Police Officers' children harassed

The harassment of police officers' children at school is a problem which has not been addressed in the past, according to Chief Inspector Tom Rippon, Secretary of the Victoria Police Association.

Mr Rippon was speaking at the inaugural meeting of the Study Group on Police in Australian Society held on 14 May at Chisholm.

About 70 people attended the meeting which was well supported by interstate police officers from Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania together with members of the Federal Police.

The Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Mr Race Mathews, and the Shadow Minister, Mr Digby Crotzer, also attended.

The Study Group was started to allow discussion on a variety of topics concerning policing and its effect on the community. The Group's role is to create an informed and amicable atmosphere where discussion can take place freely without participants feeling the risk of jeopardising their careers.

Mr Rippon said police officers' children were more at risk of harassment if they lived in small country towns and had to travel by school bus to major centres. Fellow passengers could reflect their parents' displeasure or even violence.

The Group was started to offset any change had been suggested was to allow students to develop a planned systems analysis first before any technology was introduced rather than introducing more computerisation.

Dr Williams maintained that women were a minority group of students in courses such as Engineering. He said also that it was necessary for the academic staff to develop a more comprehensive plan for the education of women.

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Teacher camps: tough but lots of fun

Schools' camps are often seen as just an excuse for a good time, but those held by Frankston's School of Education are much more than that.

They are exhausting, demanding and soon determine who can and can't handle the rigours of teaching.

Regular camps are held at a Portsea site where prospective trainee teachers spend a week in the lives of policemen in a dangerous or potentially dangerous mission. Disgust, revulsion, fear or apprehension is a normal response when a student first arrives at the campsite (without food a group of children can eat and what they should feed them).

The children are generally in Grades 5 and 6 and from schools used for training rounds. Many students don't have children of their own and they find it particularly tiring.

The children participate in more than just games at the camp. They make their own videos, film in their own storylines, make their own, colorful kites and witness rescue attempts by the local Sea and Rescue helicopter.

In this case a 'lucky' student in a wetsuit is dropped from 30 feet up by the helicopter into the sea at the Sorrento pier. The children love seeing the pilot demonstrate his rescue skills by picking that student out of the water, says Bob.

'Many of the students describe the week as the best educational experience they have ever had,' says Bob. 'They find it very friendly and warm experience to share that time with the children and their fellow students.'

Likewise, the participating schools are equally enthusiastic. 'Many have said they would be glad to have any of our students on their staff.'

Below, Frankston lecturer and camp organizer, Bob Greaves, helping students from Cheltenham Heights Primary School make their own video.

The fight against crime

Mr David Marr introduced himself as a 'humble muckraker' in presenting the occasional address at the Conferring Ceremony for graduates of the Schools of Art and Design, Education and Social and Behavioural Studies on 20 May.

Mr Marr, BA, LLB, discussed the 'Age tapes' and action that should be taken to curb corruption in Australia. He said the struggle between the Press and some prominent people being waged in Australia with a good deal of ferocity and prissiness. At this stage the prominent people involved were winning. 'We are not out of the woods with the Age tapes yet,' he said.

Mr Marr is an investigative journalist who has worked for The National Times and the ABC program, Four Corners as well as in a legal office. He has also written a biography of the former Chief Justice of the High Court, Sir Garfield Barwick, and an account of the Combe-Ivanov affair. He is working now on a biography of the writer, Patrick White.

Mr Marr said serious and entrenched crime existed in every capital city in Australia. In Sydney it was one of the mainstays of the economy.

It had existed there, particularly since the Second World War, in the principal areas of drugs, prostitution, gambling and, above all, in the zoning and reasoning of the use of land.

Mr Marr said crime had prospered well in Sydney, not because 'We're a rotten lot', but because of the brilliant policies of survival that were being played out in high places.

These techniques of withstanding the pursuit of truth were now spreading throughout Australia because of the 'watershed' revelations of the Age tapes.

Mr Marr urged that there should be a full, public inquiry into the Age tapes. He said allegations from this source had gone unanswered because of a refusal by a 'series of extremely deft, cunning techniques' to hold such an inquiry.

The first avoidance method he called 'the hacket'. This involved calling the tapes 'fake and phoney'. Such dodsal had now been declared untrue. The tapes had been established as records of actual conversations.

The second avoidance method involved arguments concerning civil liberties.

Nothing dogs the pursuit of crime and criminals in this country at the moment more than the complex misunderstanding of the nature of civil liberties', Mr Marr said.

He believes there should be no civil liberty for the guilty to evade the processes of the Law.

The argument concerning the Age tapes went that the breaches of the Law in the tape-making were so horrendous that the evidence revealed could never be used against people.

Mr Marr said this was not a disputable argument but he thought it had been used to a disputable end, that is, that no attention should be paid to what was said on the tapes because they were illegally obtained.

