



# UTBACK AMBULANCE



**NT Honoured with  
National Awards**



**Investiture of the new  
Deputy Prior and Patron**



**2014 Volunteer  
Award Presentation**



**MIKE MOONEY**

*"A friend, colleague,  
mentor and one of our  
St John family members  
who made such  
an extraordinary  
contribution."*

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# Resilience is a Territory trait

**That's why we're focussed on ensuring a secure future for Territorians**

St John Ambulance has a proud history of keeping Territorians safe and secure.

The NT Government is also focussed on ensuring that we have a safe, strong and resilient Territory through a number of bold initiatives.



The sale of TIO has provided us with an opportunity to establish the Infrastructure Development Fund to benefit future generations of Territorians.

In addition we are spending \$50 million for flood mitigation works in Rapid Creek, Darwin's Rural Area and a commitment to move the ambulance headquarters in Katherine to higher ground.

We look forward to finalising these plans in close consultation with St John and the community.

**Adam Giles**  
Chief Minister



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# Message from the CEO



Welcome to our latest Outback Ambulance magazine and a very happy New Year to our readers! In this edition we will highlight some of our key events from 2014 - it certainly was a busy and challenging year!

The past 12-months have seen us very active with the ongoing building and maintaining of our supporter base, and I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of our valued supporters who have contributed to our success in some way during 2014, and we look forward to continued support in 2015. We greatly appreciate our partnerships with many of our long term sponsors and at our Annual Appreciation dinner held in November, I was proud to welcome Choices Flooring to our Endowment Trust supporters Hall of Fame.

We are very pleased to welcome our new Deputy Prior, with Mr John Hardy OAM sworn in as the 21st Administrator of the Northern Territory on the 10th November by His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove, followed by a ceremony where His Honour was admitted as Knight of Grace of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem thereby accepting the role of Deputy Prior, making His Honour the most senior member of St John in the NT.

A special thanks to the Rotary Club of Darwin Sunrise for their 15th year providing support to the Paramedic of the Year Awards which recognises our Paramedics' outstanding contribution to the community. The awards held in September 2014, received 32 nominations from the public which is a wonderful reflection

of our Paramedic's dedication and professionalism, in fact Paramedics were once again voted as Australia's most trusted profession. Congratulations to all nominees, particularly Dean Featherstone on winning the overall award.

Whilst the Ambulance Enterprise Bargaining Agreement remains unsettled, this however has not affected the first class services our staff deliver to the community. We are also very proud to announce our reviewed values which are based upon the traditions which underpin our organisation and what we stand for - Integrity, Respect, Quality, Dedication and Compassion.

Volunteer First Aid Services had a very successful year, with Community Education seeing some 10,355 students go through our First Aid in Schools program, another step towards our goal of making "First Aid a part of every Territorian's life". It is with great pride, though with some sadness that we farewelled Steve Peers our Commissioner and Manager of First Aid Services, who retired in July after a stellar career spanning 37-years with St John NT.

We are looking forward to a successful 2015, which will include changes to the St John NT constitution and board structure, as well as negotiations on a new Ambulance contract with the NT Government, to commence in early 2016 - we have established the negotiation platform and look

forward to securing a workable contract.

A highlight on the St John calendar is the upcoming St John Ambulance Charity Golf Day, to be held on Friday, 08 May 2015 at the Darwin Golf Club. Our inaugural Charity Golf Day, held in 2013 was such a huge success with fantastic community support engaging 204 players for a fun filled day, which allowed us to thank our existing supporters and to welcome many new members to the 'St John Family'. We look forward to making this a regular event.

The end of November brought us tragic news, with the passing of our dedicated Chairman, Michael Mooney. Mike became involved with St John NT 26-years ago when his son joined our Cadet division and he held the role of Chairman for the past 13-years. He has left a lasting impact on St John, particularly with the board and volunteers and he will be greatly missed.

Finally, we are grateful to the Northern Territory Government's ongoing support to St John Ambulance NT as the provider of Ambulance Services across the Territory and my heartfelt thanks goes to all staff and volunteers for their unwavering dedication and hard work.

*Ross Coburn*  
Chief Executive Officer



# Mr Michael (Mike) Joseph Mooney AM KStJ

## Chairman, St John Ambulance



**We have not only lost our Chairman, Mike Mooney, but a friend, colleague, mentor and one of our St John family members who made such an extraordinary contribution.**

Mike Mooney joined St John Ambulance Australia NT as a Board Member in 1988, where he served as Treasurer from 1989–2001, he was also Deputy Chair from 1997–2000, before becoming Chairman in 2001 – a position he held for 13-years until his recent passing.

During Mike's 26-years with St John, he was active in all aspects of the organisation, particularly the Volunteers. He was instrumental in the late 1990's/early 2000's in developing the strategic direction policy, never losing sight of the reason St John exists – the volunteers and serving the community.

He played a major role in the financial management of St John NT. Without Mike's outstanding leadership, the organisation would not find itself in such a sustainable position as it is today. He led during many difficult periods for the Territory including floods, cyclones and also the Bali bombing evacuations. Mike made an unparalleled and extremely significant impact to St John Ambulance in the Northern Territory and was instrumental in developing the relationship between St John and the Health Department.

Mike was a member of the St John Ambulance National Board where his strong leadership contributed to recent changes to the organisation's structure. His experience and management abilities were highly valued by the other members of the Board. Mike led a National Committee as vendor and purchaser for the current National Headquarters of St John Australia and provided wise

counsel to members joining the Board since his own appointment.

Mike was actively engaged for several years in consultation with leading national ophthalmologists in delivering ophthalmic care to the Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory. He also supported the national St John Eye Health Program in East Timor, including in the isolated enclave in Oecussi.

As a self employed Commercial Real Estate Consultant Valuer, Mike's vast knowledge and experience was an enormous assistance to St John. He was a life member of the Keep Australia Beautiful Council of NT and inaugural Chairman for the Australian Property Institute in the NT. In addition, Mike was on the Board of several Darwin businesses, including the Lands Acquisition Tribunal, the Valuation Board of Review and a Member of the Development Consent Authority for Darwin, Charles Darwin Management Committee, and a Board member for the CDU Foundation, the Real Estate Institute and Chairman of the Finance Committee for St. Mary's Cathedral.

