



IAATI Australasian Branch



Australasian Branch

Our History from 1993 to Present Day

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IAATI Australasian Branch History

The Australasian Branch of IAATI was formally founded in 1993 by Sergeant Susan Maxwell of the Queensland Police Service and Senior Constable Craig Petterd of the Australian Federal Police. Both were forensic vehicle identification examiners for their respective law enforcement agencies. Prior to the advent of IAATI in Australia police forensic practitioners and auto theft detectives around Australia did already know and liaise with each other in an informal and ad-hoc manner. There was however very little or no interaction with professionals in the insurance industry, private investigation industry or other related areas of Government in Australia let alone in New Zealand.

The origins of the bid for the formation of the Australasian Branch can be traced back to 1991 when Sue Maxwell was awarded the Courier Mail Police Scholarship for that year. The aim of her scholarship was to provide funding to travel to North America, Japan and Canada to research areas of vehicle theft prevention, identification of stolen vehicles and to obtain reference data for identification number stampings. As she was already a member of the International Branch of IAATI, her funding also allowed for her to attend the International IAATI seminar in Saint Pauls Minnesota in that year, 1991. At this seminar she was invited to speak at the International Police Panel and delivered a presentation about auto theft issues and practices in Australia at the time. Also During her visit she toured the FBI facilities and networked with other auto theft investigators and vehicle examiners while in the US.

As a consequence of the quality of the International Seminar and the contacts she made there she contacted Craig Petterd, a fellow vehicle examiner with the Australian Federal Police and discussed with him the feasibility of starting a branch of IAATI in Australia. Both agreed that it was something that should be done.

The following year in 1992, Sue Maxwell and Craig Petterd travelled overseas at their own expense and attended the International IAATI Seminar in Toronto Canada. At this seminar they met with existing International Branch Office bearers and discussed the possibility of forming a branch of IAATI in Australia.



\$10,000

Anyone wanting to follow in the distinguished footsteps of Susan Maxwell only has less than three months to get their applications in for the Courier Mail Police Scholarship.

Sue, a scientific officer with the Service, is the current holder of the \$10,000 having won the second annual award which will enable her to go to Japan and the United States in August to study advanced techniques to combat motor vehicle theft.

Sue already is considered one of Australia's leading authorities in the highly technical field of motor vehicle identification and she is hoping to return from her trip with new, cost effective techniques that can be adopted by the Queensland Police Service.

She strongly believes that a lot more people should apply for the scholarship, describing it as a "once in a lifetime opportunity".

So don't just think about it, get your entry in/to the Honorary Secretary, Courier Mail Police Scholarships, Box 1440 G.P.O., Brisbane 4001 by 31 August, 1991.

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Courier-Mail Scholarship.

SUSAN'S STUDY TOUR

The Courier-Mail Police Scholarship for 1991 was awarded to Sergeant Susan Maxwell of the Scientific Section at Police Headquarters. Susan has been stationed at the Scientific Section since 1980 and has specialized in the field of vehicle identification. The aim of her Scholarship was to research areas of vehicle theft prevention, identification of stolen vehicles, and to obtain reference data for identification number stampings.

Susan left Australia on 13 August and travelled to San Francisco having a two hour stop-over in Japan. In San Francisco she inspected the San Mateo Crime Laboratory. "Even though this is a Country Laboratory it was well organised with a



Susan at the famous Fishermans Wharf in San Francisco.

very good quality assurance program," said Sue. The lab dealt with fingerprints, biological and chemical analysis, arsons, stolen vehicles, crime scene examination and ballistics.

The next stop was at Saint Paul in Minnesota in America's Mid West for the 39th Seminar of the International Association of Auto Theft Investigators of which Susan is a member. The six-day conference was attended by delegates from all over the United States, Canada, England, Sweden, Japan and South Africa.

Susan had been selected to represent Australia on the International Panel and spoke to over 400 delegates on the car theft problem in Australia. Workshops were held on subjects such as Harley Davidson Identification and Theft Prevention Programs.

