



# OUTBACK *Ambulance*

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## Alice Springs Investiture

*Official Journal of*  
***ST JOHN AMBULANCE Australia***  
*(Northern Territory) Inc*



St John Ambulance Australia  
Northern Territory

## First Aid Training

### Public Training Course List

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Junior First Aid</b>             | For young people who would like to know a little bit about first aid. Ideal for those between 9 and 13 years who would like to know about how the body works and basic learn some first aid. Offered during school holidays. 1 day  |
| <b>Accident Action</b>              | A 'see it do it' short course to assist with the emergency care of the sick or injured. This course is not the equivalent of a Senior First Aid course but offers hands-on training for commonly encountered emergency situations. Ideal for security personnel, sporting club members or any person in a workplace who wishes to gain basic knowledge and skills of essential first aid. 6 hours   |
| <b>Caring for Kids</b>              | Ideal for first time parents and guardians of infants and young children. 1 day or 2 x 1/2 days.  |
| <b>Senior First Aid</b>             | Covers important emergency first aid topics. This course has theory and practical assessments. Certification is generally recognised by Industry for 3 years from date of successful completion. Recommended for anyone over 14 years, especially workplaces where the need for First Aid Officers is identified under legislation. This course can be completed under various formats and now includes a CD option which includes a 1 day practical workshop and assessment. |
| <b>Senior First Aid (Refresher)</b> | Reviews and re-validates the skills attained during the <u>full</u> Senior First Aid program. Updates participants on changes to casualty care which may have occurred since their last course. Ideal for those who want to keep up with their first aid skills. 1 day.   |
| <b>Advanced First Aid</b>           | For those who may be required or may be expected to provide more than basic first aid to the sick and injured. Ideal for designated workplace first aid officers or those wishing to advance their knowledge and skills after completion of the Senior First Aid course. 1 day  |
| <b>Advanced Resuscitation</b>       | Ideal for first aiders with access to advanced equipment in the workplace such as oxygen resuscitation devices, oral airways, aspiration (suction) equipment and automated external defibrillators. 4 hours.  |
| <b>Occupational First Aid</b>       | Offers an extension of the skills covered in the Senior First Aid course. It aims to equip participants with the skills and confidence to undertake first aid duties within an industrial environment. Ideal for 'senior workplace first aid officers', and persons operating first aid rooms; or those with an Industry First Aid or Emergency Responder function role. 5 days   |
| <b>Remote Area First Aid</b>        | For people travelling to places where immediate access to a medical facility is not available. Ideal for those planning to travel remotely: tourists; tour guides; remote area industry workers or those involved in 4 wheel drive clubs. 2 days  |
| <b>Industrial Paramedic</b>         | An intensive program designed for workplaces where highly skilled personnel are required to respond to workplace incidents. Skills and procedures introduced throughout this program may require medical officer approval to initiate. Ideal for Site Emergency Response Team members, those with (or planning to offer) advanced casualty care responsibilities in the workplace. 10 days.   |

For more detailed information about the courses mentioned here, or for information about recognition or assessments, please contact the Training Department, Darwin  
(ph) 8922 6228/8922 6221 or by email to [training@stjohnnt.asn.au](mailto:training@stjohnnt.asn.au)



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## Chief Executive Officer's REPORT



## Members Honoured as Knights of St John

In the past twelve months the work of two prominent members of St John has been recognised by being promoted as Knights of the Order Of St John.

In October, 2007, St John Chairman, Mr Michael Mooney was invested at Government House by the Governor General, His Excellency, Major General Michael Jeffrey AC, MC. Long serving St John member Mr Bernard Kilgariff, AO, J.P. was invested at a ceremony at the Alice Springs Desert Park, on the 11th October, 2008. Officiating the ceremony was the Chancellor of St John in Australia Dr Neil Conn AO KStJ (former Northern Territory Administrator) and the current Administrator Mr Tom Pauling AO QC KStJ. Mr Kilgariff's daughter and former Alice Springs Mayor, Ms Fran Kilgariff, was admitted as a Member of the Order at the Alice Springs investiture. Ms Kilgariff is also a St John Council Member representing the community of Central Australia.

Bern joined the Council of St John Ambulance as a Board Member in 1987. His involvement has been central to building the profile and volunteer capability of St John

in the Northern Territory over the last 20 years. Now in his 80's, Mr Kilgariff is still actively involved with St John members. He is currently volunteering his valuable time to teaching St John Ambulance Cadets about the historical aspects of the Order of St John and the ANZAC tradition, whilst continuing his role on Council.

Mr Mooney joined St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc in 1988 and became Treasurer in 1989. In 1997 he was appointed to the position of Deputy Chairman and Treasurer until his appointment to Chairman in 2000, a position he holds to this day. Mr Mooney is active in all aspects of St John, particularly the Volunteers.

Being promoted to the position of a Knight of St John is a special honour bestowed on only a few members of St John and we are delighted that Michael Mooney and Bern Kilgariff have both been recognised for their outstanding contribution to St John in the Northern Territory.

**Ross Coburn**  
CEO



# Training Report

*With the Paramedic Training College (PTC) already delivering Paramedic qualifications from the new Health Training Package (HLT07), our first aid training area will be introducing the new suite of first aid units contained in HLT07 from 30 June 2008.*

The delay for first aid training has been due variously to: (1) our need to advise as many of our regular (and new) first aid training customers as possible of the changes, (2) the need to ensure we had our 'mapping' between the new and the old accurate, (3) (re)developing (or adding to) learning and assessment strategies, and (4) working on new assessments to ensure all of a unit's assessment criteria was appropriately addressed. With this task now complete, I am pleased to let everyone know that it is all full steam ahead.

Elsewhere in this edition of Outback you will find the article by our Deputy Manager, Annetta, which offers a little more detail in respect of the new first aid units against those they are replacing. I encourage everyone with an interest in first aid training to read this article. I would also like to make a reference to another article appearing in this edition of Outback, the speech delivered by the Chair of Training, Dr. Jan Schmitzer at the Graduation/Investiture ceremony conducted at Government House Darwin on May 22 this year. It is well worth reading, particularly Jan's comments about informal mentoring.

## Paramedic Training

My sincere congratulations to all of our recently graduated Ambulance Paramedics. While I have no doubt you are pleased to have the Diploma studies behind you, as a member of the Health Care Team you should never stop working to improve your skills and knowledge. Not only will you be doing yourself a great service, but your patients as well, as they will be assured they are being attended by someone who is as current in their paramedic practice as they can possibly be. I believe every Paramedic wants to be considered as a professional. This is even evidenced by the body representing Ambulance Paramedics, the Australian College of Ambulance Professionals (ACAP). The ACAP Code of Professional Conduct mentions the word 'professional' on at least 5 separate occasions and I'm sure many readers of Outback will have their own interpretation of that word. From a health perspective, I find the definition in the Wikipedia on-line dictionary as a better than reasonable one, "A health profession is a profession in which a person exercises skill or judgment or provides a service related to: the preservation or improvement of the health of individuals, (or the) treatment or care of individuals who are injured, sick, disabled, or infirm".

Paramedic qualifications were included as part of the review of the old Health Training Package (HLT02), and have been amended in the HLT07 version. PTC apologises for any disruptions/confusion which may have occurred during the change-over period but from all I have seen

it was well handled with only minimal disruption to current students. It is obvious for all to see that Paramedic qualifications are now designed with an extended scope of capabilities in mind. They no longer comprise a narrow set of specific competencies; rather they cover a broader range of learning in a much more diverse range of subject areas than would ever have been considered just a few short years ago. There can be little argument that the recognised minimal nationally accepted Paramedic qualification, the Diploma, is aiming to prepare a more rounded individual, one able to work effectively and efficiently as an integral member of the overall Health Care Team.

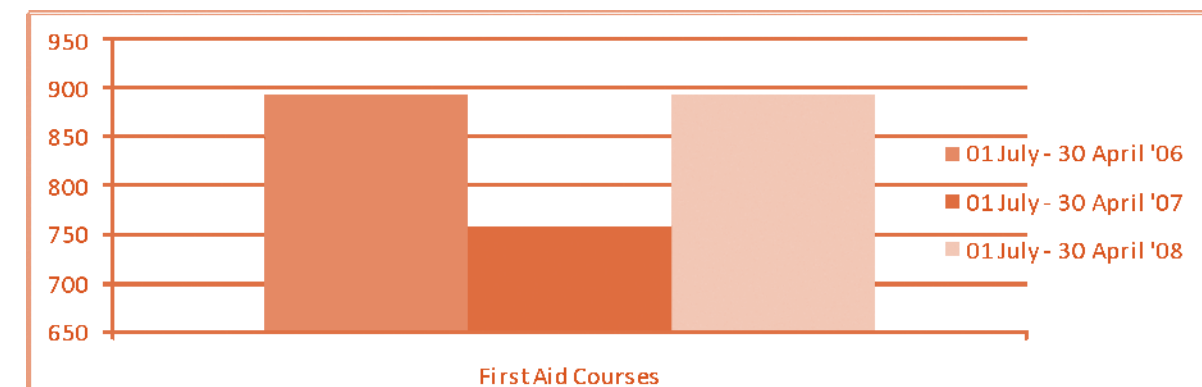
I would like to acknowledge the support and commitment of our Paramedic Training College team, not only the current Paramedic Education Officers, but all who have been involved in this area since the development of the first Health Training Package, HLT02.