Mike's dedication to both St John Ambulance and the broader Territory Community over a period of 40-years, both on a professional and personal level, has impacted in a positive way on a large number of Territorians.

Mike was a well respected community and business man, who was direct, strong and passionate in what he believed in - his legacy is one of absolute dedication as he truly believed in the St John cause where he made an unparalleled and extremely significant contribution to St John Ambulance in the Northern Territory and at a National level.

We have lost a great man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him.



1 | Former Governor General, Dame Quentin Bryce, AD CVO, Mike and St John Lord Prior, Dr Neil Conn AO KStJ

2 | Andy Bruyn and Mike receiving their Order of Australia Medals

3 | L-R - Steve Peers, Ross Coburn and Mike

4 | Senior members of the Order in the NT, L-R Roland Chin, Mike, Brendan Quirke, Alan Bromwich, Lionel Crompton, Ross Coburn



# Education and Train

**In recognition of the challenges and costs facing small Registered Training Organisations in maintaining compliance under the Australian Skills Quality Authority, Standards for NVR Registered Training Organisations, St John-NT has substantially reduced our Scope of Registration and now delivers the NT's suite of First Aid training programs under the national St John Ambulance umbrella RTO: 88041.**

St John-NT has a memorandum of understanding in place with our National body and since 01 July 2014 have been delivering a number of units including:

- HLTAID001 Provide Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
- HLTAID003 Provide first aid.
- HLTAID004 Provide emergency first aid in an education and care setting.
- HLTAID005 Provide first aid in remote situation.
- HLTAID007 Provide advanced resuscitation.
- Course in First Aid Management of Anaphylaxis (22099VIC),

among others

Given the number of changes to first aid competencies, we have continued to monitor both public and private group customer feedback and it is wonderful to acknowledge the quality of service delivery and assessment has not diminished but has indeed improved. We continue to contribute at a national level through involvement in National Quality Committee Meetings, National Assessment Group meetings and through the moderation and validation activities. These are coordinated in the NT for NT accredited First Aid Trainers and the outcomes of these exercises are passed onto the national St John RTO for continuous improvement purposes. It is also pleasing to acknowledge

that where feedback has been provided by St John-NT, it has been considered and incorporated into national resource development. Thank you to all NT First Aid Trainers for their valuable contribution in this area.

Another initiative which we now promote extensively to First Aid Training customers is the promotion of the Provide First Aid 'Online' Flexible Learning Format. Previously, our options for Flexible Learning were to complete the necessary pre-course work using a CD ROM or by Learner Guide Workbook, prior to attending a 1 Day workshop. The CD ROM is being phased out and for this reason, we have decided to rigorously promote the online alternative. The 'online' option is proving to be favoured by those who prefer using computers to facilitate their study. We will continue to monitor learner feedback in the area of satisfaction. What does the PFA online learning component involve? It has been developed/ designed for those people who:

- May have limited time, live remotely and are able to access the internet;
- have previously attended a first aid course and have the confidence to (re)learn and comprehend information quickly; or
- prefer to learn electronically.

The online learning resource is quite visual and allows information to be read aloud in English to the participant although there is an opportunity to mute the program

and to read the information for themselves. Those who have languages other than English are strongly encouraged to seek the support of someone who can translate/clarify the information for them to assist learning. Once a customer confirms their course enrolment by way of payment they receive a website address to access to undertake the pre-course learning component prior to attending the one day workshop. The online component allows the learner to read through course material and affords them the opportunity to test their knowledge by undertaking theory based scenarios and answering short theory based questions. Practical activities inclusive of all assessments are completed in the training room during the one day workshop which is directly observed and supervised by a First Aid Trainer in a safe and encouraging learning environment. As a value added resource to the online component, St John-NT provides a workbook which learners may find useful as they prepare for assessment. This workbook is not a mandatory requirement however it is encouraged they complete and bring a printed copy of this resource to the course. Completion of the NT workbook is not an assessment requirement.

Another important matter is the 01 January 2015 introduction of the Unique Student Identifier number.

## What is the USI?

The Unique Student Identifier (USI) is a Federal Government initiative linking all of an individual's training undertaken in the Vocational



# ing Report



Education and Training sector. Without a USI number, students will not receive documented recognition for the VET sector training they complete\*.

*\*St John Ambulance Australia has been granted a USI exemption for the First Aid training we deliver. This ensures you will receive a Statement of Attainment at the completion of your First Aid training whether or not you have informed us of your USI identifier. However, we strongly encourage all First Aid course students to present their USI number to us at the time of enrolment to ensure their VET sector training achievements are accurately maintained on the USI database.*

## Why has the USI been created?

Currently, it is not possible for students to obtain a complete record of their VET enrolments and achievements from a single online source. This is inconvenient not only for students and employers, but can also make it more difficult for training organisations to assess pre-requisites, credit transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Incomplete data about access to and use of the VET sector also inhibits the development of evidence-based VET programs.

## A USI is effectively an account or reference number made up of numbers and letters.

The USI will allow all of an individual's training records, entered in the national vocational education and training (VET) data collection, to be linked. The USI will make it easier for students to find, collate and authenticate their VET achievements into a single

transcript. It will also ensure that students' VET records are not lost.

## The USI is available online at no cost to the student and will stay with the student for life.

It will be recorded with any nationally recognised VET course that is undertaken. The USI initiative will:

- Seamlessly link a student's VET achievements, regardless of where they studied.
- Enable students to easily access secure digital transcripts of their achievements.
- Give students access to, and more control over, their educational information.

## There will be significant benefits for training providers

resulting from the introduction of the USI. For example, the USI initiative will enable students to provide training providers with access to an online authenticated record of student attainment. This will assist with the recording of enrolment details and will help to streamline the assessment of course prerequisites, credit transfer and the assessment of eligibility for funding assistance. In the longer term, training providers will benefit from longitudinal data on course completions which will inform the development of future VET sector policy initiatives.

## For more information or to apply for a USIw

please visit the Unique Student Identifier website at [www.usi.gov.au](http://www.usi.gov.au) or <http://www.industry.gov.au/skills/regulationreformsandinitiatives/uniquestudentidentifierforvet/Pages/default.aspx>

- Email: [usi@industry.gov.au](mailto:usi@industry.gov.au)
- Phone: 13 38 73

Finally on behalf of the Training Department, I would like to thank Brendan Quirke, our Director of Education, our Trainers and Training Administration Team for their valued commitment toward our organisation, our core values and their individual roles. They are an exceptional team and one that I am proud to be a part of.