Susan found that there was very good liaison between the many Police Departments, Insurance Companies, the

National Automobile Theft Bureau (N.A.T.B.) and other organizations. "I found our level of professionalism here in Brisbane to be equal to any of the places I visited overseas and our facilities to be superior" said Susan. However in many cases she found the overseas facilities with better resources than ours have here.

After the I.A.A.T.I. Seminar, Susan flew to Washington D.C. where she spent two days with the F.B.I. studying alternative serial number restoration techniques such as magnetic particle and electrolytic etching techniques. The F.B.I. had also arranged visits to the Firearm and Toolmarks Unit, Explosives Unit, Chemistry Toxicology Unit and other F.B.I. Laboratory Units. She inspected the National Automobile Altered Numbers File, the Reference Firearms Collection consisting of over 3,000 weapons, the Standard Ammunition File and the National Automotive Paint File which

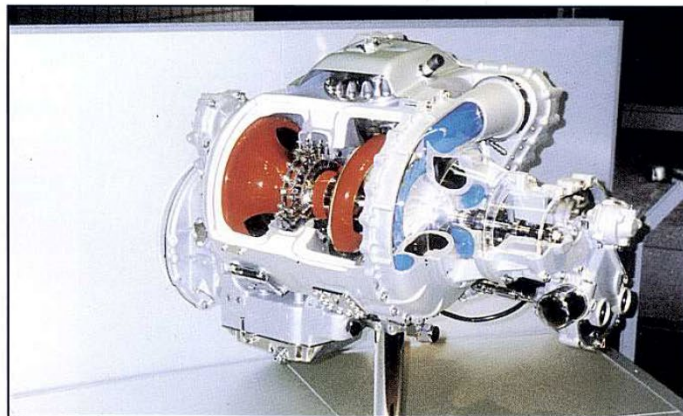
helps to determine the make and model of vehicles involved in hitrun cases.

She then flew from Washington D.C. over Alaska to Japan, where she inspected the facilities and the "electrolytic polishing" technique for the recovery of serial numbers at the National Research Institute of Police Science in Tokyo. Other techniques demonstrated were Automated Landmark Identification for Ballistics and the ignition mechanism of electric wiring.

She also visited three assembly plants in Japan to inspect identification number stamping procedures. First was the Toyota Motor Corporation at Toyota City, where even an earthquake became part of the agenda! Next was the Oye Assembly Plant of Mitsubishi Motors in Nagoya. The final plants to be inspected were the Kawasaki Motorcycle Assembly and Engine Plants in Akashi. Susan arrived back in Australia in September.



The Toyota AXV-11 displayed in the Toyota Kaikan Exhibition Hall in Japan.



Toyota's next generation automobile engine - The Gas Turbine Engine.

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Upon receiving a positive response from the International board both Craig and Sue made contact with their own law enforcement agencies as well as the remaining law enforcement agencies in Australia requesting support for the proposal. Approval was given by International Branch to found a local Australasian Branch Chapter and a charter document was readied for the occasion although considerably more work needed to be done.

Following this, a small group of existing Australian based International IAATI members and other interested parties in Australia and New Zealand were invited to a formation meeting in May 1993, in Canberra, Australia. People in attendance agreed to establish the Branch and commence taking the steps to formally bring the new Branch into existence at a Foundation Meeting set for later that year.

An interim Committee was elected at that formation meeting, as follows:

President: Craig Petterd
Vice-President: Susan Maxwell
Secretary: Eddie Challenger
Treasurer: Russell Rowell

Although a formation committee existed the Australasian Branch still did not exist at this point. This small committee had to do all of the work necessary to plan and organise the inaugural foundation meeting and meet all legal requirements to form an association including achieving the minimum number of members.

Endless hours were spent by both Craig and Sue in cold contacting, in person and by mail, all the people, organisations and corporations they could think of in Australia and New Zealand that might potentially have an interest in auto theft issues and advised them of the event and encouraged involvement.

