

NATIONAL POLICE REMEMBRANCE DAY

29 SEPTEMBER 2009

Each year, 29 September holds a special significance for police throughout Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands. It is a day for police to pause and honour officers whose lives have been cut short while performing their duty as a police officer. This important day is also a time to remember police officers who have lost their lives through illness or other circumstances.

National Police Remembrance Day is observed on the main feast day for Saint Michael the Archangel, Patron Saint of police. St Michael is recognised as an archangel by the Christian, Jewish and Islamic faith.

National Police Remembrance Day was first held on 29 September 1989, as a result of a joint decision at the 1988 Australasia and South West Pacific Region Commissioner's Conference.

NSW POLICE FORCE WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

In February 1999, the Premier of New South Wales, The Hon. Bob Carr, MP, announced the NSW State Government would fund the construction of a memorial to honour the memory of police officers who died serving the NSW community.

On 5 December 1999, Mr Carr officially unveiled the Wall of Remembrance. The wall is located to the eastern side of the NSW Art Gallery on Art Gallery road, in Sydney's Domain.

The names of NSW Police Force officers who lost their lives while they were performing police duties are etched in the memorial's wall.

NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL

In 2006 the National Police Memorial was officially opened in Canberra on 29 September. The memorial pays tribute to Australian police officers who have been killed on duty or have died as a result of their duties since the advent of policing in Australia. Importantly, the memorial recognises the unique nature of police service and the dangers that police face in their daily pursuits.

