



AFP Legacy Newsletter

March Quarter 2023



From the President

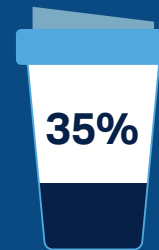
Welcome to the first edition of the AFP Legacy Newsletter for 2023, I hope your 2023 is travelling well so far.

AFP Legacy have hit the ground running for the new year with important events having already happened, in the form of a Police Legacy Kids Camp, and more being planned for the months ahead, including AFP Legacy Family Day on April 1st, and another Police Legacy Kids Camp coming up in July. We again thank NSW Police Legacy for including AFP Legacy Legatees in these very important camps.

Please take the time to read about how your AFP Legacy contributions have been enabling AFP Legacy to provide our Legatees with important support via the two Reflection articles from the recent Police Legacy Kids Camp.

AFP Legacy again thanks all members who contribute and encourage anyone not yet contributing to sign up via INSIGHT!

Owen Law
President



Currently, 35% of AFP employees contribute fortnightly to AFP Legacy. For the price of a cup of coffee each week, sign up through Insight! today!

QUARTERLY MOMENTS

This quarter your donations helped AFP Legacy assist AFP families in the following ways:

- School IT equipment
- Legatee Camp
- Grief counselling
- Home services assistance
- Birthday gifts
- Driving lessons
- Bereavement payments

The Baker family

The Baker family - Anastasia, Josh and their mum Paula have been given the opportunity to complete the Kokoda Trail in April 2023 by AFP Legacy.

They're doing the famous trek in memory of their late father Leading Senior Constable Peter Baker, an Australian Federal Police officer who lost his 19-month long battle with cancer in February 2021.

"He was an amazing, brave, kind and caring father, husband and friend who was always up for a chat," recalls Anastasia. "We have a special connection to Kokoda and Papua New Guinea as dad was deployed there, and it was his favourite and most rewarding deployment."

The family are raising money for AFP Legacy who have supported them in many different forms, from helping with school fees, to opportunities to go on camps with other Legatees, and family days where families in similar situations can meet and chat about their experiences.

All donations can be made via the [fundraising page](#) to help them achieve their goal of raising \$20,000 for AFP Legacy.



Anastasia, Kenny Koala, Josh & Paula



Josh, Paula & Anastasia

AFP LEGACY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

- 1 Family Day
- 15-26 Kokoda Trek

May

- Run 4 Blue

July

- 1-6 Kids Legatee Camp
- 14 FNQ Charity Golf Day

Note: all events listed are subject to COVID-19 restrictions

January 2023 Police Legacy Adventure Camp: Camp Supervisor Reflection

I certainly started camp with the same nervousness and apprehension as many of the first time kids. Whilst waiting at the wharf for the ferry to Broken Bay it was clear how strong the bonds were between the regular attendees and supervisors. I was fortunate enough to be able to follow the lead of the incredibly passionate and welcoming supervisors who set an amazing standard of professionalism and care for the kids. It was not long until an icebreaker of a wild water balloon fight helped breakdown all those nervous feelings and I soon felt part of the family. There is absolutely no denying the importance of comradery and teamwork to deliver such an engaging and interactive camp – from late night stakeouts to ensure all the children stayed in their own rooms to endless games of basketball and Guess Who to make all the children feel included – every supervisor put their absolute all into the week.



Emma with Legatees meeting the Water Police

It was great to be able to bring our own interests and skills into camp by running activities such as scavenger hunts, dance, fishing and water sports, as well as demonstrating my ability to fail spectacularly at archery and volleyball. I was able to draw on my own experiences of deployments and spending large amounts of time away from home to normalise the feelings of “home sick” to children who found themselves ashamed and burdened by missing home. I was so humbled to see the children who felt they would not make it through the first 24 hours genuinely sad to be leaving their new friends on the final day and excited to be coming back. The camps have such a special place in the children’s lives as the friendships they make there are often stronger than those in any other part of their lives. I genuinely cannot wait until the next camp although I will need a weeks’ worth of sleep first.



Emma with Legatees about to hit the beach

AFP Legacy appreciates the time our Supervisors volunteer, to ensure the success of the Kids Legatee Camps, thanks Emma!

Police Legatee Adventure Camp 2023 – Legatee Reflection

My name is Joshua Baker and I've been a Legatee since early 2021. Like most of my fellow legatees, life has dealt me and my family with some bad cards, but AFP Legacy has always been there to support us through these rough patches in our lives. In January of 2023, I had the opportunity of attending the Police Legacy youth camp at the Broken Bay Recreational Centre in Sydney. These youth camps happen twice every year. One in January for ages 7 – 17 and one later in July for ages 12 – 17. Unfortunately, I had only begun attending these camps in this year, and as a graduated 17-year-old, this would be my first and last youth camp with Police Legacy. This camp was a little nerve racking for me. Since I was 17, I knew I'd be the oldest one there and I had no idea if anyone my age would even be there, let alone anyone I knew. I waved goodbye to my family at the terminal and boarded the plane with three other kids I'd never met before, not knowing what kind of experience waited for me in Sydney. The moment I got off the plane I was greeted by supervisor Meg, who guided myself and the three siblings who took the plane with me through the maze that is Sydney airport to grab our bags and join the rest of the campers. Once we reached the group, I recognised a few faces from an AFP Legacy Family Day in Canberra the year before, but to the rest of the group I was a complete stranger. I was surprised at how quickly that changed.



