

# NiE



## Did you know?

THE first civilian police force in this country, known as the Night Watch, was formed by Governor Arthur Phillip in 1789 to guard Sydney Town. The force was made up of 12 of the best behaved convicts.

# In an emergency

EMERGENCY services are organisations which ensure public safety by responding to different emergencies. Some deal with specific types of emergencies while others deal with disasters or problems as part of their responsibilities. Many of these services also engage in community awareness and prevention programs to help the public avoid, detect, and report emergencies effectively.



### ➡ CHECK IT OUT

**Triple zero**  
AUSTRALIA'S emergency call service, Triple Zero (000), is the quickest way to get the right emergency service to help you. It can be used to contact Police, Fire or Ambulance services in life threatening or emergency situations.

Knowing how to call Triple Zero (000) can be the difference between life and death.

This number is only to be used in real emergencies, where there is a danger to life, someone is seriously injured, property is being threatened or a serious accident or crime is witnessed.

Calls to Triple Zero (000) are free and can be made from mobile phones, home or work phones or pay phones.

When making a Triple Zero (000) call:

- Stay calm, stay focused, stay relevant, stay on the line and stay in a safe place.

- An operator will ask you if you need Police, Fire or Ambulance. Say the service that you require.

- You will be connected to an emergency service operator, who will take details of the situation.

- Stay on the line, speak clearly and answer the operator's questions.

- Give details of where you are to assist emergency services to correctly locate the incident; street number, name, nearest cross street, locality, distances from any landmarks.

- If possible wait outside at a prearranged meeting point or in a prominent location for emergency services to arrive to assist them to locate the emergency.

For more information check out [www.triplezero.gov.au](http://www.triplezero.gov.au)



### The law enforcers

IN AUSTRALIA there are two main levels of law enforcement: state and federal.

- ★ Each state as well as the Northern Territory maintains its own police force, responsible for upholding general law and order, community safety and protection.

Police officers enforce the criminal law of their respective state/territory by enforcing road and traffic rules, investigating crime, preventing crime, dealing with missing persons reports, providing assistance in personal emergencies and coordinating and managing emergency incidents. They may also perform a variety of additional duties in the service of the nation.

- ★ Federal law enforcement is

carried out by the Australian Federal Police (AFP), the Australian Border Force and the Australian Defence Force's military police. These branches and have federal jurisdiction throughout Australia.

Local policing in the Australian Capital Territory, Jervis Bay Territory and Australia's external territories is contracted to the AFP.

The AFP is the principal law enforcement agency for the Australian Government, conducting both community policing and investigating offences against Commonwealth law enforcement in Australia and overseas.

The AFP was formed in October 1979.

### At the scene

It's difficult for most of us to imagine the terrible scenes and crises that police officers often face in their jobs.

During an emergency, the police's main duty is to help keep people safe.

Officers are tasked to direct traffic, evacuate an area, provide security, assist in search and rescue, undergo door-to-door checks and investigate incidents.

The size and type of the incident may require another service eg fire, ambulance, SES.

All departments work together efficiently and cooperatively to maintain overall public safety within the community.

### FLASHING FACTS

- Most police cars in Australia are predominantly white, with a blue and white checkered strip.

- A total of 6528 staff work in the Australian Federal Police.

- Each service of the Australian Defence Force maintains its own independent police force made up of military personnel.

- The Water Police investigates marine related crime, vessel crashes and provides support in boating operations, diving operations and search and rescue.

- Another agency is the Australian Crime Commission (ACC).



**TOMORROW: In an emergency – Part 2 Extinguishing the flames**

## IS YOUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY MINDED?



To find out how your business can help provide an educational resource to your local schools contact at The Warwick Daily News on **4660 1301** and become a part of our community minded program.