I would also like to thank all other members of our organisation who in one way or another, support our team on a day to day basis. Your continued efforts are always greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of our readers of this publication and to those customers/sponsors who financially support our organisation through the purchase of goods or services, for the role in which they play in supporting our St John-NT Volunteers at a local level and within the greater community – without you, we can not do this alone!

Wishing all of you a prosperous New Year in 2015.

*Annetta Albanese*  
First Aid Training Manager



# North Australian Aboriginal Family Violence Legal Service

NAAFVLS is a family violence outreach legal service based in Darwin and Katherine offering assistance and support to victims of Family Violence and Sexual Assault

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Our Annual Investiture and Graduation ceremony was again held at the magnificent Government House, special thanks to Her Honour the Honourable Sally Thomas AC DStJ, for hosting the occasion. The night is always a highlight of the St John calendar.

The Ceremony is held to honour members who have been admitted or promoted within the Order of St John of Jerusalem and also to acknowledge the achievements of Paramedics, who have attained their Diploma in Paramedical Science (Ambulance). We also take the opportunity to recognise and reward our dedicated staff and volunteers for their contribution to St John and the Community, by awarding service medals and bars. Paid staff are acknowledged for their lengthy service with a 'service bar' being presented acknowledging their dedication and commitment to the organization for 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service.

It is with pleasure I offer my congratulations again to the following members who were recipients of awards at the 2104 Investiture and Graduation Ceremony, which was held on Wednesday 11th June.

## Admission to the Order of St John as a Member

Ms Julie Murray

## Promotion to Officer within the Order of St John

Mrs Christine Turner

Members are admitted to the Order of St John of Jerusalem after a strict nomination process. Members are promoted within the Order of St John for significant services rendered to the Order and to the Community.

In addition to the Investiture ceremony, this year we proudly presented two Paramedics with their Advanced Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) and fifteen Paramedics, with their Diploma of Paramedical Science (Ambulance) at the ceremony.

Frances Stringer, Paramedic and also a volunteer based in Katherine was invited to speak on behalf of the Graduating students.

Congratulations to the staff who have achieved lengthy service. The following members were presented with a service bar.

This is also an occasion where we are able to recognise the valuable contribution our volunteers make and we are very fortunate in the Territory to have a number of long term volunteers to assist on a

regular basis at many community and sporting events. The following volunteers received medals and bars at the ceremony:

As part of the volunteer presentations, certificates and badges are presented to volunteers who have been recognised for making an extraordinary achievement. The following members received commendations:

Teresa Holdsworth	Silver
Rhys Dowell	Silver
Tanea Rudder	Bronze

Unfortunately, not all of those listed for the various presentations above are able to attend the ceremony to receive their certificates, bars and awards due to operational requirements, but someone has to hold the fort!

Congratulations to all those who were eligible to receive certificates, medals and bars in the ceremony and for your continued loyalty and dedication to St John Ambulance in the Northern Territory.

### DIPLOMA OF PARAMEDICAL SCIENCE (AMBULANCE)

#### Darwin

Derek Archer  
Stephanie Aylmer  
Justin Blomeley  
Emily Bynon

#### Darwin

Marcus Hackenberg  
Nicole Johnston  
Samantha Mitchell  
Leetasha McIlwain

#### Alice Springs

Gareth Cooke  
Phillip Dickson  
Nick Morgan

#### Katherine

Ashlee Elton  
Dean Featherstone  
Frances Stringer

#### Advanced Dip. Darwin

Julie Wickham  
Anthony Wood

### LENGTHY SERVICE

#### 5 years

David Beck  
Humberto Da Cruz  
Phillip Dickson  
Jillian Finn  
Erin Maczkowiack

#### 5 years

Deborah Martin  
Adam Martlew  
Tracey Ramm  
Karl Visser

#### 10 years

Stuart Davis  
Bridget Oudeman  
Natasha Schuman

#### 15 Years

Wayne Bevan  
Debbie Garraway  
Pat Murray

#### 20 Years

Ross Coburn

### VOLUNTEER MEDALS

#### Service Medal (12 Years)

Aaron Brooks  
Gregory Payne  
Lee Payne  
Kelly Raven

#### 2nd Bar (22 years)

Craig Garraway

#### 4th Bar (32 years)

Dawn Bat  
Trevor Riley

#### 5th Bar (37 years)

Stephen Peers

- 1 | Volunteer service medals
- 2 | Senior Members of the Order of St John
- 3 | Senior Members of the Order of St John



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# NT Honoured with National Awards

1

At the national Council of Ambulance Authorities conference held at Sky City in Darwin in August, St John Ambulance Northern Territory was presented with two national awards.

The *Management Practice Award* was presented to St John Ambulance NT for achievements in the implementation of their Extended Care Paramedic (ECP) Pilot Project.

Utilising funding from Health Workforce Australia, four highly experienced and established St John Ambulance paramedic professionals were selected to undertake training through the Masters of Community Paramedic course at Edith Cowan University allowing them to practice with an expanded scope.

Working under strict clinical protocols and in collaboration with a medical director and with the patients' own GP, an extended care paramedic (ECP) identifies patients who can most appropriately be provided care in their own usual place of residence, whether this is at home, an aged care facility or in the Aboriginal community setting. The initiative demonstrated a reduction in emergency department presentations and inter-facility transfers whilst increasing patient satisfaction and the quality of care options available. Having ECPs as part of this pre-hospital workforce,

provides patients, through their own informed decision making, the ability to improve their medical experience by choosing other healthcare pathways and an alternative to a transfer to the emergency department.

This two year project supported the implementation of this innovative ECP model at five sites around the country and has proved successful in engaging key community stakeholders and addressing identified gaps in local health care needs.