In September 1993 the first Branch foundation meeting was held, in Canberra. The new Branch was fortunate to have the International President of IAATI, Mr. Jean-Claude Cloutier, in attendance. Branch member Mr. John Bennett was appointed as the first Editor of the Branch Newsletter (subsequently named the *Vehicle Investigator News*)

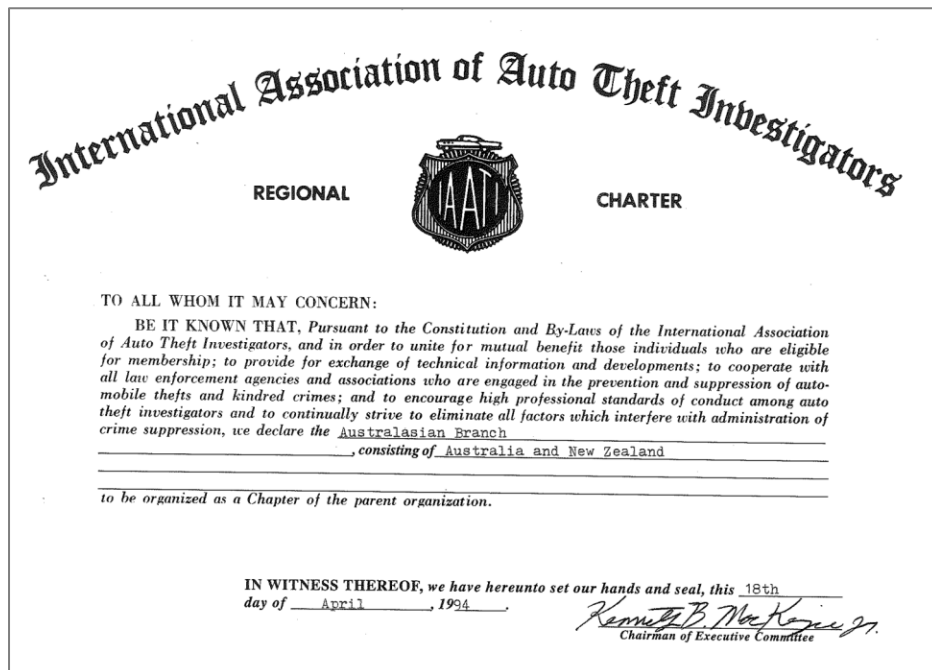


L-R: Craig Petterd, Jean Claude Cloutier (International President), Sue Maxwell and Eddie Challenger at the Branch's Foundation meeting at the Rex Hotel in Canberra, August 1993

Eighty-five people from a wide variety of organisations attended the first founding general meeting and became members of the new branch of IAATI. Many of these were representatives of vehicle and parts manufacturers, insurance companies, government departments, law enforcement agencies etc. Sixteen committee members were voted in along with Craig Petterd as the inaugural president and Susan Maxwell as the Vice President

In the days following the meeting approximately thirty vehicle identification examiners and auto theft investigators from law enforcement agencies around Australia and New Zealand attended a vehicle identification workshop in Canberra. This was not actually an IAATI event however the networking possibilities that came with the establishment of the organisation were utilised at this early stage.

In 1994 the Branch held its first Annual Training Seminar, in Sydney. Then International President Mr. Ken McKenzie attended and officially presented the Branch with its Charter document.



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Training Seminars

Annual Training Seminars have been held in the following locations:

1993	Canberra (Inaugural Meeting)	2008	Sydney (International Seminar)
1994	Sydney	2009	Auckland
1995	Melbourne	2010	Brisbane
1996	Adelaide	2011	Melbourne
1997	Brisbane (International Seminar)	2012	Sydney
1998	Sydney	2013	Gold Coast
1999	Canberra	2014	Sydney
2000	Gold Coast	2015	Perth
2001	Melbourne	2016	Melbourne
2002	Adelaide	2017	Melbourne (joint conference with the NMVTRC)
2003	Canberra	2018	Brisbane
2004	Brisbane		
2005	Sydney		
2006	Wellington		
2007	Melbourne		

The 1997 Seminar in Brisbane was particularly notable, as the Branch hosted the International Seminar. This marked the first occasion in IAATI's history that the annual Seminar had been held outside North America. Two hundred delegates and sixty companions attended the meeting.



