Celebrations for 100 Years of Women in Policing culminated last month.

Corporate Sponsor for Women in Policing, Det Supt Karen Webb said she is amazed by the stunning success of all celebrations hosted throughout the year.

“We have celebrated the role of women and paid tribute to the strength of those who changed the attitudes and expectations of what was once a male-oriented organisation,” she said.

“This has been an amazing year of local and statewide celebrations that have not only reflected on the influence women have brought to policing, but also raised awareness among the community of the role women play in today’s police force and the amazing opportunities offered equitably to both women and men.

“I would like to thank all staff who volunteered to help organise the conference, the reception at Government House, the gala dinner which drew almost 1000 guests, the Women In Policing Awards, the Baton Relay, the Women’s Expo earlier this year and, in my view what was our proudest moment, the 100 Years of Women in Policing Parade through Sydney’s CBD.”
Pride on display

Words cannot express the absolute joy, excitement and pride felt by the women participating in the 100 Years of Women in Policing Parade on Thursday 3 September.

Friendship and camaraderie were on display as we waited to form up outside the Hyde Park Barracks. I for one felt the weight of all of the former female sworn and unsworn members of this organisation.

Stepping off as part of the unsworn contingent, we were all determined to match the professionalism of our wonderful sworn colleagues.

In front of us were rows and rows of blue uniforms in perfect formation, led by Women in Policing Corporate Sponsor, Det Supt Karen Webb.

Penny Cheverall
Finance & Business Services

Parade Commander Supt Donna Adney with an all-female banner party led by Insp Tracy Chapman
The Gala Dinner
The Gala Dinner at Luna Park celebrated the history and achievements of 100 Years of Women in Policing. Guests were able to ride the Ferris Wheel before entering the electric atmosphere of the Big Top. Entertainment included a uniform parade and the NSW Police Rock Band. The evening will be remembered as a remarkable occasion.

Thanks go to sponsors AHG, Telstra and Police Bank.

Kellie Cooper
Education & Training

International conference
Early in the week of the street parade, the NSWPF hosted the Ninth Australasian Council of Women & Policing (ACWAP) Conference at Sydney’s iconic Luna Park. Almost 400 police staff came from jurisdictions across Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Vietnam.

Participants had the choice of listening to almost 60 guest speakers throughout the three-day event, including a panel of Australian police commissioners, as well as respected international guest speakers.

Opened with a message from then Prime Minister Tony Abbott, the conference discussed feminist criminology, Muslim women in policing, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, violence against women and girls, police women and anxiety, the new counter terrorism environment, challenges, the future of remote policing, the importance of capability, the tactics used by abusers and courses at the Australian Institute of Police Management for women in public safety organisations.

Formed in 1997, ACWAP is an entirely voluntary organisation that works with women and men in law enforcement, feminist organisations and researchers to keep women on the policing agenda.

Go to www.acwap.com.au for more information.

Recalling excellence
Congratulations to the winners of the Commissioner’s Perpetual Award for the Advancement of Women in Policing.

Champion of Change
Insp Anne Clarke (Southern Region)

Role Model
Sgt Debra Rowe (Newcastle)
Sgt Leanne Walsh (Chifley)
Insp Christine George (Manning/Great Lakes)
Det Supt Kerrie Lewis (PSC)

Local Hero
Rebecca Couch (Tweed/Byron)
Det Sgt Yonneka Hill (Canobolas)

Mentor
Christine Agius (HR)
Jody Doulaetas (HR)
Insp Catherine Cole (HR)
Sgt Debbie Veness (FSG)

Philanthropy
Cst Mel Robson (Barwon)

Dynamic Leader
Supt Gelina Talbot (Barwon)

The Baton Relay
The Baton Relay was an overwhelming success. With the assistance of local liaison officers it made its way through all 76 local area commands as well as many specialist commands.

Each liaison officer made their event unique and special to the command and made it possible for as many officers as possible to help celebrate our centenary.

This was a momentous occasion in my career and one I will proudly reflect on for many years. I was so proud when the final baton leg ran towards me and I was handed the baton to carry in the parade.

Congratulations to everyone who played a role in its long journey.

Insp Nicole Bruce
Richmond LAC
Centenary Conference

More than 750 NSWPF staff attended the Women in Policing Centenary Conference in the Big Top at Luna Park on 4 September.

An amazing line up of guest speakers brought their stories to life during the conference, which was made possible by the generous support of First State Super.

Speakers included fitness queen Michelle Bridges; cultural change expert and former Chief of Army, Lieutenant General David Morrison; solo sailor and 2011 Young Australian of the Year, Jessica Watson; former police prosecutor, Magistrate Jacqui Milledge; and founding editor of Cleo magazine, Ita Buttrose.

Participant feedback included, “Fantastic line up of speakers – exceptional quality”, “Can’t stop talking about it”, “The conference was really top class”, “The organising committee did an amazing job,” and “A most inspiring event”.

Det Supt Karen Webb said she was amazed by the stunning success of this conference, which was the culminating event in a year of celebrations.