While the absolute core function of St John Ambulance NT is, and will always be, to provide pre-hospital clinical care and hospital transport to those in need, these well trained Extended Care Paramedics have filled service gaps in the non-acute primary care setting and are set to improve the level of service available to those in the Greater Darwin

region. The ECP role provides greater job satisfaction by increasing career pathways and retention strategies for Paramedic professionals through the provision of expanded roles. This Council of Ambulance Authorities Management Award encourages ambulance services to showcase their achievements and be recognised for an exceptional project, quality or performance in any area of their organisation. Additionally, St John Ambulance NT also received the principal national **Star Award** for having successfully developed, implemented and evaluated a project that is considered most valuable for national adoption by all CAA members. For more information on ECPs and this project go to:

<https://www.hwa.gov.au/our-work/expanded-scopes-practice-program/extended-care-paramedics>

or <http://esoptoolkit.hwa.gov.au/>



- 1 | Star Award recipients from around the Country
- 2 | ECP Pilot Project co-ordinators, Brenda Delisle and Bradley Sanderson
- 3 | NT ECP Team members



# Christine Mary Nathanael MSt.J



**Christine joined St. John in 1979 as a Nursing Member initially with Casuarina Adults, and over the next 14 years served in a number of other divisions and positions until she ceased duties in 1994. In that time she accrued 3,968 duty hours. The hours varied from year to year depending on the number of duties undertaken, but on average it equates to 283hrs per year or 23.5hrs month. This time was spent over a number of activities - in Cadet Divisions, training nights, public duties and Ambulance duties.**

At that time she was known to us as Christine Oxford. During her service she moved about quite a bit but always maintained and transferred her membership and continued serving the community as a St. John volunteer. Our record shows that those movements took her to S.A in 1980, but she was back with us in 1981 and served terms with Casuarina Adult Division, Leanyer Cadets, Howard Springs, Darwin and Palmerston Divisions. Much of her service was with Cadet divisions, where she attained the rank of Divisional Officer in 1984. It

is not clear from our records which Cadet division she served with, but the probability is that it was Darwin Cadet division. Christine qualified in Casualty Care and Transport and IAC in 1984, extending her capabilities across all St. John activities.

In recognition of her voluntary service she was admitted to the Order of St. John in 1988 as a Serving Sister, a status now known as Member of the Order. In that capacity Christine maintained her interest in St. John activities and made the effort to attend Investitures and other ceremonial functions of The Order long after her active service had ceased. We will miss the quiet dignity that Christine displayed at these functions.

It is now 20yrs since Christine ceased her voluntary service and most of the members she worked with are no longer with us, so 'first hand' information about her activities is not readily available, but she is remembered by those of us who were around during those years. Retired members Doreen Kerr, Marian Grayden and Frank and Jessica Hoshcke have expressed their sadness at her passing, as are those

of us who are here today. Grant Keetley was District Superintendent when she started with us and recalls that she was an astute and forthright person and a committed St. John member. Some time ago we asked her to record her St. John experiences for us as surely there would have been many interesting experiences to relate, but health issues intervened and it did not happen.

Not only did Christine give St John considerable chunks of her own time – she also brought her family into the organization, leaving us a legacy of a second and third generation of the Oxford family as St. John Ambulance volunteers. For this we are very grateful.

We offer our sincere condolences to her family and to Christine's husband Chris Nathanael. We also thank Chris for supporting her St. John association over the years.

Our thoughts are with you all.

*Lesley King, C.M. RN. D.St.J.*  
Fellowship of the Order of  
St. John, N.T.

- 1 | Christine with Steve Peers  
2 | Christine with Gordon Bowman



# Investiture of the new *Deputy Prior and Patron*



Last year, St John Ambulance NT welcomed our new Deputy Prior and Patron. It was a great honour to be part of the next chapter in Territory history. On Monday 10th November Mr John Hardy OAM was sworn in as the 21st Administrator of the Northern Territory by His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove. On the same day, His Honour was admitted as a Knight of Grace of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, when he accepted the role of Deputy Prior. This position makes His Honour the most senior member of St John in the Northern Territory and we are delighted to welcome him to the St John family. Mrs Marie Hardy also became our Patron and we look forward to welcoming them to the many functions and events we hold each year. We congratulate His Honour and Mrs Hardy on their appointment and anticipate a very busy schedule for them both.





# International Cadet Camp

January 2014

On Wednesday the 1st of January 10 cadets, Kelly Raven and myself met at Darwin Airport eager and ready for an adventure of our lifetime! We boarded the plane to Sydney where we were spending the next ten days. After an eventful flight, wait at the airport and bus trip we finally arrived at the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre, our accommodation for the duration of the camp. Thursday night saw us at the official opening ceremony of the camp where all campers were treated to a traditional Aboriginal welcome to the country; we were also joined by the five members from Alice Springs attending camp.

Day 2 of International camp was onsite activity day. We were split into our teams and began forming bonds with the members in our group. Activities for the day included: Archery, Abseiling, an Aussie trek to the beach, high ropes course, the giant swing and go-kart all the way down.

After a fun filled day before bed we completed a trivia night which included topics such as:

St John history, Australian animals, Disney, Technology, Geography, Australia and celebrities.

Saturday was the day we had all been waiting for National First-aid competitions! Competing from the Northern Territory was Sarena Hyland from Alice Springs as Cadet Leader, Luke McLaughlin from Band Division as individual and Ben Janssen, Jamie Janssen and Yonathen Boyle from Alice Springs as the team.

The hang-glider has suffered from an open fractured femur. Spectator one was hit in the back by the hang-glider causing a mid-thoracic spinal injury. The second spectator is suffering from a posterior flail segment on the right side.

The Individual scenario was set at a music festival. The individual arrives on scene to find an unwell patient who is having a seizure. While treating this patient the individual is approached by a bystander informing them that there are two further patients injured after a fight. One patient is suffering from a broken nose which is bleeding profusely, the second patient is suffering from an abdominal injury which is bleeding internally.

The Team scenario is a school fete setting. Part one of the scenario required the team to man a first-aid post. Presenting at the first-aid post

were patients requiring treatment for: severe sunburn, abrasions, ant bites and low blood sugar. The team was then called to a BBQ explosion outside. Casualties included: flash burns to the eyes, unconscious non breathing patient with burns to the face, arms and neck, a head injury and dislocated shoulder, lacerations to the thigh and upper arm.