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Gerry Bashford (*left*) with Ari Huhtinen



A good time was had by all, especially from the guys from New South Wales

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In 2006 the Australasian Branch achieved a further milestone that it had been contemplating for a number of years, namely to hold an annual seminar in New Zealand and expand the branch's offering to potential delegates in New Zealand who may previously have been unable to travel to Australia to attend seminars. The 2006 seminar was held in Wellington, New Zealand and attracted 108 delegates. Approximately 62 of these were New Zealand residents. The event was a success as more New Zealanders joined the branch and the New Zealand representation of the branch committee increased. This had the follow on effect in subsequent years to provide more exposure and relevance to New Zealand issues and further seminars in that country.



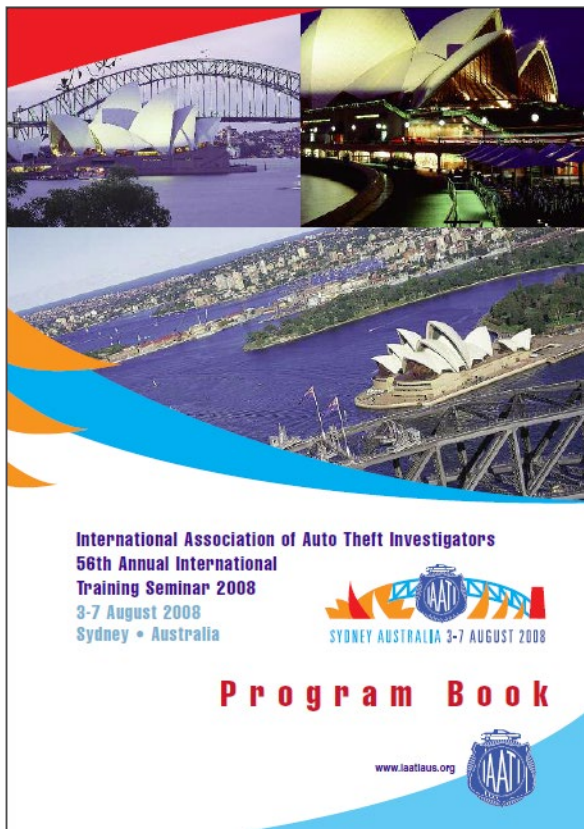
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In 2006 Maurice J. Kerrigan and Associates began to liaise and work with Australasian Branch of IAATI to build a framework for the implementation of an accreditation program for auto theft investigators and technical experts in Australia.

Later in 2006 the Australasian Branch held its first one day seminar in Sydney. The initiative was for the purpose of providing an opportunity for Australian based members of the Branch who were unable to travel to overseas locations, an opportunity to see an abridged selection of the presentations that had been delivered at the annual seminar earlier in the year in New Zealand. This initiative was well attended and well received. Approximately 40 delegates from around Australia attended.

In 2008 the Australasian Branch hosted the International Seminar for the second time, this time in Sydney. Two hundred and sixty one delegates from 21 countries (7 were first time countries) attended making the event the largest IAATI seminar held in Australia to date.

In 2008 at the International Seminar in Sydney the Australasian Branch of IAATI was able to announce and launch its new Accreditation Program. This was the culmination of many years of debate and discussion within IAATI that had taken place over at least the preceding ten years concerning the development and implementation of an accreditation program.



Country	No. of delegates
Australia	181
USA	21
New Zealand	9
South Africa	7
Canada	6
UK	5
Iran	4
Sudan	3
Romania	3
Lebanon	3
Chile	3
Norway	2
Philippines	2
Malaysia	2
Italy	2
Fiji	2
Finland	2
Sweden	1
Switzerland	1
Netherlands	1
Bulgaria	1

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In 2009 the Branch again attended New Zealand for its annual seminar holding it on this occasion in Auckland. The event was again well patronized by delegates primarily from both Australia and New Zealand and again well received.