He said it was a bit like saying: 'I have illegally obtained information that you are about to be run over by a truck but do not stand on the footpath because I got this information wrongly'.

However the most daring argument used to avoid an open inquiry was that material in the tapes about corruption should be sent at once to a prosecuting authority to see if a trial should be held.

Mr Marr described this as a 'macho' stance saying that such a school of thought which dared authorities to: 'Send me to trial, send me to jail or shut up', was extremely strong in Australia at the moment.

Trials were almost no good at all in answering the kinds of questions which needed to be answered, Mr Marr said. They were too narrow and boiled down essentially complex issues of public reputation and responsibility to the issue of guilt or innocence of a criminal charge. While with the Lionel Murphy investigation by three retired judges, Mr Marr urged listeners to keep in mind the structures under which the inquiry would operate. He said it was to be more secret than that into the action of David Combe. Also the rules of evidence would make the procedure too legalistic so that the inquiry would fall far short of what was needed.

Mr Marr said: 'Crime and the handling of it concerns us all. In congratulating the graduates he urged them not to let their curiosity be set aside by any tricks or subtle, sophisticated methods of avoidance.

'Ask, please, and keep asking', he said.
Accounting bonanza

The Department of Accounting celebrated 25 years of full-time Accounting Education at Chisholm with a bonanza silver Jubilee Graduation and Prize Giving Dinner at 'Merriments', Cheltenham, on Friday 16 May.

The guest speaker was Mr Harry Parsons who spoke on 'Badinage, Gobbledygook and Saying What You Mean'.

The audience was also treated to a rooftop display of musical virtuosity when Lilli Allgood, of the Department, and Andrew Gough performed such stirring pieces as 'A Symphony in BDP Minor' arranged by Brian Looto and 'A Self Contra' arranged by Holmes a Court.

The origins of Accounting at Chisholm date back to part-time classes in bookkeeping at the Caulfield Technical School in the 1930s. The first part-time Accounting course, the Accounting Certificate, began soon after World War II.

Full-time courses began in 1961, with seven students undertaking the Diploma of Commerce.

At this time the Department was housed in an old weatherboard church hall. Ben Newbold, the Head of the Department from 1964, resigned in September 1965 in protest over his failure to obtain improved conditions for students and staff.

Better accommodation was found in 1970 with the completion of the first four levels of F Block, but the Department was still moved from one place to another for eight years before finding a permanent home.

The Department of Accounting was the name of the Department which had been changed several times with the Bachelor of Business (Accounting) being commenced in 1975 and the School being renamed the David Syne Business School in 1980.

Darrell Mahoney became Chairperson of the Department in 1985 when Noel Huggan became Advisor to the Dean after heading the Department since 1966.

Chains for the Bachelor of Business (Accounting) began at Frankston in 1982.

By the end of 1985 enrolments for the BBS were over 2,500 out of the Chisholm total of 6,500. Of these, 1,100 students were enrolled for the Bachelor of Business (Accounting) - 250 were at the Frankston campus.

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Network link for campuses

Chisholm hopes to make better use of limited finances by developing a communications network to link its two campuses using broadband technology.

This is one of the major objectives set out in the 1986/1990 Triennial Planning Submission to the Victorian Post Secondary Education Commission. Dr Roy Williams has the responsibility of developing a communications network.

A major advantage of such a network is set out in a study made by the former Dean of the Faculty of Technology, Dr Trevor Pearcey, for the Communications Working Party of the Equipment Advisory Committee. The study entitled Communications and Chisholm, recommends that a broadband cable be run linking each of the buildings on the Caulfield campus, a similar cable be run linking buildings at Frankston and a sophisticated communications connection link the two. This latter cable could be a microwave or optical fibre link.

Broadband connections capable of carrying video data as well as computer data and voice communications would be needed.

The move aims to achieve more for the staff and students of Chisholm despite financial stringency. It would help overcome the problem of duplicating the services and effort required by a dual campus.

For example, a lecturer could give a lecture in one location and have it transmitted to a different campus.

Also, video conferencing facilities would help limit travelling times for participants and, because Telecom lines would not be needed, off-campus study would be less expensive for a student in a small town.

The Pearcey report states that the system would provide programmes at the use of office and professional aids, data and message communication, document management, computer aided education and information services and the development of video facilities.

The Institute expects the facilities to cost more than $1 million although present expenditure, such as the $30,000 spent each year on a leased Telecom line, will be recouped.

It is hoped work on the installation of the network will begin later this year, as if it is not in place by 1988, the need to increase central computer power at Frankston will rate a higher priority.

Software donated to Chisholm Accounting

Coopers & Lybrand, a national firm of Chartered Accountants, recently donated copies of its microcomputer software package 'Preaudit', valued at $5,000, to the Chisholm Institute of Technology.