The Cadet Leader scenario was a hang-gliding accident. On arrival at the scene a hang-glider has made a hard landing crashing into two spectators on Congratulations to Sarena for placing 3rd in the National Competitions. After along day the achievements of all the competitors were celebrated within their contingents at an offsite contingent dinner. Northern Territory dined at the North Gong Hotel in Wollongong

After a long day announcements were made the results were as follows:

Cadet Leader: 1st-NSW, 2nd-VIC, 3rd-NT

Team: 1st-VIC, 2nd-SA, 3rd-WA

Individual: 1st-ACT, 2 nd-NSW, 3 rd-VIC

1 | NT Contingent members ready for Contingent Dinner





Day Four was an early departure from camp for the

1.5 hour bus ride into the heart of Sydney. Whilst in the Sydney CBD we watched a documentary on the world's largest iMax cinema screen. We could then either visit Madam Tussauds wax museum, Sydney Aquarium or the Maritime museum. Once the set activities were completed we were left with the rest of the day to explore Darling Harbour and do some shopping!

Monday the 6th of January was the International Cadet competitions.

The Australian team was made up of the winning individual (ACT), winning team (VIC) and their team manager was the winning Cadet Leader (NSW). International competitions were very different to Nationals. The four team members were first required to compete together in a team scenario. They were then split into pairs to compete in a further scenario. Finally they completed an individual skills and attributes scenario. After a long day all the individual results were announced for each category. Overall, New Zealand was crowned International Cadet Champions receiving

the Commonwealth Cadet Shield. After another long day, Monday night saw the International Cadet Gala Dinner. Everyone was dressed up in their best evening attire and attended a night that will never be forgotten!

Tuesday morning was a bit of a sleep in before heading off to Luna Park for a day of adrenaline filled action. There was something for everyone, whether you are looking for your next adrenaline rush or prefer a merry-go-round. There was even the opportunity to sit in a coffee shop and overlook the gorgeous view of the Harbour Bridge and Opera House.

After an Action packed day the night was ended on a stunning Sydney Harbour cruise with the gorgeous Harbour Bridge and Opera House as a backdrop.

Wednesday was a bit of a recovery day for the campers. In the morning we attended a Leadership seminar, learning about leadership and how to be an effective leader. Due to the very wet, cold weather our Trek to the beach was cancelled so the afternoon was spent as free-time allowing campers to catch up on sleep or socialise with one another learning about cultures from all

over the world. Wednesday night was absolutely magical a big movie screen was set up under the stars and all campers watched the Australian classic 'Crocodile Dundee'.

After a relaxing day Thursday was another early start to spend the day at Taronga Zoo. The highlight of visiting the zoo would have to be the Seal show we viewed, they were very smart animals performing commands their trainer would give them. On arrival

back at camp was the camp concert night. Northern Territory recited a poem written by Kelly Raven accompanied by a PowerPoint. Although we had a few technical difficulties it turned out okay in the end.

Friday, was the last day we were all spending together. It was another adrenaline rush day at the Jamberoo Action Park. The weather had warmed up a bit today so it was perfect weather for swimming. Friday night was the official closing ceremony and party of the camp before all campers departed on Saturday.

*Sarah McLaughlin*

2 | One of the competing teams

3 | Serena Hyland competing in the Australian Cadet Leader section of the competitions

4 | NT Contingent members Hayley McLaughlin, Ben Finocchiaro, Gemma Gray and Kiana Murphy



# Farewell

# Steve Peers OAM, KStJ JP



Steve was born in Mansfield, Victoria and educated at the Benalla Technical College. He spent six years in the RAAF with postings to Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Darwin before being discharged in 1970. After being discharged he returned to Darwin to work in positions which included engineering labourer, sales representative and with the Northern Territory Housing Commission.



While working in Darwin he attended a St John First Aid course at Parap Headquarters and joined the Darwin Combined Division as a volunteer. This was in 1977 and Steve quickly gained a reputation for his dedication and commitment, reputedly working more hours as a volunteer Ambulance Officer than in his paid job.

job! Now he's off to help pioneer the St John Ambulance Service in Tennant Creek - and is one of only two regular staff charged with establishing a volunteer division.

On Monday 11th June the Minister for Health, Ian Tuxworth, presented a cheque for \$24,000 to John Hill for operating expenses and on 1st July 1979, St John Ambulance officially took over the ambulance service in Tennant Creek and Alice Springs from the Department of Health, together with their ambulances.

Steve remembered telling John: "I'm not very experienced at this. I've only been working as a volunteer. There's work here that I've never encountered, so I need a lot of guidance." John's advice was: "If you don't tell no-one, I won't, and we'll see how we go."

When John Hill transferred back to Darwin in 1981, Steve became



In 1979, with moves afoot for St John to take over the Ambulance Services in Alice Springs and Tennant Creek, Steve was approached by Brigade Training Officer John Hill and offered a paid Ambulance Officer position in Tennant Creek. John was to be the Regional Officer and he needed someone reliable and not afraid of working long hours to help establish and administer this new area.

Steve had, by then, transferred to Casuarina Combined Division, with Northern Territory News journalist Terry Dahlenburg as Divisional Officer; this is how the NT newspaper reported Steve's departure from Darwin:

"St John Ambulance Officer Steve Peers and his wife Ros were farewelled by Casuarina Division members last night. Steve joined the division when there were only a handful of volunteers and as one of the mainstays chalked up almost 80 hours a week, double his paid



1 | Ever smiling Steve! 2 | Steve with his colleagues from the Volunteer office  
3 | Steve with son Warren and daughter Emily 4 | Steve with lovely wife Ros

Regional Ambulance Officer and also Officer Administering Command of the Tennant Creek Combined Division. Concerned for their eldest son's education, Steve decided to resign and leave Tennant Creek, but St John weren't ready to lose such a good man and he was transferred to Alice Springs as Deputy Operations Superintendent. In early 1985 he transferred back to Darwin and between 1985 and 1988, whilst working in Darwin, he completed an Associate Diploma in Emergency Care and returned to Alice Springs as Regional Manager Southern Region. In 2008 he was appointed as the Volunteer First Aid Services Manager for the Northern Territory.

Among his notable achievements, Steve was responsible for establishing ambulance services in Tennant Creek and the Barkly

region; he established the Royal Flying Doctor Service Communications with linkages between remote ambulance services, clinics and communities; and provided admirable leadership in the development of St John Ambulance Volunteer Services Territory wide. The extensive knowledge and 'hands-on' experience Steve had was a vital contributing factor in disaster planning and the readiness of ambulance services in the Northern Territory. This was as a result of the coordination of medical counter disaster plans and management of ambulance responses to the Alice Springs floods of 1983 and 1988.