## First Aid Training

First Aid Trainers will soon be receiving information that aims to assist them in the delivery their courses, information that ensures our learning and assessment strategies are consistent with HLT07, which has been purposefully designed with a more 'national' flavour than first aid programs of recent years contained. It is unlikely that too much is going to change under the new unit's delivery and assessment processes, but some change there will be and all Trainers are encouraged to take note of all new learning and assessment tools as they are provided to them. I have noticed over some time now that the first aid courses we deliver in the NT tend to be somewhat more involved than the same courses delivered elsewhere. While I believe one of the reasons people come to St John (NT) the first time, or return to St John time and time again, is because of the 'little bit more' our Trainers put into their delivery of the courses. We must remember that when they were courses which had originally been accredited 'independent' of the HTP, we could afford to add that 'little extra'. Now we are falling into line with the new, nationally accredited first aid units we will need to be very mindful about all of our 'add-ons'. We must always consider these against what it is a person hopes to achieve by completing it. If we present programs that are in excess of what the intention of the course is (additional information which is not directly and transparently relevant to unit outcomes), those wishing to participate may well look to other, 'less challenging' providers for training which is more relevant to their needs. I encourage all St John Trainers to look at the new resources being developed, work with them in the first instance to give them time to 'bed down', and then start looking at any improvement opportunities which it may be possible

to ensure they (the courses), continue to remain valid, reliable, fair and relevant for all.

Our current level of first aid training activity is at least as high, if not a little higher, than it has been in the past. This is relevant to mention as we have been operating two or three staff under establishment for some time now.



We have welcomed Rob Rudland back to work after his extended, forced absence due to an unfortunate incident while he was covering an off-road competition out of Alice Springs with Operations Branch. During the time Rob was off, Mark and Regina went out of their way to ensure the Alice Springs courses continued as scheduled and I would like to thank them for their commitment to Training during this time. I also thank our other Trainers who so willingly supported their Alice Springs colleagues during this time. I will not name names for fear of omitting someone, but to everyone involved, my sincere thanks.

Course feedback I read continues to confirm our courses are being delivered by a team of well prepared, flexible and committed Trainers, the majority of whom are working through an external studies program to upgrade their current BSZ Cert IV qualification to the newer TAA Cert IV. It is anticipated the conversion training will be completed by the end of 2008 and I understand most Trainers are on target to meet that time.

## Operations Branch Training

Following some recent discussions about the way forward for Operations Branch training involving the national Deputy CEO Peter Le Cornu and members of Operations Branch here in the NT, I believe the brief, challenging period where many people seemed to be unclear about the way forward (processes more so than content), has been rectified.

- The requirements have been significantly streamlined,
- The concerns of 'who is able to assess who and what level of qualification must they hold', have been addressed and is now nationally consistent for all Operations Branch members.

It is no longer as daunting as it may have first appeared and I'm sure all members will be satisfied with the new training structures, as they are made aware of them. The structure is of particular interest to those aiming for the new levels of First Responder and Advanced Responder with, particularly the Advanced Responder role, being designed to (a) prepare members for this role

within Operations Branch and/or (b) linking with further advanced learning for those wishing to progress to Paramedic training.

I encourage members to keep their eyes and ears open as I'm sure this information, once fully confirmed and accepted, will be made known to all.

## Introducing [www.stjohnnt.org.au](http://www.stjohnnt.org.au)

After a considerable time, we now have a web site. This site has been developed by one of our team members, First Aid Trainer Daniel Macmillan, with input and support from many others; including the NT Training Team, the St John Ambulance Deputy CEO, Peter Le Cornu and St John (Qld) through their IT team, led by Darryl Clare. The current site was developed so that St John (NT) at least had something out there 'on the web'. At the moment, the site's only 'active area' is first aid training and there are already plans to do even more with this area! As the NT site is designed to compliment the national St John site ([www.stjohn.org.au](http://www.stjohn.org.au)), people entering the NT site through the national link should find local navigation all that easier. Given the intention of maintaining a degree of national consistency, it was thought best to put something together and 'get it out there' for other NT Departmental Managers to look at and then plan how they would like to see their area's section developed ... and to develop it accordingly. Those who visit [www.stjohnnt.org.au](http://www.stjohnnt.org.au) at the moment are encouraged to provide any feedback they may have to Daniel ([daniel.macmillan@stjohnnt.asn.au](mailto:daniel.macmillan@stjohnnt.asn.au))

I record my appreciation to Daniel for the great work he has done so far while he still delivers training as/when/where required and fits the web work around his other Trainer commitments. For the moment, if changes are required to/approved for, the site, while they won't happen overnight they will happen.



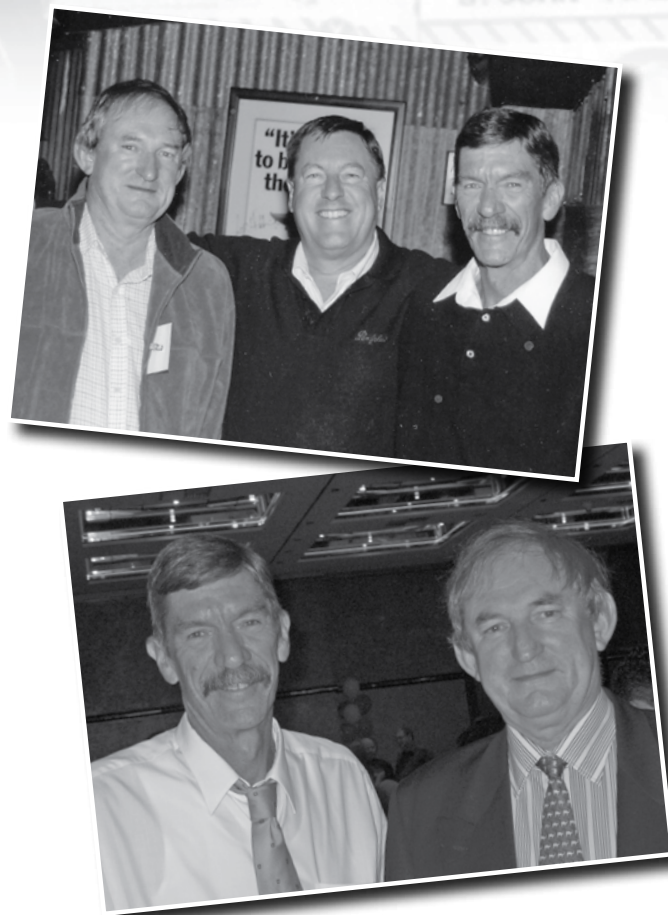
## David Baker.

I cannot close this report without taking a brief moment to express my sincere appreciation for the support, guidance and thoughtful advice given to me over many years by the recently 'retired', David Baker. As CEO (and before that, Human Resource Manager), I found David was always fair minded; was someone who asked the right questions to encourage you to put what you were saying into perspective; and was above all else committed to the progression of all facets of St John (NT). I learnt many valuable lessons from David, not the least of which was the need to clearly define any issue at hand.

I recall speaking with David one occasion about a work place matter that had been reported to me. His response to me was; "So, is it a problem or a wheelbarrow?" Having no idea what he was on about, I asked him what he meant. His reply; "There's no relationship between a problem and a wheelbarrow, so you need to ask yourself if you have a problem ... or ... do you have a wheelbarrow, nothing like a problem but still, potentially useful." It was a categorisation I don't think I will ever forget.

I wish David and Karen all the very best and look forward to hearing about the day he takes out the Queensland lawn bowls championship! "Carn the Pies!"

## Brendan Quirke



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# Harley Davidson v Toyota Landcruiser

*During May 2008, I attended a number of serious motor bike accidents, two of which were fatalities. The case presented below is not one of the fatalities but certainly had the potential.*

## The Scene

Peak hour traffic in Darwin you may think is rare and compared to the southern states it is but, for those unfortunate enough to travel to the rural area between 4 and 6 o'clock in the evening, fender benders around Pinelands are normal. On this particular day a very big (and obviously expensive) Harley Davidson motor bike and a not so small Landcruiser, with a railway track strength bull bar, had a coming together at the traffic lights. As is normally the case, the traffic light gremlins had been at work and they obviously caused the collision. I am sure the police report says something different.

The bike was attempting to cross over the Stuart Highway and was collected by the Landcruiser travelling inbound on the highway. The lights had just changed and the Landcruiser was travelling <80kph. The bike was not travelling fast. The Landcruiser hit the right side of the bike with the bull bar. Little damage was sustained by the Landcruiser, a scratch to the bull bar. The bike looked sick lying on its left side haemorrhaging fuel. There were scratches and dents on the right side.

Just looking at the physics of this accident, an unprotected leg was located on the right side of the bike (as well as the left side). The big, strong bull bar hit the big bike and a leg was in between these forces. The top of the bull bar was about shoulder height so the right arm also took some of the impact. The bike then fell onto its left side where the other leg hit the ground first followed by the full weight of the bike. The result..... trauma!

The ambulance arrived about ten minutes after the call. You can imagine the outbound traffic and the courteous drivers moving out of the way! The bike rider was lying on the road on the inbound side of the highway, the bike had been moved off him and his helmet (open faced black bikie helmet) had also been removed. He was wearing a T shirt, jeans and boots. The rider was supine, conscious and being comforted by his mates. A towel was covering the rider's right leg and there was a pool of blood next to this leg. Police arrived before the ambulance and had the traffic under control. Fires were still battling the traffic, unusual for them not to be at a scene before the ambulance! St John volunteers and a first aid instructor were also at the scene and had administered very effective first aid. Another ICP, on his way home, also stopped to assist.

## Primary Survey

The fact that the rider was conscious made it a little easier and quicker to complete a primary survey; however, it is important to stick to a plan as some underlying nasty injuries are always the hardest to find. After talking to the rider and his mate I started the primary survey. My partner started O2 and initiated spinal precautions.

- Airway – no upper airway or facial trauma, patient able to converse.
- Breathing – RR20, shallow breaths, pain on deep inspiration.
- Circulation – PR 100, BP 100/50, bleeding from right leg, blood on clothing and ground clotted.
- Disability – GCS 15.

## Secondary Survey

Following the primary survey I then moved onto the head to toe survey. The rider was able to assist and indicate where there was pain particularly when I was palpating. The rider was alert and orientated. He told me he had pain to both legs, right arm and right side of his chest.

There was no major trauma to his head or neck. There were some small abrasions on his face. The rider told me that he did not lose consciousness and he remembered the incident.

The left arm was intact with no obvious trauma, full range of movement and neuro/vascularly intact with CRT <2 secs.