Legatees eagerly awaiting their flight

One bus and boat ride later, I had already bonded with a handful of my fellow campers. Most of them had been on these trips before, but they had no trouble getting acquainted with myself and their new camp buddies.

As we boarded Broken Bay, we were greeted by our hosts Matt and Hammo. These guys were tons of fun, and they always had the best activities in store for us. I don't know if there was a single person I spoke to after our damper bushwalk that didn't want to make more damper once they got home.

As we settled into our cabins, I got to know the way too energetic younger legatees. These guys were a ball of mischief. Some days when they were all together, they'd form a giant pack and call themselves "The Woblins!" and terrorise the others (mainly supervisor Joel haha) in the pool. Throughout the camp, I got to know more and more of my fellow legatees through the activities until we all knew each other's names and where we were all from. I even got to know the siblings I caught my plane with. The oldest sibling and I even shared an interest in movies, and we coincidentally watched the same movie on the plane on the way to Sydney. He also kicked my butt in checkers after asking "how do you play checkers?". The supervisors who came with us were an amazing group of people. Consisting of AFP/NSW police, Police Legacy staff and even Legatees who had been on the camps when they were our age, the camp could not have had kinder and more welcoming people looking after us.



Group hike

Police Legatee Adventure Camp 2023 – Legatee Reflection



The camp was filled with fun adventures and great moments, and by the end of the camp the strangers I thought we all were became one big Police Legacy family. The kids I met were amazing and the number of stories I could tell are immense. Whether it was the incredible plays during gridiron, touch footy or water balloon capture the flag, or the raft building contest, the treasure hunt, the beach day, fishing, the heated trials of the Kangaroo Court at the end of the camp, or even the great performances during no talent time. I could go on forever.

Since this trip was my first and last camp, the last night we all gathered around the campfire for my send-off, and I was brought to tears by the fact that I wouldn't be able to come back and spend this time with my newfound Police Legacy family. The supervisors wrote lovely messages to me in a card and supervisor Leisa gave me a POLAIR hat that I will cherish in memory of the wonderful experience I was able to have.

If you're a kid whose old enough to attend these camps, I can't recommend them enough. It is the greatest way to meet and bond with your family here at Police Legacy. The only thing I regret from the camp was not joining them sooner. One of the things that I loved about the camp personally, was that as a 17-year-old who graduated high school, rapidly approaching his adulthood, I was able to have an experience that you can only have as a kid with some amazing people one last time before I was hit with the ickiness of being an adult. Despite not being able to come back to the youth camp, Police Legacy run 18-25yr young adult camps that I will for sure be attending. I'll miss the incredible times I had on that camp, but I hope I see you all again soon!



NSW Police Legacy & AFP Legacy Legatees and Camp Supervisors





Join our walk and help us raise vital funds to support AFP Legacy

The Brad Hardy Foundation was set up in honour of a young Australian Federal Police Officer Brad Hardy, who tragically lost his life on 6 March 2023. He was only 23 years old.

Brads commitment to the AFP and his outlook on life, inspired his family and friends to setup the Foundation and raise funds to support those AFP officers who serve and protect us every day.

Our team will be raising money by participating in Run4Blue during May and finishing the month with a major fundraising walk. All monies raised support AFP Legacy.

We invite all AFP employees, families and friends to join us and help raise awareness and vital funds for AFP Legacy.

Date: Saturday 27 May 2023

Venue: Lake Burley Griffin

Start: 10am

from the National Police Memorial – Kings Park

Cost: \$25

SIGN UP via the following:

BHF Website: www.bradhardyfoundation.com.au

Facebook: [Brad Hardy Foundation](https://www.facebook.com/BradHardyFoundation)

Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/CFKBU

2022 AFP Headquarters Christmas BBQ

The annual AFP Headquarters Christmas BBQ didn't disappoint with great sausage sandwiches and a big turn out from all areas of the AFP.

The numbers in attendance were reflected amazingly in our merchandise sales with Kenny Koala's and Cassies flying off the table, a big thank you from AFP Legacy staff for your patronage at our stall.

The AFP Legacy Christmas raffle was also very well supported and we congratulate Jules Mortenson for having the winning ticket and thank our AFP Legacy Patron, Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM for presenting the prize to Jules.