One of Steve's goals as Commissioner was to see Divisions working closely and integrating with their local community and for St John to become well known as a community group.

He worked hard to see the volunteer members and service personnel responding as 'One St John'.

Steve says his greatest satisfaction in both roles – volunteer and service – was 'seeing a job well done' and 'in members cooperating to achieve the best outcome possible'.

In his retirement Steve intends to maintain a close link with St John and to remain active as a volunteer while ever there is something for him to do!



6



7



8



9

- 5 | Steve and Ros with one of the gifts from St John
- 6 | Senior members who have worked for many years with Steve
- 7 | Steve with his family
- 8 | Steve with close friends Noel and Liz Tailbot
- 9 | Steve with some of his friends at St John



5





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## Joining forces for better health

St John Ambulance NT, Northern Territory Emergency Services and the Northern Territory Medicare Local collaborated recently to deliver an Emergency Response Scenario in Alice Springs. It's the second time this year these agencies have joined forces to upskill NT health professionals.

The scenario reflected a real-life emergency situation that could reasonably be expected to take place in the Northern Territory, including a car accident and chemical spill.

Training exercises such as this help to equip GPs, health and emergency professionals with the skillsets and confidence to take leadership in an emergency situation.

***"I thought it was amazing. The number of services involved made it very real."*** – Remote GP participant



For more information about upcoming education and training opportunities for NT health professionals, visit our website:

[www.ntml.org.au](http://www.ntml.org.au)





# Fundraising Raffle

We held our second fundraising raffle in 2014, again seeking support for our volunteer members across the Territory. We were delighted with the support of the local community who purchased tickets and also of the local businesses that supported us with our prizes. Funds raised will assist with the supply of uniforms, training equipment and valuable resources to ensure our volunteers are fully equipped with the latest skills and resources, to enable them to attend the many community and sporting events across the NT each year.

St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc congratulates the winners of the

2014 Fundraising Raffle drawn on Friday 1st August 2014 at 4pm.

## First Prize – Ticket No, 2123

A Paspaley Flutter Classic Butterfly Pendant in 750 yellow gold with 15mm triangle/reverse drop Australian South Sea Pearl. This has been matched with a 41cm yellow gold .94mm cable chain. Valued at \$3000.00

## Second Prize – Ticket No. 0762

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Valued at \$2500.00

## Third Prize – Ticket No. 2571

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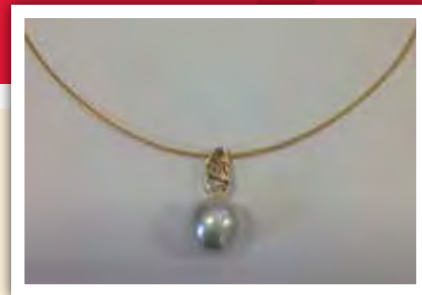
voucher. Valued at \$550.00

## Fourth Prize – Ticket No. 0435

St John Ambulance NT Prize pack; 4WD soft pack kit, Apply First Aid course voucher, and a mechanical workshop voucher. Valued at \$525.00

We would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets in our fundraising raffle and we wish to acknowledge the support of our very generous raffle sponsors for the wonderful prizes. Thank you also to the many businesses across the Territory that assisted us in selling raffle tickets.

Thank you to our valued supporters of the raffle:



  
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When Ford announced it was closing it's performance Division and advised that only 500 FPV Falcons would be the last made, Phil Walker from Unique Cars decided to bring one to the Territory, remove the speed limiter and test the beast on our open speed limit roads. St John members in Alice Springs became part of history on 1 October, when

# Ford speed trials

## they were given the opportunity to assist with the "GT Falcon Farewell."

After 45 years of producing the GT Falcon, this seemed like a fitting was to farewell and icon. John Bowe and Dick Johnson, legends of Australian Touring Cars, were invited to do the speed trial in the latest GT Falcon, and photo opportunities with an original GT Falcon and the latest FPV (Ford Performance Vehicle) GT Falcon. The goal was to try to break 300 kilometres per hour in a standard GT Falcon, but they fell just short at 297.

Our support crew of ICP Paramedic Paul Pulleine and volunteer Glen Auricht, both very eager to be a part of this event, were on hand just in case, but thankfully all went to plan. A 5 kilometres section of the Stuart Highway 120k North of Alice Springs was the setting for the challenge and with local support of ambulance, police and fire services as well as some enthusiastic locals, the event unfolded with surgical precision. Unfortunately the 300k speed limit was not broken, but all involved were thrilled to be part of this historic event.

1 | Paul Pulleine (ICP) and Glen Auricht (volunteer) both petrol heads from way back



# 2014 VOLUNTEER

## Award Presentation

National CEO, Peter LeCornu, St John Board members and volunteers attended the 2014 Volunteer Presentation night. Chairman, Mr Michael Mooney and CEO, Mr Ross Coburn sent their apologies as they were not able to attend.

Commissioner, Steve Peers presented three members with promotions.

Mr Peter Poole to Territory Officer, Aaron Brooks Superintendent of the Nhulunbuy Adult Division and Brian Ch'ng Superintendent of the Darwin Adult Division.

Peter LeCornu then presented four commendations

Bronze Commendations were presented to Warren Oliver for his

assistance with public duties and Brett Devitt for his work with the Member Induction Program.

Silver Commendations were presented to Kimberlee McKay for her work with the "Fast Aid Tips" TV series and to Michael McKay for his work developing the E-Learning Medications Course.

12 year medals were presented to Brian Ch'ng, Geoff Lohmeyer and Michael McKay. Other service bars presented were:

<b>Rodney Hocking</b>	22 years service bar
<b>Des Thornton</b>	27 years service bar
<b>Dr Lionel Crompton</b>	37 years service bar

Other recipients of this year's 12 year medals and Service Bars who weren't able to attend the function were 12 Year medal recipients Felix Ho, Tanea Rudder and Steve Rudder and Marcel Clark, 1st Bar for 17 years of service.

Commissioner, Steve Peers then presented the trophies to the winners of the 2014 Northern Territory Cadet First Aid Competition.

Winning Team - Band Division - Hayley McLaughlin, Gemma Gray and Lauren Coghill, Cadet Leader winner was Sarah McLaughlin from Band Division and Zoe Johnston from the Alice Springs Cadet Division was the winner of the Individual Competition.