The right upper arm was painful on palpation and had abrasions posteriorly as well as abrasions on the lower right arm. There was no deformity felt however there was a restricted range of movement. The right arm was neuro/vascularly intact with CRT <2 secs.

The thoracic cage was stable with no obvious rib fractures. There was pain on palpation of the right lateral chest wall and a large abrasion was noted in the area of the pain. Chest sounds were good bilateral air entry in all lobes. The depth of breathing was shallow and the rider told me it hurt on the right side of his chest when he took a deep breath. There was no pain when palpating both sides of the spine.

The abdomen was soft on palpation with no masses or rigidity felt. The pelvis was "sprung" and stable. There were no abrasions or bruising on either the abdomen or pelvis.

The right leg above the knee was intact with no obvious trauma. The lower right leg can only be described as mangled. This part of the right leg was hit with the full force of the bull bar and the bar had smashed into and shattered the tibia and fibula. There was marked rotation and shortening of the lower leg with the only recognisable landmarks being the knee and the foot. Everything in between was mush. Muscle fragments and adipose were exposed and bits of jean fabric were also imbedded in the mush. There was not much seepage of blood and the blood was clotted in the jeans. Initially there was a very thready right pedal pulse however that did not last. The right foot was cooling and became a yellow pasty colour. I estimated the blood loss from the right leg to be approximately 800 to 1200 mls.



The left leg had a closed tibia/fibula fracture proximal to the left ankle. There was obvious deformity however the leg was neuro/vascularly intact distal to the injury with CRT <2 secs.

#### Stabilisation and Packaging

On completion of the primary survey I re-evaluated what resources were available to me. My partner was attending to spinal precautions (fitting cervical collar + sandbags) as well as fetching and carrying equipment. The St John volunteers were given a quick brief on how to create a leg back slab using SAM splints, towels, bandages and a couple of litres of sterile water.

The priority was pain relief and IVT. Lucky for me I had the assistance of another ICP. While I gained IV access, all my drugs were being checked and drawn up for me. This reduced the time it took to administer pain relief and start IVT.

I did consider Ketamine for pain relief however the scene was particularly noisy with traffic whizzing by and lots of people around. My concern was that the dissociative effects of Ketamine may make the patient more sensitive to other sensory input such as sounds and may cause hallucinations. Additionally, Methoxyflurane was not used as the patient's respirations were shallow and there was the possibility of a developing chest injury.

I decided to use Morphine. This also gave me the option to use the principles of enhanced pain management if I needed to. While the patient had lost some blood from his injured leg, the haemorrhage was controlled and large bore IVs were established. Careful monitoring of the BP coupled with IVT maintained perfusion following administration of Morphine and Midazolam.

Once the rider was getting some relief from his pain the next problem was stabilising the fractures. I was concerned that as soon as the right leg was straightened, and some traction was applied, the clotted blood would be disturbed and haemorrhaging would start. The largest blood pressure cuff available was placed on the upper right leg and enough pressure (approximately 80 mmHg) was applied to control any haemorrhage. I straightened the leg while others positioned the back slab and bandaged the "bits" to the back slab. Simultaneously, the other ICP was splinting the left leg using an air splint. The application of the BP cuff, straightening and splinting of both legs was completed together in order to reduce the amount of time of discomfort to the patient.

I mentioned earlier that underlying injuries are always the hardest to find. I was expecting an airway/breathing problem to develop given the abrasion on the right lateral chest and the gross trauma to the right leg. Before moving the patient I reassessed the chest, abdo and pelvis looking for any signs of a developing pneumothorax or internal bleeding. The rider was at last having a bit of good luck, no pneumothorax and no obvious signs of internal bleeding.

#### Extraction

With the fractures stabilised it was now time to move the rider into the ambulance. I wanted the extraction to be executed with minimal movement. The rider was reasonably comfortable while he did not move and his pain was being controlled with Morphine and Midazolam.

Having lots of people to assist, especially fireies, makes lifting a dream. I decided a spinal lift of about a foot (showing my age) off the ground and sliding a scoop stretcher under the rider would have the least impact on the rider. Five people down each side, one at the head and a scoop slider were briefed and expertly executed the evolution.

The patient was loaded and we were off to RDH. During the trip I continued to monitor the patient and kept him comfortable with pain relief. By the time he got to RDH the rider was calm and chatting.

#### The Stats

As with any case review there are statistics, as follows.

- Response time – 10 minutes, time on scene – 39 minutes, transport time – 18 minutes
- PR – ranging from 96 to 106
- RR – ranging from 18 - 20
- SpO2 – 100% throughout (hi con O2)
- BP – initial 100/50 and maintained around 120/60
- CRT - <2 secs on all limbs except right leg
- ECG – sinus rhythm
- GCS – 15 throughout
- Equipment used – hi con mask, cervical collar, sandbags, scoop stretcher, back slab (made from SAM splints, towels soaked in sterile water and bandages), air splint, 18g Protect IV, 16g Protect IV, various dressings, blanket (cold in amb).
- Metaclopramide - 10mg
- Sodium Chloride 0.9% - total 3500ml
- Morphine – total 15mg
- Midazolam – total 4.5mg
- TLC – lots



#### Summary

This case ran very smoothly mainly because all the St John personnel at the scene communicated, knew what the plan was and knew what their role was. Having an abundance of extra hands certainly made stabilisation, packaging and particularly extraction less stressful for the patient. Unfortunately the rider's lower right leg was not viable and it was amputated. After a couple of post operative hiccups, he made a good recovery and is now undertaking rehabilitation.

I would like to thank the rest of the team –St John volunteers, Narelle and Sarah McLachlan, who were first on scene and created order out of chaos, Debbie Loffman, Warren Purse, Clayton Robb, Andre Blackall, NTFRS, police and the rider's mates.

In closing I will leave you with the following extracts.

From: Letheby, David  
Sent: Thursday, 22 May 2008 3:20 PM  
To: Craig Garraway  
Cc: Osborne, Steve; Herrick, Paul  
Subject: Serious MVA - Stuart Hwy Pinelands

G'day Craig,

On Monday 19th May at about 1700 hours, I turned out with the Palmerston Fire crew to an accident with injury at Stuart Hwy, Pinelands.

On the arrival of the NTFRS, a St John ambulance team were already in attendance, treating a seriously injured motor cyclist that had collided with a four wheel drive.

My crew provided fire cover for the spilt fuel and also performed a road wash down once the patient was transported.

The patient had horrible injuries to one leg in particular, with the other leg broken as well. The patient also appeared to have lost a considerable amount of blood. I was well relieved to find your crew on scene first!

Because the NTFRS involvement was minimal, I was able to watch your paramedics provide lifesaving treatment first hand and was in awe at their professional, calm approach to what was a particularly nasty incident. The skilful actions of your team certainly saved the life of a person that was in a critical situation.

Well done ambos!

Regards  
David Letheby  
Watch Commander  
NT Fire & Rescue

From: Craig Garraway

Subject: FW: Serious MVA - Stuart Hwy Pinelands

While attending a Trauma Committee meeting at the RDH today I received very positive feedback regarding the treatment of this patient by our paramedics. It was made very clear to me during this meeting that the application of the BP cuff to the patients leg was the difference between the patient living and dying especially in the theatre environment. Again well done and it is so nice to have RDH singing our praise's instead of receiving negative feedback.

Regards  
Craig Garraway

As a result of the initial assistance and first aid administered by the Volunteer First Aiders who were the first on the scene at this accident, a letter of Commendation was presented By His Honour the Administrator of the Northern Territory Mr Tom Pauling AO, QC, KStJ, to the McLaughlin family (pictured below) at the Annual Volunteer Parade held at the Kalymnian Hall on Sunday 16 November. Paramedics praised the family for the treatment they provided and were especially impressed by cadet Sarah.

A Case Review by

Virginia Dowson

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# Changes to Scope of Registration for St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc

*St John Ambulance (NT) are pleased to advise readers of the Outback Ambulance magazine, that as at 31 January 2008, the Training Department submitted an 'Application to Amend Scope or Registration' to the Department of Employment Education and Training (DEET).*

The application submitted was accepted by the DEET Authority and the following units of competence/qualifications have been added to our Scope of Registration (many of which are replacing our suite of currently accredited First Aid courses and Paramedic Qualifications).

Added to scope:

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| HLTCPR201A   | Perform CPR  |
| HLTFA201A    | Provide basic emergency life support                                 |
| HLTFA301B    | Apply first aid  |
| HLTFA302A    | Provide first aid in remote situation                                |
| HLTFA402B    | Apply advanced first aid   |
| HLTFA403A    | Manage first aid in the workplace                                    |
| HLTFA404A    | Apply advanced resuscitation techniques                              |
| BSBFLM303B   | Contribute to effective workplace relationships                      |
| HLTAP401A    | Confirm physical health status                                       |
| HLTAMBSC401A | Manage routine scene and promote public safety                       |
| HLTIN301A    | Comply with infection control policies and procedures in health work |
| HLTAMBFC301B | Communicate with clients and colleagues to support health care       |
| HLTAMBCR401A | Deliver basic clinical care  |
| HLTAMBAE403B | Follow procedures for routine safe removal of client                 |
| HLTOHS300A   | Contribute to OHS processes  |
| HLTAMBT301A  | Transport non-emergency clients under operational conditions         |
| HLTAN510A    | Use advanced medical terminology                                     |
| HLT50407     | Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance)                           |
| HLT60307     | Advanced Diploma of Paramedic Science (Ambulance)                    |

Transfer of Scope:

| Superseded qualification currently on scope                  | Replacement qualification                                    |
|--|--|
| HLTFA1A Apply basic first aid                                | HLTFA301B Apply first aid                                    |
| HLTFA3A Maintain equipment and resources                     | HLTFA403A Manage first aid in the workplace                  |
| HLT50402 Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance)          | HLT50407 Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance)          |
| HLT60302 Advanced Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) | HLT60307 Advanced Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) |

SO WHY THE CHANGE TO OUR SCOPE OF REGISTRATION?