Later in November 2009 the Branch continued with its policy of holding a one day seminar in Australia in the years when the main seminar was held in New Zealand. This again was an abridged offering of the speakers who addressed the main seminar in Auckland. This event was also a milestone in Australasian Branch history because it was the first time the Branch had held a seminar in Perth.

Due to the success of the Perth one day seminar a follow-up one day training seminar was again held in Perth in 2010. This time it was an event solely for the purpose of catering to the interests of local delegates in Western Australia.

A further milestone was reached in 2012 when a one day seminar was held in Auckland, New Zealand. Although seminars had been held in New Zealand before, this seminar was organized solely by New Zealand based committee members. The seminar agenda catered for the interests of local delegates. The seminar was well received by attending delegates.

2013 marked the Branch's 20th Anniversary and to celebrate an extra special Annual Training Seminar was held at the Royal Pines Resort at the Gold Coast. The celebrations commenced a golf day on Sunday 14 April followed by a 3 hour birthday BBQ dinner. The classroom session on 15 and 16 April included five international keynote speakers:

- Mr Craig Foster, from Caterpillar (Singapore)
- Mr Frank Sztuk, Coalition Against Insurance Fraud /The Hanover Insurance Group (USA)
- Mr Chris Vargyas, SBD (UK)
- Mr Steve Clark, Detica NetReveal (UK)
- Mr David Picking, Crawford & Company (Asia Pacific) Management Services, Singapore.

The event was all the more special as not only was it attended by Founding President Craig Petterd and founding Vice President Susan Maxwell but also by Mr. John O'Byrne in his role as the International President of IAATI.

Later in April IAATI sponsored a one-day training session in Auckland that was organised by the NZ Police.

The year 2015 was also a milestone year for the Australasian Branch because it was the first time a full three day annual Seminar was held in Perth. An annual seminar had never been held in the city for a number of logistical reasons. Some of these included the time differences, the lack of major stakeholders in the state, the costs to travel there and the lower levels of membership in Western Australia. After considerable debate at committee level the decision was made to hold the 2015 seminar in Perth. Feedback from delegates who attended indicated it was one of the best ever seminars held by IAATI. The speakers were of a very high standard and the post seminar feedback survey gave the practical workshop components a rating of 4.7 out of 5. The workshop sessions involved practical demonstrations and instruction from industry experts in the fields of Forensic Vehicle Identification, Vehicle Fire Examination and Forensic Crash Investigation.

The workshops were held off site at Technology Park at Bentley. The demonstration on the usefulness of crash data information downloaded from vehicles, followed by how that data can



be interpreted to create a virtual image of the crash in progress was highly valued by the delegates. The demonstrations continued with interpreting accident damage on vehicles to assist conducting accident investigations. There were also demonstrations on engine number restorations, electrical wiring harness fires, vehicle fires and displays by the WA Department of Transport, Driver & Vehicle Services.

Whilst workshops had been held at IAATI seminars previously the depth and breadth of topics covered definitely raised the bar for future seminars.

In 2016 we returned to Melbourne where we hosted 2 days of classroom presentation at the Langham Southbank and a third day offsite at the Automotive Centre of Excellence at the Docklands. During the third day we also visited Lindsay Fox's classic Car Collection.

Awards

In 2000 the Australasian Branch commenced its annual Awards program where it introduced three award categories and called for nominations. Nominations for two of the awards were open to anyone and were not restricted to existing IAATI members. The requirement was however that the nomination had to be for an endeavour that occurred in the geographical territory covered by the Branch. The awards were therefore open to any nominations from Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia.

The categories offered initially were:

- Investigation of the Year
- Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft
- Member of the Year

Each year a panel of guest judges for each category assessed each nomination and declared an overall winner. The winners were announced and awarded their Trophies at the Annual seminar dinner.

The award categories were expanded to include the DataDot Award in 2005 and the Investigation of the year award category was split into Insurance Investigation of the Year and Law Enforcement Investigation of the year in 2008.