Staff from the Department of Accounting visited the Coopers & Lybrand training centre for instruction in the use of the software which will be used in undergraduate accounting and audit education.

Coopers & Lybrand's Computer Audit Partner, Bruce Humphries, said the donation is in recognition of the changes in academic preparation.

"We regularly hire accounting graduates from institutes such as Chisholm and it is very important to us that these students are trained within an academic environment that is relevant to the actual practice of accounting and auditing in the field."

The microcomputer package is the same software used by the firm for the preparation of audit working papers internationally. The donation is part of a national program being carried out by the firm. Software valued in excess of $14 million is being made available to nearly 50 Australian Universities and Colleges of Advanced Education to be used as an instructional tool in the classroom.

Sufficient copies are being provided so the students can have hands-on experience with the package.
Outstanding apprentice award for Mark

Chisholm apprentice electrician, Mr Mark Formby, was recently awarded a prize for being Outstanding Apprentice - Second Year in Electrical Mechanics. Mark received his award at a presentation ceremony at the Camberwell Civic Centre on 28 May.

Mark is studying for his apprenticeship at Swinburne Institute of Technology while working at Chisholm in the Premises Branch.

Prizes and awards

Mr Gary W. Cochrane has been awarded the Institution of Engineers, Australia, award for the best Engineering student of 1985. He received a medal and a cheque for $100.

As well as working for the State Electricity Commission of Victoria he was the main driving force for the first annual Design Camp held near the Falls Creek ski resort. He started the Art Society, supervised the concrete Engineers, Australia, award for best thesis in the Savas Memorial trophy for the outstanding student in another outstanding student, won the Graduation Camp held near the Falls Creek Dinner of the Department of State Electricity Commission of Australia, probably holds a Combining his design work with Artbur Stokes, one of the Chisholm course for editors: titles be has designed. Chisholm, Arthur has decided it passion: sculpture.

Singing: a birthright

Singing is a child’s birthright according to Dr William May, a Visiting Fellow at Chisholm during May and June.

Dr May is the Assistant Professor of Music at North Texas State University. He is a specialist in choral music, music curricula for secondary schools and on the psychology of music. He has also worked extensively on primary school children’s musical preferences and on early identification of the musically gifted.

Dr May says that singing is a human activity common to all cultures. While in Melbourne he studied the musical preferences of Australian primary school children compared to American ones. His overall finding was that the similarities were greater than the differences.

He puts this down to the similar cultures in the two countries. “You watch the same programs on television and buy Big Macs like we do,” he says.

One difference is that Americans are less hesitant about singing in public than Australians. Whenever we go to the ball game we sing the National anthem. An American teacher thinks nothing of singing in front of a crowd, he says.

Among children the boys tend to favour louder, faster music in both countries while girls prefer quieter, softer music.

Also, young children had broader musical interests than older children. Hamburg and rock and country and western music became preferences quite early in both countries.

Dr May visited Chisholm previously four years ago. He also taught the musical preferences of 14 Australian music students to the US about two years ago. This was most successful, he said, because Americans have comparatively little exposure to Australian culture.

Dr May said the hospitality in Melbourne had been grand. Also, the concerts he attended in Melbourne and Sydney were of a comparable standard to those in his home State of Texas.

Elections

The Academic Board is to be restructured. Council has yet to approve the proposed new structure but, in anticipation of this, nominations are called for elected positions on the Board.

There are to be 15 positions for academic staff: five from each of the David Syme Business School and the Faculty of Technology and five spread between the schools of Art and Design, Education and Social and Behavioural Studies.

Classifieds

The Supply Department has the following items for Disposal:
• o three sound on slide projectors; o one boardroom table of solid mahogany measuring 7 x 20 feet; o one National telephone answering machine; o one set of Weddlearn scales; o one Dick Smith VZ 200 computer c/w 16K memory module, 200 interface and monitor.

For further information and offers in writing please contact Shirley Phillips, Supply Department, ext. 2059.

To Rent: Furnished bedroom, sitting room, separate bathroom, share kitchen (OSP). Near Malvern and Burke Rds. Close to shops and transport. $60 pw. Ring Ms McMichael - (AH) on 25 8506.

Oddments

Maruta Ayres was elected unopposed through a casual vacancy as the representative of the Administrative group on the Committee of VCAS (Chisholm branch). She will serve until 1 August 1986.

The 1986 White Pages are now available from the Supply Loading Bay.

Stokes to retire

Arthur Stokes, one of the small number of specialist book designers in Australia, has just held a record for the number of titles he has designed.

He is well known among publishers also for his work on the Chisholm course for editors: "Words into Print".

After eleven years of combining his design work with lecturing in graphic design at Chisholm, Arthur has decided it time for a change. He will leave the Institute on 30 June to concentrate on a small design practice which, hopefully, will spare him time for his other passion: sculpture.

He might also write a textbook on book design and production to assist students and people involved in publishing.