- 1 | National CEO Peter LeCornu (centre, front) with award recipients  
2 | The awards to be presented





Other awards presented were:

#### **Adult Division of the Year**

– the Nhulunbuy Adult Division

MC, Mark Ferguson acknowledged the work of former Superintendent, Teresa Holdsworth, former OIC, Natasha Schuman, current Superintendent Aaron Brooks and the current OIC Reece Ravlich for their work in the division.

#### **Cadet Division of the Year**

- Alice Springs Cadet Division

For the first time the **Adult Member of the Year** award had joint winners. Angie Butler, Superintendent of the Palmerston Adult Division and

Warren Oliver also from the Palmerston Adult Division were both recognised for their work over the past year.

Bradley Pitt from the Palmerston Cadet Division won the **Cadet of the Year**. Brad is a very enthusiastic cadet who is always willing to help out and he attends as many duties as he can.

#### **The 2015 Peter Falkland Award**

winner is Arnah Holland.

Arnah has been a member of 3 divisions since joining St John in 2007 – the Marrara School Division, the Palmerston Cadet Division and is now a member of the Youth Division.

Frank Dunstan was presented with the Operational Support Member of the Year award for his work with producing the weekly Volle News, his publication of “Awkward Hours Awkward Jobs” and the many hours he contributes each

week archiving documents in the Volunteer Office.

Congratulations to the winners of all the awards.

*Many thanks to our valuable sponsors - Jayne Rothall from JR Communications and the Telstra Shop Palmerston, Nick and Annette Frangoulis from Choices Flooring and Mr Kevin Blacker.*



3 | Volunteer office staff 4 | Angie and Brett Butler with Warren Oliver 5 | Winning Team, Band Division  
6 | Steve Peers with Bradley Pitt 7 | Peter LeCornu with Rod Hocking 8 | Michael McKay and Steve Peers  
9 | Michelle Watson, Krystal Kent and Nerissa Brumby from Darwin Cadet Division



# St John History Tour

In May 2014, Gwyn Balch and I participated in the opportunity of a lifetime, when we joined the inaugural St John Ambulance Historical Tour. The tour started as a fanciful idea over a coffee by friends and long term St John members from Portland, Tony Oxford and Bruce Caslake. From conception to fruition, the tour took over two years in the planning and every bit of that time was used to make sure the four weeks was spent gaining the maximum information and history from each area that was visited.

The tour itself was made up of 33 St John members from around Australia who between them have clocked up an amazing 800 years of service to St John. Not a bad effort! Many of the retired members, some with over 50 years of service, joined as cadets.

The trip itself covered the 900 year history of St John from the Crusades to present day in London. We visited many of the significant St John sites starting in Jerusalem and Bethlehem then onto Cyprus, Rhodes, Malta via Athens, Rome, Sorrento and ending the trip in London. There were so many amazing sites visited, much of it very well preserved, with experienced guides explaining the history. Days were long and crammed full of sights, bus trips, historical dates and many photo opportunities. It really helps to put into perspective how our history unfolded, as you get a completely different view from just reading about it in a book.

It is difficult to choose a highlight to write about as there were so many at each location we visited, but a highlight for me was Malta and this was made all the more interesting and by our wonderful local guide Maria. Another highlight was seeing first hand the fantastic work that is done at the St John Eye Hospital in Jerusalem. They perform such amazing work and reach so many needy people sometimes facing very adverse conditions. We visited the local St John headquarters in Malta and met members of the local St John Rescue squad, all volunteers. There is too much to write about the trip, so we will try and show you in some of the pictures.

A special thank you to Tony and Brenda Oxford and Bruce and Sue Caslake for making the trip a reality and ensuring that everything ran smoothly despite some red eye flights and 3am checkouts! If another tour is arranged, I highly recommend participating if you get the chance.

- 1 | Historical re-enactment at St John Fort, Malta
- 2 | St John HQ in Malta
- 3 | Tony & Brenda with the Commissioner of Malta
- 4 | Lovely lunch spot in Rhodes
- 5 | Group at the Eye Hospital in Jerusalem
- 6 | Group in the Catholic area of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

- 7 | 2 Knights and 2 Dames with a new friend
- 8 | St John Rescue Corps members
- 9 | Tony at the Gate of St Anthony
- 10 | Eye Hospital emblem
- 11 | Afternoon coffee in Positano, Italy









# Exercise Stranger Lands

## An Alice Springs multi agency exercise



**On Sunday 23rd November a multi agency exercise was held at Ellery Creek Big Hole, in the West MacDonnell National Park and involved St John Ambulance NT, Northern Territory Emergency Services (NTES) and Parks and Wildlife Commission staff.**

The training exercise was co-ordinated by NTES with significant input from both St John

Ambulance NT and Parks and Wildlife in the initial planning, logistics and conduct. The aim was to assist the different agencies to build closer ties and to work closely together for a positive outcome in the event of a major incident. The mock exercise tested response capabilities to a significant incident for both a land search and rescue and a vertical rescue from a steep rock face adjacent to the waterhole.

Exercise Stranger Lands came about after a rescue some months previously at Ellery Creek Big Hole where a young man fell from the top of the cliffs and landed on one of the ledges some 20 metres above the ground. He fractured both his arms, his cheek bone and had to be extricated from the cliff ledge.

To ensure the scenario was as real as possible the exercise was held during the heat of the day and this was one of the physical challenges faced by the rescuers. Their challenge, was to find a missing boy 'little Johnny' who had been separated from his family while bush walking. Crews were tested on

their ability to observe the clues left within the search area, their communications with each other and the accuracy of regular situation reports (SITREPS) back to the Incident Control Point. Participants were given the opportunity to learn three major search techniques, a creeping line, a parallel search and an Indian file.

In addition to searching for 'little Johnny' his 'Father' had fallen from the top of the cliffs while trying to get a better vantage point in his search for little Johnny. NTES vertical rescue officers and St John Ambulance paramedics were required to ascend the cliff via rope to stabilise the patient, and then to bring the patient back to ground level in a Stokes Litter Stretcher. The Vertical Rescue Exercise took almost three hours to complete.

At the concluding debrief, each agency discussed what worked well and what could be improved on. All who attended gained something from the event and would like to use this story as a timely reminder to all visitors to our NT parks and waterways, to be careful when you are out and about and pay attention to any warning signs in the area.