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In 2012 the Award category of Presidents Award was introduced replacing the narrower Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction in Vehicle Theft Award. This new category was designed to expand on the previous category by recognising achievement in the detection, prevention and/or investigation of auto crime.

In 2016 Branch created a new award recognising the role play by Forensic and other supporting services and a Travel Scholarship

Investigation of the Year

- 2000 Senior Constable Peter McKenzie, South Australian Police
- 2001 Strike Force Rift, NSW Police
- 2002 Operation Ancient, QLD Police
- 2003 Strike Force Worth, NSW Police
- 2004 Operation Bravo Mattock, QLD Police
- 2005 Operation Copra, QLD Police
- 2006 Jeff Haynes, NZ Police
- 2007 Strike Force Hindley, NSW Police
- 2008 Strike Force Olympian, NSW Police
- 2009 Strike Force Deeble, NSW Police
- 2010 Operation Beryl, Auckland City Police
- 2011 Strike Force Oliveri, NSW Police
- 2012 Strike Force Burindi, NSW Police
- 2013 Operation Echidna, South Australian Police
- 2014 Operation Ice Pharlapp - Queensland Police, Suncorp Insurance & NRMA
- 2015 Joint winners:
 - Operation Kilo Zurich - Queensland Police, Vehicle Crime Unit and Organised Crime Squad, State Crime Command
 - Strike Force O'Halloran - NSW Police, Property Crime Squad
- 2016 Strike Force Granite 15, New South Wales Police
- 2017 Strike Force Jardine, New South Wales Police Force, Property Crime Squad
- 2018 Strike Force Wolf – Motor Unit, Financial Crimes Squad, New South Wales Police

Insurance Investigation of the Year

- 2008 Jason Ostrofski, Verifact
- 2009 Jason Ostrofski, Verifact
- 2010 Karen Suljic, IAG
- 2011 Jason Ostrofski, Verifact.
- 2012 Jenny Caldwell, CSI Investigations
- 2013 Jennie Hayes, Suncorp Insurance
- 2014 Jason Ostrofski, Verifact
- 2015 Mr Mathew McKee
- 2016 Mr Mathew McKee
- 2017 Mr Mathew McKee
- 2018 Ralph Bach of Nexus Investigations



Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction in Auto Theft

- 2000 Ray Carroll, National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council
- 2001 Street Legal, SA – Kaylene Arnell, Nathan Elliot.
- 2002 Ashfield Mall, NSW
- 2003 Operation Copra, QLD Transport
- 2004 Comprehensive Auto-theft Research System, SA Attorney Generals Department
- 2005 Subaru Australia
- 2006 Brisbane YMCA U-Turn Project, QLD.
- 2007 Glenorchy City Council, Tasmania
- 2008 Identitek Systems Pty Ltd
- 2009 Sgt Barry Woolven, SA Police.
- 2010 Region Three Vehicle Theft Task Force, VIC Police
- 2011 Vehicle Crime Unit, Organised Crime Group, QLD Police

This award was renamed the President's award in 2010

President's Award

- 2012 Project Gypsy, QLD Police and Ross Park, Glenorchy City Council (joint winners)
- 2013 'Stop Car Theft Program', South Australian Police and Royal Automobile Association of South Australia.
- 2014 Insurance Council of Australia (Insurance Fraud Bureau of Australia)
- 2015 Operation Discover - Victoria Police, Vehicle Crime Squad
- 2016 Police Initiative 'Refocuss', New South Wales Police
- 2017 Synergy Repairs - A joint initiative of Mission Australia, Suncorp Group and the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council.
- 2018 Operation Autounion – Vehicle Crime Squad, Victoria Police

Forensic and Supporting Services Award

- 2016 Det. Sgt. Callum McNeill, Operation Maloo, New Zealand Police
- 2017 David West, Intelligence Manager, Property Crime Squad, NSW Police
- 2018 Vendor Management Australia (VMA)