Previously, St John (NT) had been delivering units of competence/qualifications in accordance with the packaging rules contained within the HLT02 Health Training Package. Where no such units existed within that package, 'modules' were developed by St John (NT) and included as 'Courses' on our Scope of Registration.

The Health Training Package was reviewed, updated to incorporate improvements based on feedback received by industry and finally released in late 2007. Since its release, the Training Department have been developing the learning and assessment strategies including the tools required by HLT07. To date, some of our learning and assessment tools have been reviewed and updated to incorporate new information, while other unit tools have been totally developed and will be trialed/improved based on feedback received.

Previously St John (NT) had identified having the full Certificate IV in Basic Emergency Care on our Scope, a decision was taken to have only those units identified as 'pre-requisites' for entry into the Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) added to our Scope. This decision was based on acknowledging that the minimum qualification recognised by the Ambulance Industry in Australia was the Diploma and hence, in the NT, all Ambulance Service personnel once employed are, if not already qualified, enrolled into the Diploma program delivered by Paramedic Training College.

In respect of First Aid training, a number of changes have occurred and will be implemented for delivery on 30 June 2008. Our suite of nationally accredited courses (Senior

First Aid; CPR; Accident Action; Advanced Resuscitation and Occupational First Aid) is now being replaced by a number of new unit titles as identified in the table below.

Changes have also been made to St John (NT's) non accredited training programs such as Remote Area and

Advanced First Aid. We are pleased to advise all past and future learners that this training will be delivered and assessed as nationally accredited training with successful learners who complete all assessment areas receiving a Statement of Attainment.

| HLT07 New Unit Code | HLT07 New Unit Title – all nationally accredited training being delivered by SJA (NT) as at 30 June 2008 | Previous nationally accredited courses or non accredited programs delivered by St John (NT).   |
|---------------------|--|--|
| HLTCPR201A          | Perform CPR  | Nationally accredited 'Course in CPR (70104NT)' which included:<br>UGO 028 - Perform Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation   |
| HLTFA201A           | Provide basic emergency life support   | Nationally accredited 'Course in Accident Action (70106NT)' which included:<br>UGO 030 - Respond to an acute first aid emergency   |
| HLTFA301B           | Apply first aid  | Nationally accredited 'Course in Senior First Aid (70108NT)' which included:<br>HLTFA1A Apply basic first aid<br>UGO 031 - Basic approaches to injury/illness prevention<br>UGO 032 - Introduction to St John Volunteers |
| HLTFA302A           | Provide first aid in remote situation  | Non-accredited program titled 'Remote Area First Aid'  |
| HLTFA402B           | Apply advanced first aid   | Non-accredited program titled 'Advanced First Aid'   |
| HLTFA403A           | Manage first aid in the workplace  | Delivered as part of a nationally accredited 'Course in Occupational First Aid (70108NT)' which included:<br>HLTFA2A Apply advanced first aid<br>HLTFA3A Maintain equipment and resources                                |
| HLTFA404A           | Apply advanced resuscitation techniques  | Nationally accredited 'Course in Advanced Resuscitation (70103NT)' which included:<br>UGO 027 - Implement advanced life support procedures   |

Key to the table above

- Indicates units of competence as taken from the HLT02 Health Training Package

➤ Indicates modules developed by St John (NT)

Note: The only nationally accredited course (which is not currently contained in HLT07) is the Course in Caring for Kids (70105NT). It is our intention to have this course reaccredited for 2009 and beyond.

FIRST AID TRAINING INITIATIVES

- St John (NT) is now delivering a FLEXIBLE LEARNING option for the Senior First Aid (or soon to be Apply first aid) course.

This requires learners to use a combination of self paced learning and participation in a 1day practical skill workshop which includes the assessment.

Flexible Learning involves either:

- a CD Rom including learning exercises to cover underpinning knowledge (4-6 hours), and includes a workbook, or alternatively
- a Learner Guide (the CD Rom in booklet format, for those who prefer the written word), with the same information.

This flexible approach to training is being seen as ideal for those unable to put aside the 2 days required to complete the full course in a face-to-face format.

●PRIVATE (GROUP) TRAINING

We are able to structure specialised training to meet (private) group needs. That's right, not only do we deliver 'generalised' training for the 'public', but we also tailor training to meet the needs of 'private' groups. We can tailor training around courses/units that we currently deliver or alternatively private groups can enquire with us in regards to 'short training sessions'.

Short training sessions are generally structured to include: 1) a basic introduction to selected topic(s); 2) emergency first aid management of a casualty; 3) specific equipment use; and 4) Safety and storage

Training sessions available include (but are not limited to):

- Automated External Defibrillation (delivered with CPR Training)
- Intramuscular injections
- Tool box talks
- 1:1 CPR training (Trainer availability dependant)
- Specific first aid topic talks
- Other first aid orientated presentations as requested



Specific topic sessions are not offered 'publicly' but are only delivered for 'private' groups. We are also able, depending on Trainer availability, to arrange afterhours and/or weekend delivery to occur at one of our facilities or alternatively on-site at the customers venue.

It is always important to note that our short training sessions are not equivalent to a First Aid course. We strongly and always encourage everyone to complete a full 'Apply first aid' course to supplement or prepare them for the learning contained in any of the sessions that we deliver.

### ● CPR123

Commencing 30 June 2008, all learners completing any of our first aid courses will be issued a CPR123 as part of their course pack. This is certainly a unique incentive being offered by us as we are the first in Australia to be offering this learning tool as part of a take home package.

As you might imagine, it is important for us to educate as many people within the community particularly in regards to learning such an crucial life saving skill like CPR.

CPR 123 is designed as a 'personal learning program' which is easy to use. It is our aim to encourage all of our learners to use this package to help refresh their CPR skills (at a time or place convenient to them) or alternatively, provide it to another family member/relative or friend to have them learn from.

The CPR 123 learning program is great for people who currently experience difficulty due to cultural reasons, working with resus manikins (in public view) or who, may have English as a second language and may feel uncomfortable attending a formal course.

The package comes complete with a Mini-Anne, CPR practice DVD and a Basic Life Support book. The visual instructions provided with the manikin make it easy for everyone to use.

Customers, for whatever reason, who are unable to attend a formal course of instruction in CPR - but would like to learn CPR are able to purchase this learning tool from one of our major centres.

While any learning tool that promotes CPR is considered valuable, CPR123 is not designed to replace a first aid course, rather to compliment one. Our Trainers will still be demonstrating CPR on our Resusci Anne manikins in the formal learning environment!

Prior to ending this report and in consideration of all the new changes to our Scope of Registration and initiatives being undertaken by the Training Department in 2008, I would like to encourage all staff, future learners and private group customers to continue to help us as a Registered Training Organisation to improve on our services. Your written and constructive feedback is always reviewed, considered and is very much appreciated by everyone within the Department if not for the Organisation.

Take care.

**Annetta Albanese**

*Deputy Manager, Education & Training Services.*

## Body Building Ambos

Darwin Ambulance Officers Adam (Seb) Kouzounian and Fiona Sylva have spent the best part of the last year not only training to be Paramedics but also training for a 'Body building, Figure and Fitness' show that was held at the Sky City Casino in Darwin earlier this year.

Adam registered in the Novice Body Building and Fiona in Miss Athletic (body sculpting). The pair both had a great deal of fun on the day. Adams partner Rebecca also entered the same division as Fiona but in a different height category (Fiona's partner Geoff prefers the role of 'cheer leader, photographer and tan applier' at this stage!!)

Fiona went on to compete in the 'Natural Body Building/ Sculpting' competition in late September this year, whilst Adam went off to the Gold Coast to compete in Australia's biggest Body Building event for the year, the Southern Hemisphere Championships on the 1st June and went on to win the 'Novice' championship and received a sponsorship from ASN Nutrition.

Congratulations to both Adam and Fiona and good luck for future events.



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# Vale Dean Michael Bugg

30.03.1967-9.10.2007

Dean Bugg also known as Buggy, Lord of the Unknown, The Scoffer, Mr Vacation, and Health and Safety officer to his friends was a fellow larger than life. He loved it, lived it and inspired us all by the way he embraced it. His personality to those who knew him was infectious, his laughter contagious and he celebrated each moment of his enriched life with a smile. He ate all the chocolates and biscuits (hence the name the Scoffer). He dreamed with his eyes open, asked questions, challenged injustice and was passionate about making this world a better place.

Known for his love of conspiracy theories he read passionately trying to unveil the truth behind these conspiracies and in particular enjoyed discussing these with his friends, which always resulted in odd looks and mixed responses, such as "Yeh, right buggy! Too much whacky tobacco mate". Importantly he wanted people to question everything - and not just believe everything they read in the newspapers or watched on television. I have no doubt he did know too much and was abducted by aliens!

We are all better people for knowing Buggy, as he has instilled love and joy into our lives. He was a wise soul, a diligent soldier and a softy with a heart of gold. Dean lived a good, honourable life serving his country in the Australian Army and as a paramedic attending the sick and injured which illustrated his love for his country and love of helping people. Dean is one in a million type of bloke whose friendship and mateship will be greatly missed, though his legend will always live on through his family and friends, who were his greatest fans.

Below is the eulogy read out at Dean's service, which was held out at Ellery Bighole, a beautiful waterhole west of Alice Springs.

## Eulogy

On behalf of Jo, Dean's family and his closest friends, I would like to welcome everybody to the celebration of - DEAN MICHAEL BUGG's life - who tragically passed away Tuesday, 9th October, aged 40 years.

Dean's tragic passing has left us all in disbelief and searching for answers. However it is comforting to know Dean never feared death, in fact he accepted it as a part of life.

He believed life on this planet was merely as a spiritual being having a human experience. Our existence on this planet is one of learning, necessary for our soul's development and for our journey ahead into the afterlife. He believed life was never-ending, always evolving, never stagnant.

As sad as it is about Dean's passing, I'm sure he now has all the answers to all those conspiracy theories, and now he can help solve the bigger problems in the Cosmos.

