

VARIOUS PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE DEDICATION CEREMONY AT DUCK POND ON 9TH JANUARY 2017.

“Jinden Station” – 63 kilometres south of Braidwood was at the centre of County of Jinden frequented by the notorious Clarke Gang during their crimes and depravity in 1867.



The Ambush site – Duck Pond, Jinden NSW some five kilometres east of Jinden Station. This photograph depicts as it was prior to the memorial being built. The only difference from 150th years ago is the large Manna tree capable of hiding four or five men has now gone, but the hole is still remains. The Monaro LAC placed its very own marquee on top of that hole on the day of the ceremony.



Working out where the memorial will be placed at Duck Pond with the property owner of Jinden Station, Mr John Hindmarsh 12 months before. One of many several site visits to Duck Pond in the coming months.



The memorial stone is selected from the a nearby paddock; in fact on the very site where the four special police where first buried in January of 1867 on Jinden station. The stones were then relocated to the Duck Pond site early in 2016.



One of the many working days at Duck Pond in anticipation of the building of the memorial. Mrs Janette Hindmarsh inspects the hole left by the fallen Manna tree some eighty years ago.



The plaque layout and wording is drafted and submitted for initial approval to the key stakeholders.



IN-MEMORIAM ¶



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 On the 9 January 1867 Special Constables John Carroll, Patrick Kennagh, Eneas McDonnell and John Phegan were endeavouring to capture the notorious Clarke Bushrangers when they were ambushed and murdered on this very site. Known as Duck Pond at Jinden in New South Wales. ¶

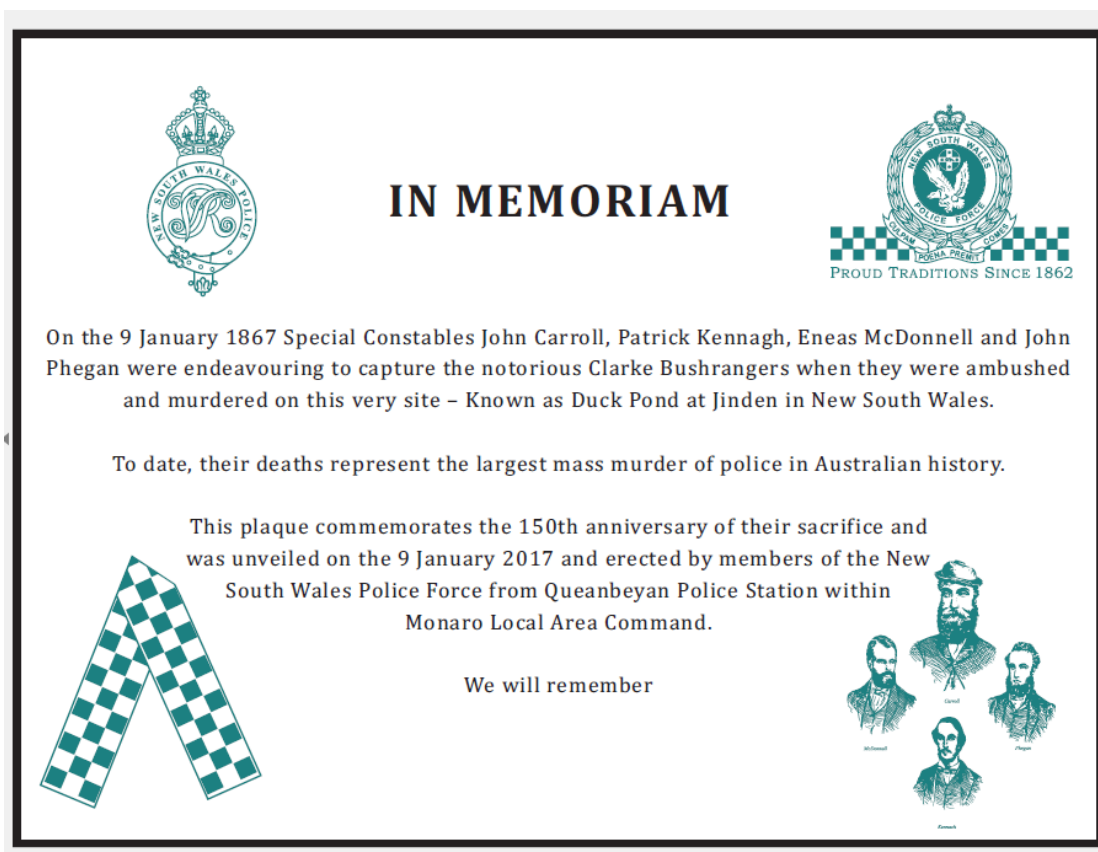
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 To date, their deaths represent the largest mass murder of police in Australian history. ¶

