WOMEN IN POLICING

2015

CELEBRATING

100 YEARS
Plans are underway to celebrate 100 years of women in policing next year.

STORY TRACI PALLADINO
POLICE MONTHLY

Corporate Sponsor for Women in Policing, Supt Karen Webb said an exciting calendar of events is being planned with the help of more than 100 officers on a number of organising committees.

“We plan to kick the year off with an exciting expo that will recognise International Women’s Day and mark the start of a statewide baton relay,” she said. “We’re planning a parade through the CBD to the Opera House, a reception at Government House, a formal dinner for at least 1000 guests, and the biennial Spokeswomen’s Conference.

“We also have plans to publish a coffee table book, develop a webpage and network across a number of social media platforms including Facebook and LinkedIn. During 2015, NSW Police Legacy and the organisers of the Wall to Wall Ride will also focus on the women we have lost.”

**Our celebration plans**

The centenary year will kick off in early March with an expo. This promises to be a huge event displaying the capabilities, history and proud traditions of women in the NSW Police Force. Led by Bridie O’Sullivan, the organising committee is negotiating venues and activities, and hopes this event will coincide with International Women’s Day.

A statewide baton relay is being planned by a committee led by Supt Craig Sheridan and Insp Nicole Bruce. This will hopefully be launched at the expo and involve as many rural and regional commands across the state as possible. The idea will be to celebrate women in policing with our local communities in a rolling festival.

A reception at Government House is being planned by a committee led by Supt Doreen Cruickshank. It’s expected that tickets will be highly sought after, so the committee is considering a ballot process.

The history and achievements of women in policing will be highlighted in a coffee table book to be sold for a moderate price. The committee, led by Supt Beth Stinton, is hoping the book will be ready for sale at the expo and other events throughout the year.

Commemorative memorabilia is also being organised with the Police Shop.

During our centenary year the NSWPF will be represented by a number of role models who will act as ambassadors. Led by Robyn Foster, the committee selecting these inspirational people is looking for high achievers – both young and old – in a number of categories including policing expertise, rural policing, big business and sports.

The statewide baton relay is expected to finish on 3 September and will mark the start of a parade through Sydney CBD to the Sydney Opera House. Organisers, led by Sgt Brook Russell, are expecting to limit participants to 700 officers. Contingents will include uniformed police, unsworn officers, retired officers, VIPs and a contingent of participants from the Australasian Council for Women & Policing (ACWAP) conference being planned for the same week.

Later that evening, we’re planning a formal dinner for 1000 guests. While the venue is to be confirmed, Kellie Cooper and her organising committee are hoping to stage the event at the Big Top at Luna Park. Again tickets will be limited and highly sought after.

The following day, hopefully at the same venue, Penny Cheverall and the Spokeswomen’s Network are planning the biennial conference, which will be the last event in the long list of celebrations.

Throughout the year NSW Police Legacy will focus on the women we have lost. These women will also receive a special tribute from participants of the Wall to Wall Ride the week prior to National Police Remembrance Day.

Each of the organising committees would appreciate your help and input. You’re welcome to contact any of them with ideas or contributions.

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**Do you have photographs and memorabilia we could use?**

Organisers from each of the committees would love to use your photographs and other memorabilia.

*Save them to this folder: P:\Public Affairs\Dropzone\*

*Drop your files here\Women in Policing photos*