic assaults. When I first arrived in September last year I made a commitment to increasing our focus on crime and believe it is paying off. While the reporting year is only early our statistics for July indicate a massive 67% reduction in offences based on this time last financial year and a very impressive 100% clearance rate (meaning all reported offences have been solved).

We were extremely proactive in July and executed a number of search warrants seizing drugs and other items. We also investigated, and solved, a number of serious offences including Burglary and Damage.

Meeting with the Commissioner

During 19-20 July I attended a conference in Geraldton with other Officers in Charge from the Mid West-Gascoyne Police District. The conference was attended by the Commissioner of Police, the Assistant Commissioner of Regional WA and a number of other Police executive. It was extremely informative and great to hear first-hand the strategic direction and corporate priorities of the Police Force. Two key areas which affect us are *Aboriginal offending and victimisation* and *youth offending*. The Police Force will be investing heavily in reducing offending/victimisation in these areas and it was clear there is not a *one size fits all* solution. As such I am keen to hear from you about any suggestions you have in ways we can combat these issues.

Road Crash

Five people were lucky to walk away from a head on crash that happened on Saturday 15 July along Port Gregory Road. The crash happened when the driver of a four wheel drive veered onto the incorrect side of the road and collided head on with a Toyota Corolla. All five occupants were treated at the scene by Ambulance and later conveyed to Hospital as a precaution. The driver of the four wheel drive received a \$300 fine for driving with undue care and attention.