Jules Mortenson and AFP Legacy Patron,
Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM



I am taking on the famous Kokoda Trail as Supervisor with AFP Legacy. I am doing this trek in support of the families who have tragically lost a family member who is a Police officer and are taking the trek in remembrance of their loved one.

With only getting the call up recently to undertake the trek, and a rush to get some training in beforehand, your support will be needed and much appreciated with all donations going to Police Legacy and ultimately supporting the Legatee families.

The 96km trek is taking part from the 15th April 2023 and finishing up on the 24th April 2023. All members of the trek will also attend ANZAC Day commemorations on the 25th April 2023. A once in a life time experience.

For those that are unaware, Police Legacy schemes are established throughout Australia with the primary aim to perpetuate the memory of those who have been killed on duty, or who have died in service. These organisations aim to provide assistance and support to members of the

wider police family and do so for many years following a death. Typically, the types of activities that AFP Legacy and other Police Legacy organisations undertake include:

- Providing financial and personal assistance and support, especially during times of bereavement and significant hardship;
- Supporting Legatee children through their entire schooling life and then providing assistance with the move into employment or tertiary education options;
- Facilitating social activities including school holiday camps, Christmas and Easter functions;
- Facilitating family assistance with holiday outings and involvement in Police functions; and
- Tailoring assistance programs, depending upon the family make-up and location.

All donations go to an amazing cause that help the families of those who have lost a family member in the line of duty. Your contribution is much appreciated and goes towards an amazing cause.

Harley – AFP Legacy Camp Supervisor

Moe & Row 2022

Western Command again did the hard yards, literally, on November 30 when they reignited the Moe & Row Challenge that was so successful in 2021. As with the 2021 event, the Moe & Row team were up for the challenge, including growing the best moustache possible to raise awareness for men's mental health and AFP Legacy.

The challenge involved team members rowing for 30 minutes at a time on a standalone rowing machine over a 24 hour period. The 2022 team comprised of Andrew Porteous, Adam Johnson, Chris Bailey, Troy Gardiner, and Nathan Bampton, and between them they managed to complete the 24 hour rowing challenge. It was no easy feat, yet with plenty of encouragement and support, the team were never in doubt of completing the challenge.

AFP Legacy is most grateful to the Moe & Row Team and thanks them for their generous support of AFP Legacy.



Andrew Porteous, Adam Johnson, Chris Bailey, Troy Gardiner & Nathan Bampton



The Moe & Row Team in action

Caitlen Wright – Volunteering with AFP Legacy



What does it mean to me to volunteer with AFP Legacy?

The ongoing dedication and work of AFP employees, on and off duty, is often full of highs and lows, whilst in the pursuit of a safer world. AFP Legacy provides a helping hand and an additional support network for our AFP employees and families that are experiencing some of the toughest times in their lives. Volunteering, in any capacity, ensures I can be a small part of continuing this support. Being a part of the broader volunteer team, assisting with fundraising and event support, allows me to make a noticeable difference during my time with the AFP outside my office duties.

Graduate life in the AFP

I started working with the AFP in March 2022 as a part of the incoming graduate cohort. I had only recently made the move from Sydney to Canberra, and was trying to make sense of the wide world of the AFP. It was overwhelming and exciting in many ways, and each one of us was looking for a place to call 'home' and to make a mark. We were introduced to AFP Legacy and the incredible team early on, and for me personally, I knew AFP Legacy was something I wanted to contribute to. Thankfully, the graduate program's support of AFP Legacy allowed us to volunteer as part of our program.

Why do I volunteer for AFP Legacy?

From the moment that I learnt about motives behind AFP Legacy, I knew I needed to get involved. Shortly after, I contacted the AFP Legacy team to find out what more I, or better yet, what the graduate cohort could do to assist. The more I learnt, the more I wanted to help. To be able to support colleagues, friends and families, even in the smallest way, during their time of need, is incredibly rewarding. To work in an organisation that puts so much thought and effort into the notice of "what can we do?" and "how can we help?" is something that I will forever be grateful and thankful for.

My experience volunteering at the 2022 AFP Legacy Ball

Seeing my cohort get involved with various fundraisers and dedicate time towards assisting with the 2022 AFP Legacy Ball, made me incredibly proud to work with the kind of people who are willing to put themselves aside to do something meaningful for others. The 2022 cohort were able to assist in the lead up to the event, during the night, and even one of the very talented graduate's was able to provide the graphic design work that featured in the advertisement and decorations on the night. From ushering guests to their seats, working the fundraising and bidding tables, and even participating in the live auction, the graduate cohort turned up in force. As part of the team that volunteered throughout the night of the AFP Legacy Ball, we encountered an abundance of thankfulness and appreciation for assisting from all involved with the evening. An event that was so humbling and enjoyable to be a part of ended up as a highlight of the year for many of us.

AFP Legacy is so grateful to all those who volunteer their time for the charity, thank you Caitlen and the graduate cohort of 2022.



Luke Aitchison, Grace James, Kenny & Caitlen Wright



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