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 This plaque commemorates the 150th anniversary of their sacrifice and was unveiled on the 9 January 2017 and erected by members of the New South Wales Police Force from Queanbeyan Police Station within ¶
 Monaro Local Area Command. ¶

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 We will remember ¶



The artist has finally completed the artwork and will soon be ready to go to the plaque manufacturer in Melbourne.



In early December of 2016 the memorial stone is carefully prepared for the laying of the plaque by Mr Gary Pieper – father of former Detective Sergeant Tim Pieper of Queanbeyan Police Station.



In late December 2016 the plaque is finally laid on the memorial stone. Also prepared is a small medallion of St Michael – the Patron Saint of Police Officers (see if you can locate it).



Early Sunday morning on the 8th January 2017 Police attended Braidwood Cemetery – the site where the four special police were buried in a mass grave to pay their respects and lay four Police Remembrance ribbons. Former NSWPF Commissioner Ken Moroney AO APM had dedicated a special plaque there 10 years earlier for the 140th anniversary.



On Sunday 8th January 2017 preparations are made at the forward command site in readiness for the ceremony the next day. Preparations included the setting up of command posts vehicles, communications towers, including the pre-positioning of mobile toilets, rubbish bins, site corridors and route markings to Duck Pond.



Duck Pond. The remote ambush site is prepared early on the morning of 9th January 2017.



Guests and visitors commence to arrive at the forward Command post on the afternoon of the 9 January 2017. Current serving police and retired police officers can be seen here.



Guests and visitors are transported from forward command to Duck Pond by four wheel drives through the dedicated bush track route.



The memorial is prepared ready for unveiling later in the ceremony.



The New South Wales Police Force Mounted Troop arrive at Duck Pond dressed as they would have been back during the founding of the New South Wales Police Force in March of 1862.



Mr Reginald Foreman, Queanbeyan's Pipe Major warms up in the area of bushland where the Clarkes Gang horses were hiding 150 years prior.



Seating arrangements already in place, VIPs, guests and visitors find their place under the specially prepared Monaro Local Area Command Marquee. In the foreground is Australian Federal Police, Commissioner Andrew Colvin AO APM who is found of preserving Australian Police history.



As over 250 VIPs, guests and visitors gather on site the ceremony officially commences at 14:30 – some four to five hours prior to the actual time of the ambush.



The start of the ceremony saw the weather close in from the Tinderry Mountains with showers in the background, lightening in the distant hills and the wind fluttering our flags.



Monaro LAC Police Chaplain Reverend Ian Diamond prepares to Bless the memorial and this hallowed ground.



Just at the time of unveiling of the memorial by Monaro Local Area Command, Superintendent Rod Smith the sun shone through the dark clouds onto the memorial and the wind ceased.



Superintendent Rod Smith, Senior Prison Officer Damian Williams - Corrective Services of NSW (as three of the special police were prison officers at the time of their deaths) and members of the public lay wreaths and floral tributes to the fallen men.



Mr Peter Smith (local author of the book – The Clarke Gang) gives an account to that fateful day 150 years ago; Inspector Michael Handley reads out the roll of honour of the four special police and Senior Constable Richard Pearce recites the Police Ode – “We will remember”.



Superintendent Smith presents police gifts to those who have greatly assisted in establishing the Jinden Police Memorial: Mr & Mrs John and Janette Hindmarsh, Mr Peter Smith and Mr Gary Pieper.



Many of the VIPs and guests also received special gifts.



The Jinden Police Memorial to the four special police is finally presented to the public.



And now for some group photographs on conclusion.