Today we would like Dean's life to be celebrated as he lived a full and happy life. We would like everyone to

reflect on how Dean made a difference or an impact on your life....

"I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their love."

Dean was born in Burnie, Tasmania on the 30th March 1967 to mother, Norma and father, Geoff. His mum said he was an easy baby, slept well and ate well, which would be no surprise to those who knew him. He grew up in the seaside township of Somerset with brother Jason and sisters, Debbie and Gina.

Dean was very active and lived for his footy and cricket. He and his brother would play limited over games all day in the summer holidays. They would wander in the back door sunburnt and dehydrated, only to return the next day and do it all again.

Dean spent many Saturday afternoons watching his beloved Kangas play in the VFL. He and his brother would juggle the sherrin while cheering and exchange the occasional handpass, much to their mum's horror. His love of the Roos developed from his primary school team colours. He and his mates jostled over who would wear Malcolm Blight's No. 15 Guernsey.

He loved camping in the backyard tent and going bush where his love for the military surfaced. "Playing wars" was a favourite with his mates and mock machine gun noises where his specialty. He and Jason would always be heard arguing over who shot who.

He attended Burnie High School from 1978 and made friends easily. Much to his delight he was popular with the girls, winning them over with his charismatic smile and friendly nature. He had a lot of time for his friends and would always standby them, no questions asked. His passion and exuberance drew people in and his willingness to listen made you feel important.

A talented athlete, Dean represented his school and region in cricket, football and cross-country. He loved doing weights and set up a home gym in the family's garage.

He left school and worked in a local supermarket before realising his childhood dream and enlisting in the Australian infantry. He was well respected in the army and was awarded 'Most Outstanding Soldier' in his passing out parade. He knocked back an offer to attend officer



studies at Duntroon and later was posted in Townsville where he served 4 years. During this time he did a tour in Port Moresby (PNG) where he finally had the opportunity to utilise his training.

He was a tough soldier as many of his colleagues would attest, frequently stepping in to help out his mates should the need arise. He left the army and returned to Tassie and worked in various occupations: a truck driver at Savage Water Mines; forklift driver; and barman.

After completing his barman training he journeyed to the USA, settling down in Seattle, with his mate Danny. After many adventures too numerous to mention he returned home and moved to Marawah in Tassie's far northwest.

There he worked in numerous occupations: farmhand; fishing boats; and groundsman at Edith Creek Primary School. He met and fell in love with Debbie and they moved into a caravan on Debbie's parent's property. Dean was excited to hear Debbie was pregnant and in January 1992, Jarrod Dean Bugg was born. Dean was over the moon with pride and loved him dearly.

Time moved on and life took various twists and turns before Dean decided to move to Darwin for a new start. Torn between, finding a new life and being so far away from Jarrod and his family, Dean knew the timing was right.

Whilst in Darwin, he met Mandy and together they enjoyed life in the Top End. He found work with Armaguard Security again utilising his military experience. He then saw an advertisement for volunteer ambulance officers and after some procrastination decided to apply. Eventually he decided to move to Alice to further his training and realise his dream of becoming a full time Paramedic. After studying hard he achieved his dream. He was that excited he couldn't wait to tell his family and friends. Everyone was so proud of him.

He then met Jo, the love of his life and together they travelled extensively within Australia and overseas. To many of Dean's friends and family, it was obvious how in love they were. Seeing two people so passionate about life and committed to each other was very humbling.

Friends of Jo and Dean described their relationship as a "fairytale" and that fairytale continued earlier last

year with Jo falling pregnant with baby Bean. They were both ecstatic!!

Dean was greatly looking forward to being a father a second time.

Dean loved the Alice and called it home. He loved the quality of life, loved his job, and loved the people he worked with and also the many colourful people that the town attracts. He loved nothing better than sitting at the Memo Club, with a Pale in hand watching the footy, especially his beloved Kangaroos and chatting with the barflies.

Always smiling and ready with a good conspiracy theory, Dean will be greatly missed by all those that loved him. The world will be a lesser place without him and his infectious personality and love of life. He will be in our thoughts always.

To Jo, we all love you; you will always have an army of support from your loving friends. And to little Bean, who we now know as Ryan. You'll be looked after by one hundred uncles and aunties to spoil you rotten and ensure that Dean's legacy lives on through you.

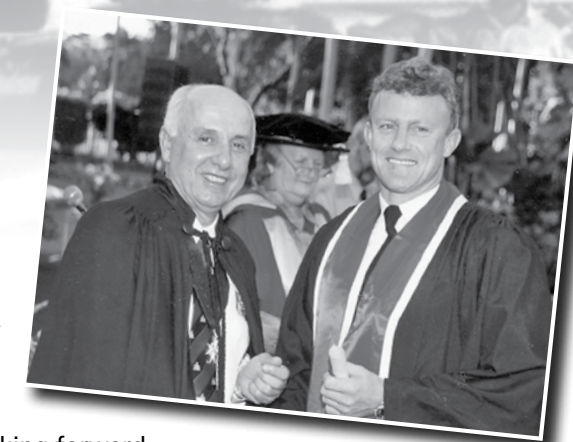
And finally for Buggy, the astral realms are lucky to have you and although you may now be truly infinite, please try not to break anything until we arrive.

SFYC.

I would just like to thank the following people for there fabulous support. David Baker, Ross Coburn and Kevin Blake. Darwin crew, especially those who flew down to Alice to help out. All other staff members. ASH, the guys and girls in Alice you were awesome, Buggy would have been so proud. NT Police, NT Fire and Rescue Services. And finally Jo, Dean's family, SFYC team and everybody else for all that they have done.

Journey well my brother into your next great adventure.

Ben Falzon.



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## Starting 'Em Young in the Southern Region

You can never start learning too early. That seems to be a concrete thought in the Southern Region. Parents would like to think they can still positively influence their young children – and to a certain degree that could be true as evidenced by this young crew taking part in first aid duties.

Hopefully this exposure to the highlights of a career as a St John Paramedic could bring us a new generation of dedicated employees, following in the footsteps of mum and dad.

This bunch all seem to be willing to show the adults just how it should be done. It also makes you stop and think just how much they do pay attention to what we are doing as they seem to know just too well what a stethoscope and Resus Anne are for.



## 2008 Tour de Arnhemland

Nhulunbuy resident Des O'Sullivan thought it would be a good idea to ride across Arnhemland for nine days raising money for a local Charity. Des and his group of riders chose St John Ambulance as the recipient for all funds raised during the bike ride.

Twenty Two riders, sixteen bicycles and six support vehicles rode from Nhulunbuy to Jabiru and hoped to raise enough money to purchase a "heartstart machine" but due to the overwhelming support of the Nhulunbuy community and the hard work of Des and his team they raised over \$30,000. The money will purchase a Pulse Oximeter, Defibrillator, equipment for the St John training centre and a vehicle for the volunteers to use at public duties in the area.

St John Chairman, Mr Michael Mooney, CEO, Ross Coburn, Commissioner, Steve Peers and Volunteer Co-ordinator, Gwyn Balch all travelled to Nhulunbuy to attend the Divisional Inspection and to meet and thank the Tour de Arnhemland riders for their very generous donations.

All the equipment purchased with the donations will benefit the Nhulunbuy community.

St John would like to express their appreciation to Des O'Sullivan, Tracey Donovan and the team for their generosity.



## Marrara Christian College Cadets: At your Service

*Students in Years 9 and 10 at Marrara Christian College have the opportunity to participate in St John Cadets as part of the new elective program introduced within the school this year.*

The concept of a 'service elective' surfaced from a desire to give young people an opportunity to serve others and give back to the community. St John Cadets is one of the five 'service electives' students can choose to participate in as part of the school's curriculum. Each of the elective teachers develops their program around the notion of serving others, which is easy when you run a St John Cadet Division!

So far this year, cadets have served the school community by attending public duties at the school's swimming carnival, athletics carnival and cross country event. The cadets have also provided first aid for the annual Year 9 Larapinta Trip. Next semester cadets will also attend a public duty at the schools' major community celebration, Marrara on Show. They will also be placed on a roster to assist in the schools' sick bay during lunchtime. In addition to providing first aid for school based activities, the cadets are also encouraged to participate in public duties, serving the broader community. The cadets will volunteer to cover one of the days for the public duty at the Royal Darwin Show.

The notion of 'service' has extended beyond simply attending public duties or volunteering to assist with first aid. The cadets are encouraged to serve the community with the skills and knowledge they learn through undertaking proficiency badges. For example, as part of Environmental Studies, cadets participated in Clean Up Australia Day and later in the year will be volunteer for local Coastcare and Landcare projects. The group is also serving others by organising the annual Territory Cadet Camp as part of the Camp Craft proficiency badge, taking the load off the Cadet Divisional Superintendents.

There have also been opportunities for cadets to serve in leadership roles. Jacqueline Gaspar and Ellie Hills, two cadets who were involved in a Cadet Division run as part of Core Studies in the school in 2007, now fulfill duties as Corporals. They have willingly stepped up to the challenge of serving the Division as leaders, using their initiative when they see a job to be done, such as assisting new members master first aid skills.

It has been encouraging to see the cadets' positive attitude and enthusiasm towards the program. What they probably don't realise is that through serving others in these different ways they are gaining valuable skills. It provides them with a unique opportunity to build their confidence, enhance their knowledge and skills, utilise their gifts and develop their leadership potential.

Integrating community service into the school's elective program has been a great success and we look forward to seeing young people stepping up to the challenge to use the skills and knowledge they learn in school to serve others.

**Yvonne Cole**  
Teacher and St John Volunteer





# Cross cultural issues

*I have written and made comment on cross cultural awareness and issues on previous occasions and would like the opportunity to share some more thoughts and experiences.*

An ambulance officer once stated to me that "this cross cultural stuff has been overdone" and "if they would just live like us then everything would be OK" I thought to myself this is a comment made by someone who doesn't fully understand the principles behind cross cultural awareness or even see it's value.