- 1 | NTES members undertaking an Indian file search
- 2 | St John members ready for action





**Katherine Paramedic Dean Featherstone was awarded the top honour at the 2014 Paramedic of the Year Awards hosted in early September at Parliament House by the Hon Robyn Lambley Minister for Health.**

Now in its 15th year, the Paramedic of the Year Awards was established by the Rotary Club of Darwin Sunrise to recognise officers who demonstrate the highest standards in professionalism and compassion. St John Ambulance Paramedics rarely seek attention or accolades for the assistance they provide. The Awards provide an opportunity for people who have had first hand experience with the professional service provided by Paramedics to give feedback, and ensure that officers are continually encouraged and rewarded for their outstanding efforts.

Dean took out top honour from a field of 32 nominated paramedics from across the Territory. Nominations were received from those members of the public personally treated by



## Honours For Our Top Paramedics!

paramedics, from those who have witnessed and been comforted by the work of a paramedic and from colleagues who have nominated their peers. The awards are a way of acknowledging the outstanding performance of paramedics working in Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Katherine, Nhulunbuy and Darwin and recognise the professional conduct of these paramedics who regularly perform their role under challenging circumstances.

Dean Featherstone is from a small town called Tootgarook on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria and has been part of St John Ambulance (NT) since July 2011. Dean has lived in the NT for most part of the last 10 years. Dean feels extremely proud to wear his uniform because of the "automatic respect it generates" and the responsibility he has as a role model in the community to inspire young people.

Dean is a well liked and integral member of the team in Katherine, and his peers describe him as an extremely dedicated team

player who is a genuine all rounder. He is highly regarded by colleagues, management and those he deals with in the health industry in general. Dean stood out this year for his ability to demonstrate care and compassion to both the patient and their loved ones, not only during treatment but his continuing compassion to check on the patient once handing over to other health professionals.

Dean's recent highlights have been being awarded Student Paramedic of the year this year and also recently getting married. Dean wanted to become a paramedic for the ever changing circumstances in which he works and the demand for thinking on the go and being pushed to your limits.

St John Ambulance and the Rotary Club of Darwin Sunrise would like to congratulate all nominees, thank all community members who submitted their nominations and also thank the sponsors of the Awards – Northern Territory Government, United Voice, Territory Surgical Supplies, Rydges – Rydges Darwin Airport Resort, Telstra Shop Palmerston and Country Classics.

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# Thank You Paddy Bird!



**In 2011, a very unfortunate event led to the sad passing of Patrick Bird. His mates in honour of their friend, decided to launch a Gaelic football club to cater for the growing number of young Irish immigrants in Darwin. Three International Rules games have been played in Paddy's honour and St John Ambulance have been very fortunate to be the recipients of the proceeds donated at these fundraising matches for the last two years.**

The games held in both 2013 and 2014 were hugely popular with spectators and St John Ambulance NT has had volunteer first aid presence at each game. "We are very grateful to the Darwin Shamrocks for choosing St John Ambulance NT as their charity of Choice for the past two years. Our volunteers will benefit directly from this support, which will assist with training equipment and uniforms" says Mark Ferguson a/Volunteer First Aid Services Manager.

The game will be played again in 2015 and we encourage the local community to support the increasingly popular event, in honour of Patrick Bird.



## Trauma Teddies

**S**t John Ambulance NT is fortunate to be the recipient of many generous donations from members of the public in support of our valued volunteers each year. This year however, it was our patients who benefited from the generosity of a special lady and her mission to collect as many soft toys and teddy bears as possible for our ambulances.

A ride in an ambulance is a traumatic time for anyone, but

if you are child, the fear of the situation is multiplied. When we are able to, our paramedics will give a frightened or scared patient (not always a child!) a 'teddy bear' to take the focus off the issue at hand. We have been fortunate in the past to have received donated beautiful knitted teddies from some of our senior members of the public, who always drop them off anonymously.

This year, Kim Lucas, a police auxiliary, made it her personal

mission to collect unused and no longer needed teddy bears and deliver them to not only St John, but to many places where children in difficult situations will benefit. St John received boxes and boxes of soft toys and teddies and these were distributed to all of our ambulances throughout the Territory, in the hope that the traumatic journey for a child could be made that little bit more comfortable. Thank you Kim and all of your generous helpers for making this possible.



# Annual Church Service



St John members gathered at Christ Church Cathedral on Sunday 23rd November, 2014 for the annual rededication service. The Northern Territory Administrator, His Honour the Honourable John Hardy OAM KStJ and Mrs Marie Hardy attended the service, their first St John function in their new roles as Deputy Prior and Patron.

Other members of the Capitular procession included, former Administrator Austin Asche AC QC KStJ, Dr Valerie Asche DStJ, National CEO, Peter LeCornu KStJ, Commissioner Steve Peers OAM KStJ, former Commissioner, Peter Poole KStJ, Lesley King DStJ and Angie Butler DStJ.

Members of the congregation and St John members enjoyed

morning tea in the Harbour Room after the service. This was an opportunity for members to meet and talk to His Honour and Mrs Hardy.

Thank you to Greg Payne, Barbara Klessa and Sarah McLaughlin for taking part in the service, Benny Butler and Arnah Holland for taking photos and Debbie Garraway and Mark Ferguson for their help with the preparations.



- 1 | Christ Church Cathedral
- 2 | Patron Mrs Hardy with Adina Poole, Steve Peers and Peter LeCornu
- 3 | Warren Oliver & Steve Peers

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Give us a call, check out our website or come in and see us. Open 7 days a week. Free 1 hour wifi service available.

Katherine Visitor Information Centre - Cnr Stuart Hwy and Lindsay Street, Katherine  
www.visitkatherine.com.au P: 08 8972 2650 E: visitor@kvc.nt.gov.au

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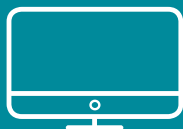


# Colemans

creative + print

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## GRAPHIC DESIGN



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## SHORT RUN

DIGITAL PRINTING



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## VOLUME

OFFSET PRINTING

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## FINISHING

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# Road Safety for Territorians



We aim to reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries on Territory roads by working collaboratively with our road safety partners and the community to create awareness, educate and promote safer road user attitudes and behaviour.

**We're for Territorians**