The whole emphasis in cross cultural awareness is accepting another's' culture, whether or not you understand it, or even agree with it. If you say to another, I do not understand why you do certain things but I accept that this is part of your culture, then you show respect to them.

Those who know me realize that I am passionate about this topic –

but why am I? Do I have some twisted world view or distorted understanding of other cultures?

Here are some strategies I have learned over the nine years I have worked on road. My or anyone's approach to a situation has a huge bearing on the direction of that situation. If I "barge" in to a situation and give little thought to how my appearance, body language, volume or tone may be received I might find that I am unable to gain information or co-operation from the people I am dealing with. This principle applies to all cross cultural interactions but the most common examples here in the NT would be with our Indigenous friends. A quiet gentle approach and even a basic understanding of culture usually leads to a much more manageable scene. Another Ambo once responded to a comment I made about their volume and tone at a scene made the comment that "I always like to remain in control" this person saw control as some kind of authority image, that was maintained with a loud voice. I maintain that it is possible, in most situations, to maintain in "control" with calmness, quietness and respect. Another benefit to this approach is the opportunity to obtain a more concise history. The patient or their family is far more inclined to reveal what

has happened if they feel valued and respected, and especially if they feel trust in you.

I have witnessed a "syndrome" that has occurred in Ambulance Officers, as well as Police and Hospital Workers. Here's how it goes – a new person arrives in the NT. New situations, new climate, new patients, new environment. All is great for about 6 weeks, then some of those things that were new and exciting start to become challenging even annoying. The actions and behaviors of those we see so often, go from new and interesting, to frustrating. "why don't they take their medication?" "why don't they look after themselves better?" "why won't they look at me when I am talking to them?" etc. Often at this time an important cross road lies ahead and I have seen people take either fork in the road.

If you take the road of judgment, criticism and "my culture is better than yours" you may set up your workplace to be frustrating, energy consuming, and not very enjoyable. If however you deliberately choose to see the lighter side of working here in the NT. If you genuinely attempt to see another person's culture as valuable, and if you look for the uniqueness of it, you will approach situations differently and generally become less intolerant and far more effective in your workplace. I say these things because in my own experience, I have been down that road and have experienced both forks. I can assure you that the later is more preferable.

I have had the privilege of befriending many Indigenous people. To learn from them and share any of their culture I can has enriched my life and made my work situation more enjoyable.

I hope these comments are beneficial, I would be delighted to talk further on these matters anytime to any interested person.

**Trevor Keatch**  
Katherine Centre



## My Trip aboard the STS Leeuwin II

In September this year, all thanks to St John and the Northern Territory Youth Council, I joined the crew of Australia's largest ocean-going tall ship, for an eco ocean adventure around the beautiful Kimberly's. Having never been to W.A. it was my descent into Broome aboard a small aircraft which gave me my first breathtaking impression. I caught a taxi down to the end of cable beach, dumped my luggage in the red dirt, sat and waited. Eventually I caught sight of several people, looking as equally confused and out of place as I was, so we merged into a pack. To be truthful, I thought that I was going on one of the youth voyages, so I was quite surprised to note that the average age of the group I'd just introduced myself to, was 45. Once we were all shipped out to the Leeuwin, my excitement truly set in! They took us all on a tour of the ship, assigned us into bunks and coloured watches (teams for the different shifts) and taught us...wait for it... how to steer! I felt quite special spinning that giant wooden wheel. The trip was a perfect balance of sailing, sight seeing and nature talks. I was amazed to see my first sea turtle ever, within just five minutes aboard!

Aboard the Leeuwin, I got to climb up top of islands, wade through reefs and witness ancient aboriginal rock art. The people aboard the ship were really inspirational; sitting upon the deck under a blanket of stars heard so many life stories. I learnt about the night sky, about mangroves and also perfected my brasso skills (during the daily scrubbing of the deck). Just picking one highlight from my journey is difficult but I'd say it's a close call between unfurling the topsail 25m up a mast at sunset and seeing a whale giving birth. One of the greatest challenges was climbing the highest sail (34m), which I conquered on the second last day. Right at the top of the mast, there is a secret message, I'd tell you, but that would defeat the point entirely! Team work was an absolute essential aboard the ship. I learnt the importance of encouragement and the effectiveness of a good sea shanty whilst hoisting the main sail. The Crew was amazing; they were all so knowledgeable and eager to assist.

Just last week I received a letter in the mail, inviting me back aboard as a volunteer cook's mate. I sprinted to my telephone immediately to reply and definite yes! A voyage aboard the Leeuwin is a must, for anyone who ever has the opportunity to go aboard. If you're aged 16 - 25 I encourage you apply when the funding comes around again next year. It one experience that you will never, ever, ever forget.

**By Claire Chandler**



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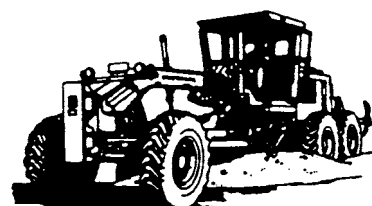
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## Our Champion Cadets

*The Northern Territory St John Ambulance Cadet contingent has returned from National Cadet Camp in Neerim, Victoria as 2008 National Champions in the Team event. It has been 17 years since the NT won this event and a first for the Cadet Band Division*

The NT team members were Rachel Fox (16), Alex Haslett (16), Amy McKay (17) and Claire Chandler (16). Our contingent had four members-three in the team event plus an individual. They were all required to participate in scenario centred activities.

The first activity was based around a bushfire which required the team to set up a First Aid Post to receive potential casualties. At the time of the incident there were no Adult or Cadet Leaders on-site to provide care, however over the course of the activity, it was later identified that the bushfire had cut off access to the camp by road and air for a minimum of two hours. A total of twelve casualties arrived at the First Aid Post over a competition time period of 25 minutes, each with varying degrees of injuries ranging from: snake bite, severe heat burns, embedded objects, head injuries, chemical burns,

fractures, bleeding and general illness, which requiring constant monitoring, bed changing and medication.

The second activity required the team to assist with the Bushfire Command Post with each Cadet having an important role to play within the areas of: Administration, Liaison, Logistics and Planning. The Incident Management team were also required to plan for the next 24 hours with specific tasks requiring them to have a high level of teamwork and skills in the areas of communication, research and processing of information. Some of the outcomes required from the team were: a situation report/fire brief, staff roster for the next 24 hours, a prepared media release, a statement to other emergency services and a plan for on-going contingencies, identifying equipment, supplies and personnel requirements.



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# Nhulunbuy Cadet Division

*Running a cadet division is very hard work and needs the dedication of adult members to be a success.*

Nhulunbuy is very fortunate to have two ladies that are committed to St John Cadets and offered to resurrect the division. Mandy Paradise and Makaylia Bretag decided to restart the Nhulunbuy Cadet Division and after advertising locally in August 2007 found there was significant interest to start. Twenty cadets attended the first meeting which was held on 10th September 2007 and the division reformed.

The division was officially registered in April 2008 and will be formally presented to the division later in the year.

A presentation night was held on 14th April 2008 where 16 Cadets received their Preliminary First Aid certificates.

MLA, Syd Stirling attended the event and presented certificates to the cadets. Other special guests were Senior Sergeant Travis Wurst from the Nhulunbuy Police, Fire Chief Graham Johnson, Pastor Phil and his wife Eleanor and approximately 20 family members. The Cadets looked smart in their new uniforms and proudly paraded displaying their newly acquired drill knowledge to their parents and guests. Acting CEO, Ross Coburn and Deputy Operations Manager, Craig Garraway also attended the ceremony.

Superintendent Mandy Paradise expressed her pride and admiration for all the cadets. "They have all worked very hard to achieve their Preliminary First Aid Certificate and they were all so keen to put their new epaulettes onto their uniforms."

"The feedback was all very positive, with some parents saying that they had no idea how disciplined their children were," Mandy said.

The cadets served a light supper afterwards which allowed Mandy and Makaylia to meet and chat with the guests and parents.

Since the parade the Cadets have taken place in the Anzac Day Parade, with two Cadets laying a wreath at the Cenotaph.



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## AUSTRALIA

Here is the story about going to Wyndham and Kununurra for the Baz Luhrmann epic AUSTRALIA. You asked me to write a story for the outback ambulance.

The mobile phone rang, I went to pick it up and to my surprise it was Craig. It was late in July 2007 and Craig asked if I was interested in going to Kununurra to be a paramedic for the 2nd unit whilst they filmed the movie AUSTRALIA, starring Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman. I rang my wife (Mel) right away and we discussed it. After about a 3 second discussion I decided to go. Thought it was a great experience. So I rang Craig back and agreed to go.

At the beginning of August (sorry I forgotten the dates) I went on my way, driving the troop carrier 32 (I think), anyway It was a new car. I started off from Darwin and drove across the Western Australia boarder to Kununurra. After passing Kununurra I proceeded to a small farm just outside approx. 50k/m out of Wyndham. The farm was called Diggers Rest.

After parking the car I was told by one of farm hands where the front office was. After proceeding there I met a lovely lady called Mel. She told me where to park the car and also told me to pick a tent. As I drove around to where the tent were I was amazed at how many tents there were. There were over 70 tents all in an area around the size of a football field.

The tents were able to hold 6 men, but there were no sharing of tent. So I had this tent all to myself. They had a camping (stretcher) bed in them with a lamp light and a 28 liter container in them for where the dirty linen went in to be washed. Around 100-150 metres from my tent there was a toilet block, with showers and toilets as well as washing machines outside. Just down from the toilet block was the dining tables, TV room with an 8 ball table and most importantly there was a bar. We had a chef and a kitchen (in the back of a truck container) and the best thing about it was all the time I spent there the chef did not make the same dish twice.

That night I met the Safety officer Jon and I had to take him to the set everyday we filmed. He told me that the Paramedic and Safety Officer was the first on the set everyday and last to leave, which we did everyday.

On Saturday we had a day off to explore and do the tourist things. We went to see some gorges in El Questro and had lunch there, that night we were told that there will be no filming on Sunday due to no instructions from Baz. After hearing that news we decided to drink some ale. I think I went to bed at 2am Sunday morning. When we got up we went to the Wyndham races. This was a great experience. I won around \$90.00 that day.

We got back to camp and set out getting ready to start filming on Monday. On the days we were filming we did that same things set up the set, scenery changed, unfortunately I cannot write what they were filming

due to confidentially form I had to sign, but it was amazing to see how they do the filming. We filmed with stunt doubles mostly.

There was a time that we filmed with Hugh Jackman and he was great. He came around and said hi to everyone and introduced himself. As I was talking to him I had to quickly go as a guy came off his horse. The whole movie had about a 2 hour lunch break as I had to take this guy into the Wyndham hospital (full spinal), they are not allowed to film if there is no nurse or paramedic around. Was told later that day he had a lower spinal fracture.

That first week I had about 4 jobs ranging from dehydration to guy's falling off horses and motorbikes. We were fed quite well with breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and then tea. On our next day off, we went for another drive to a few gorges and did the tourist thing. Most of the filming the following week was done on the mud flats out on El Questro. We were there until the sun went down and the sunsets were to die for. They were magnificent.

Our next day off was trouble. We filmed in a creek and were told about a gorge not far from where we were filming. So a sound guy and I decided on our day off to go and explore this gorge. It should have taken us 10 minutes by foot to reach the gorge. Instead it took us just over 3 hours of walking, as we took a wrong turn. We both had a headache and were both dehydrated. After finding out car (as we lost that to) we went back to camp to get water and decided it was safer to explore Wyndham.

This was supposed to be my last week with the film but instead they asked if I could stay another 2 weeks. I was more than happy to do that. On Wednesday we were told to pack our things as we were on our way to Kununurra, to stay in a Hotel. I spent the next week and a half in the hotel. While we were in Kununurra Nicole, Hugh, Baz and the producer decided to invite everyone who is working on the filming to drinks. So I thought it would look bad if I don't go, so I forced myself to have drinks with everyone (ha ha ha ha).

After that our filming took us to places around Kununurra and to Carlton Hill where there was a house built for the film. I also had an unfortunate accident of locking my keys in the ambulance. After a broken ¾ window I was able to get my keys. The window was repaired by some ply wood screwed together. We ended the 2nd unit on Wednesday and that night they had a party for all involved in the 2nd unit. I stayed until 11 pm then I went back to the hotel and got ready to drive back to Darwin. You were not allowed to take any photographs. So all I have to take home with me was the memory of the whole event and the contact of friends that I made.

This is just one highlight of my career.

**Mark Ferguson.**

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# Katharine Taylor

*Katharine Taylor has been an Ambo with St John Ambulance for 9 years and has recently become an ICP. Katharine moved up to join the Darwin ambos from Alice Springs in 2006.*

## So Katharine, whats so good about being an Ambo?

You get to meet a great variety of people and there are always new things that pop up and surprise you plus you get to have four days off!!

## What do you love to do in your free time?

At the moment it is renovating my unit which includes frequent trips to Bunnings.

## Any special events or goals for 2008?

I am hoping to do the Jatbula walk in Katherine with a few friends and finish renovating the house.

## What would you like to see yourself doing in 5 years from now?

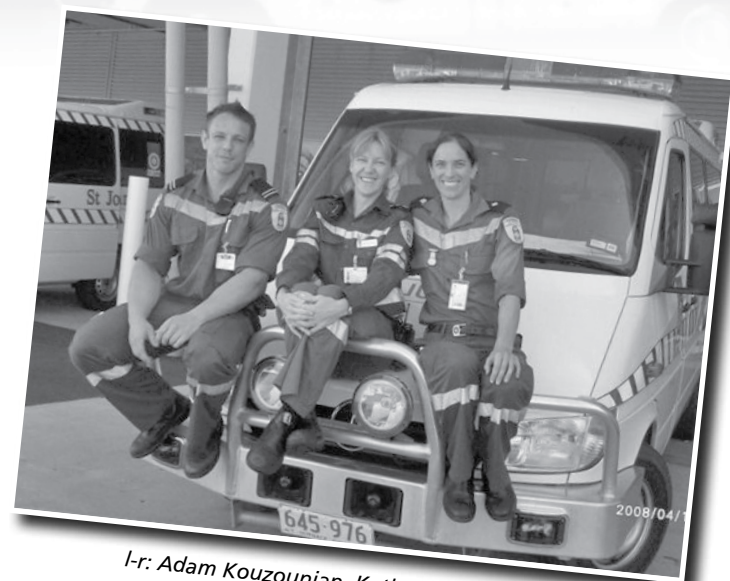
That is a hard one and I do not wish to fuel the rumour mill.

## What were your doing in life before St John?

Before St John I had a chequered employment career. My first full-time job was with the Commonwealth bank (which is how I came to the territory) and in-between leaving the bank and joining St John I worked as a cameleer, jillaroo, vet nurse, boat driver...infact, I would give anything a go!

## What changes would you like to see take place over the next few years within the NT Ambulance service?

I would like to see more emphasis on professional development and the introduction of annual refresher training.



*l-r: Adam Kouzounian, Katharine Taylor and Fiona Sylva*

## Can you comment on the rumour that you know your way around a pole dancing pole?

Hmm the pole dancing career was a very short lived one but I can recommend it as a highly entertaining way of keeping fit.

## What do you think of living in Darwin?

I love it.

## And a few more little ones...

### Fav food?

Anything hot and spicy.

### Fav Colour?

Purple.

### Fav TV shows?

Andrew Denton's Enough Rope and Underbelly.

### Pet hates?

Narrow mindedness.

### What makes you laugh?

I'm sorry to say this but other people's misfortunes and me pole dancing.

### Night shifts or day shifts?

I think night shifts.

### If you weren't an Ambo what would you be?

A travel agent or travel writer.

### If you won a million dollars what would you do?

Travel.

### Favourite saying or words of wisdom?

Footprints in the sands of time are not made by sitting down.

Thanks so much Katharine.

By Fiona Sylva



# St John Ambulance Reunion Dinner

*On Saturday 15th April 2008 65 people attended a Reunion Dinner that was held at the Casuarina Club.*

The purpose of the dinner was to give members of yesteryear and current members the opportunity to catch up and reconnect whilst sharing those many stories of life in St John as well as antics that members got up too. The group included members who were volunteers, paid staff, auxiliaries and family members.

Several awards were presented on the night including:

- Glen Denmeade - Earliest Joining Date - 1945!!
- Daryl McPherson - The Jet Setter Award - Having travelled the longest distance (from Perth) to attend.
- Lucy Cooper - Commitment Plus Award - For giving up a night at the dog trials she could attend the dinner.
- Jim MacGugan - Most Organised - Jim was the first person to pay for the dinner.
- Leigh Radford - closest birthday to the dinner date.

Short greetings were given by the Commissioner, Peter Poole and the Acting CEO, Ross Coburn. A written message was received from Brian Carnegie-Smith which was read out. Brian, who now lives in South Australia, shared a couple of stories about his St John life in Katherine. Lionel Crompton spoke about his time in St John and this was followed by a number of comical stories from Gordon Bowman, Frank Haydock and Rod Hocking. There were old photos and a number of discussions as to who was who.

All members of St John from all areas of the organisation are important and make up the history the organisation. It is important that the members are remembered and their stories as well events are recorded. As a result of the

feedback forms that were completed on the night we have decided to have an Annual Reunion Dinner, a Reunion Social and a number of Reunion Events spread throughout the year. We would like to let as many as possible know about the Reunion events but can only do this with your help so please get the word out and either contact Gwyn at the Volunteer Office or drop and email to us at [reunion@stjohnnt.com.au](mailto:reunion@stjohnnt.com.au).

**Pat King**  
NT History Group



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# Investiture and Graduation 2008

On Thursday 22nd May, St John Ambulance NT held the Annual Investiture and Graduation Ceremony.

Government House in Darwin, and home of our Deputy Prior Mr Tom Pauling AO, QC KStJ and Patron Mrs Tessa Pauling DStJ was the perfect venue for the ceremony. Our special thanks to His Honour and Ms Pauling once again for allowing us to use their beautiful home.

The ceremony recognized Graduating students and Service Bar recipients as well as a large number of members being admitted and promoted within the Order of St John. This year was to be a special event with both Mr Michael Mooney and Mr Bernie Kilgariff being honoured with a Knighthood within the Order of St John.

The Investiture Ceremony commenced at 5.30pm, with Graduating students and members of the Order commencing the procedures with the Academic and Capitular procession. The presentations began with Promotions within the Order of St John, followed by Admissions to the Order and the presentation of a Priory Vote of Thanks to four members for their contributions to St John in the Northern Territory and the Order of St John.

## Admitted to the Order as Member:

Paul Berry  
Marcel Clark  
Virginia Dowson  
Frances Kilgariff  
Gregory Payne  
Martin Scaife

## Promoted to Commander:

Noel Talbot

## Promoted to Knight of Grace:

Bernie Kilgariff  
Michael Mooney

## Priory Vote of Thanks

Kate Anning  
John Payne  
Lee Payne  
Sheryl Rossiter

Presentations were also made to members of the organization for lengthy service, as follows:

|                 |                   |                  |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>5 years</b>  | <b>10 years</b>   | <b>20 Years</b>  |
| Chris Davies    | Gwyn Blach        | Sylvia Klonaris  |
| Coralie Holland | Anne-Marie Muscat | Earle Richardson |
| Rory O'Conner   |                   |                  |
| Matthew Pearce  |                   |                  |
| Terre Renzi     |                   |                  |
| Lisa Trevaskis  |                   |                  |
| Tony Wood       |                   |                  |

Following the Investiture Ceremony, is the awarding of the Diploma certificates to those students who have met all of the requirement for the Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance), unfortunately due to operational

commitments, not all recipients were able to be present to collect their Diploma, but a hearty Congratulations goes to all those who were eligible.

## Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) HLT50402

| Name             | Region        |
|------------------|---------------|
| Sally Abbott     | Darwin        |
| Amaya Alcibar    | Darwin        |
| Stuart Davis     | Alice Springs |
| Daniel Falzon    | Alice Springs |
| Tomas Falzon     | Alice Springs |
| Alice Hageman    | Darwin        |
| Natalie Higgins  | Darwin        |
| Felix Ho         | Darwin        |
| Peter Jones      | Darwin        |
| Mandy Paradise   | Nhulunbuy     |
| Matthew Schepisi | Katherine     |
| Fiona Sylva      | Darwin        |
| Kenton Winsley   | Darwin        |



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# Annual Parade

Over one hundred adult and cadet volunteers attended the Annual Parade on Sunday 16th November at the Kalymnian Hall. His Honour, the Administrator of the Northern Territory, Mr Tom Pauling AO, QC KStJ inspected the parade then assisted the Commissioner with the presentation of awards. Other dignitaries who attended the parade included St John Patron, Tessa Pauling DStJ, Minister for Health, Dr Chris Burns, Peter Styles MLA and Ian Abbott from the Palmerston City Council and his daughter Tianee. It was also great to see some of our St John "family" members attend to witness the event even though they may no longer be in uniform.

Congratulations to all the award winners and recipients of long service medals and bars.:

12 yr medal      Virginia Dowson  
17 yr service bar   Craig Garraway  
17 yr service bar   Steven Bone

Unfortunately some members weren't able to attend the parade to collect their service medals.

12 yr medal      Martin Scaife (Katherine)  
12 yr medal      Justin Hankinson (Tennant Creek)  
22 yr Bar      Noel Talbot (Alice Springs)

## Grand Prior Awards

Shaun Washington (Humpty Doo Cadets)

Geraldine Turner (Palmerston Cadets)

Rachel Fox (Cadet Band)

## 1000 Hour Badge

Sarah McLaughlin (Cadet Band)

## Commissioner's Commendations

Three special Commissioners Commendations were presented at the award. Two awards were presented to Geoff Lohmeyer and Sherry Crowley from the Katherine Adult Division for their work attending a helicopter crash in Mataranka.

The second Commendation was presented to the McLaughlin Family from the Cadet Band Division. The family came across a motorcycle accident on their way to the divisional training night. They stopped and assisted the rider until the paramedic crew attended. The crew praised and thanked Narelle, Sarah and Luke and Hayley for their assistance.

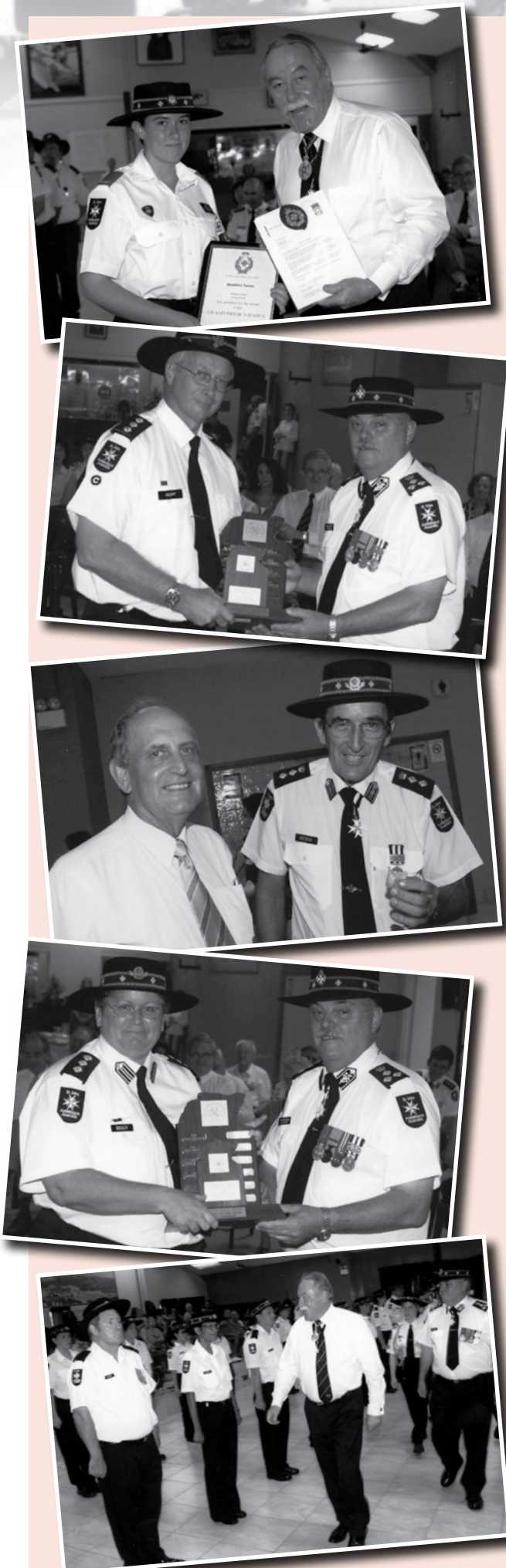
## Commissioner's Awards

Adult Division of the Year - Alice Springs Adult Division

Cadet Division of the Year - Palmerston Cadet Division

Adult Volunteer of the Year - Geoff Kain (Alice Springs)

Cadet Volunteer of the Year – Sarah McLaughlin (Cadet Band)





# In Memory of Pat McQuillen

19/6/39 – 14/9/2008

Pat joined St John in Darwin in 1976 after completing a first aid course and moved to Alice Springs a short time later. She was a very active member until she retired and moved to Avoca in Victoria in 2005. She was an integral part of some of the major events in Alice Springs such as, the Royal Visits, 1983 & 1988 floods, rail accidents, aircraft crashes, National Cadet Camp and the official opening of the Ambulance Centre. Being able to witness these events first hand allowed Pat the opportunity to continue with her interest of the history of the organisation. Pat was instrumental in documenting the history of St John in Alice Springs and in 2004 published a book called "Saved Any Lives Today?"

The following is an excerpt from Pat's book "Saved Any Lives Today?"

*Pat McQuillen grew up in Avoca, Victoria and began her teaching career there in 1956. After graduating from Melbourne Teacher's College Pat taught in many large and small schools all over Western Victoria. In 1966 she moved to Canada and taught in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec. Upon resigning from teaching, Pat worked for three years in hospitality at the Montreal International Airport.*

*When she returned to Australia she began her teaching career again in Darwin. It was there that she signed up for a course in First Aid not knowing it was really a course in First Aid for Ambulance Transport and as a volunteer with St John. But not being one to quit she decided to give it a go and now, nearly 30 years later, she is still a volunteer with St John and currently teaching at Yirara College in Alice Springs.*

*Pat rose through the ranks of St John from Nursing Member to Ambulance Officer to Divisional Officer, Superintendent of both Adult and Cadet Divisions, to Corps Officer and to Territory Officer, from Serving Sister to Officer of the Order of St John.*

Pat has left a wonderful legacy of the history of St John in Alice Springs and she will always be remembered by her many friends in St John.



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## Thank you to all our St John Volunteers

In the Northern Territory St John Ambulance has over a 500 volunteers providing first aid coverage to our community each and every week. With around 190 adults and 340 cadets our volunteers contributed over 27,000 hours of service to the NT community over the past twelve months.

I would like to thank all our volunteers for their hard work and dedication over the past twelve months and I look forward to working with you all again in 2009 and continue to serve the community.

Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year to you all.

Regards,

*Steve Peen*  
Commissioner



Why not consider volunteering with St John  
Contact the Volunteer Office on 89226205







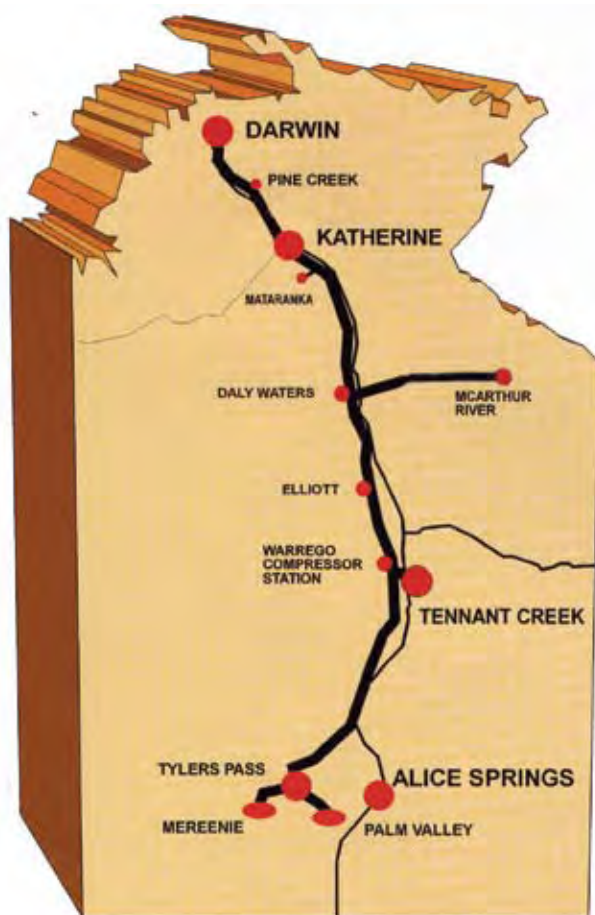
# PROTECT OUR NATURAL GAS PIPELINES

NT Gas transports natural gas via underground pipelines from the Amadeus Basin in Central Australia to Darwin, delivering energy for electricity generation throughout the Northern Territory.

Damage to the buried pipeline could not only interrupt the Northern Territory's vital energy supply, but could cause severe injury. Under the Energy Pipelines Act, unauthorised activity near the pipeline could incur severe penalties.

**Q: How do you know when you are near the Natural Gas Pipeline?**

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## For your own safety DO...

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- ask NT Gas for information or assistance regarding a pipeline, and
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- use vibrating equipment near the pipeline.

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