DataDot Investigation of the Year

- 2005 Operation Coupe, Victoria Police
- 2006 Operation Maserati, NSW Police
- 2007 Forensic Response Section, SA Police
- 2008 Strike Force Shiprock, NSW Police
- 2009 Taiwan Crime Bureau
- 2010 Operation Hotel Raptor, QLD Police
- 2011 Project Nemo, Organised Crime Investigation Unit, QLD Police



2012 Strike Force Nelme, NSW Police
2013 Detective Senior Constable Joshua Tam of North Shore LAC, NSW Police
2014 Strike Force Granite, NSW Police

This award ceased in 2014

Member of the Year

2000 Ron Scott
2001 Paul Thomas
2002 Ian Gunthorpe
2003 Keith Schmidt
2004 Keith Schmidt
2005 John O'Byrne
2006 Bob McKay
2007 Gerry Bashford
2008 Terry Campbell
2009 Frank de Jong
2010 Brett Florence
2011 Peter Ziser
2012 Chris Loane
2013 Paul Thomas
2014 Mark Pollard
2015 Emily Linke
2016 Brett Florence
2017 Jim Manser
2018 Cathy Horton

Travel Scholarship

2016 Det. Sgt. Callum, New Zealand Police
2017 David West, New South Wales Police
2018 Detective Leading Senior Constable Brett Florence, Victoria Police



IAATI Honour Board

Branch Presidents:



1993 – 1997
Craig Petterd



1997 – 2000
Tony Ward



2000 – 2003
John O'Byrne



2003 – 2005
Paul Thomas



2005 – 2008
Dennis Connor



2008 – 2014
Mark Bennedick



2014 - 2016
John Hambridge



2016 -
Mark Pollard

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Life Members

Craig Petterd	Awarded in 1999
Tony Ward	Awarded in 2002
John O'Byrne	Awarded in 2006
Ian Gunthorpe	Awarded in 2008
Paul Thomas	Awarded in 2008
Gerry Bashford	Awarded in 2013
Mark Bennedick	Awarded in 2014

Australasian Branch Founding Members

Craig Petterd
Susan Maxwell
Gerry Bashford
Kym Chilton
Dennis Challenger
Russell Rowell
John Bennett
Tony Ward
Esther McKay



1993

Branch President: Craig Petterd (AFP)
Vice Presidents: Sue Maxwell (QLD Police)
Secretary: Eddie Challenger
Treasurer: Russell Rowell
Newsletter Editor: John Bennett

Meeting Location : Canberra

1994

Branch President: Craig Petterd
Vice Presidents: Sue Maxwell
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Committee Members:

Annual Seminar: Sydney

Highlights:

- This was the Branch's first Annual Training Seminar. It included a Police panel, manufacturer's panel, and a focus on national registration issues, component labeling, and the issue of car-jacking.
- Our Branch Charter is presented to the Branch by International President, Kenneth B MacKenzie.



1995

Branch President: Craig Petterd
Vice Presidents: Gerry Bashford
Annual Seminar: Melbourne

Highlights:

- Craig Petterd is elected as a Director on the International Board of IAATI, becoming only the second person outside of North America to do so.

1996

Branch President: Craig Petterd
Vice Presidents: Gerry Bashford
Secretary: Michelle Cook
Treasurer: Kieran Gavin
Committee Members: Mark Borlace Sue Maxwell
Noel DeSair Quentin Mills
Chris Hackett Ron Scott
Annual Seminar: Adelaide

Highlights:

- The branch made a submission to the National Motor Vehicle Theft Task Force, which in 1999 led to the formation of the NMVTRC.



1997

Branch President:	Tony Ward	
Vice Presidents:	Gerry Bashford Michelle Cook	
Secretary:	Kieran Gavin	
Treasurer:	Chris Hudson	
Committee Members:	Mark Borlace Ian Gunthorpe Peter Hibbard	Sue Maxwell Quentin Mills Ron Scott
Immediate Past President:	Craig Petterd	
Annual Seminar:	Brisbane (200 delegates)	

Highlights:

- The Australasian Branch hosts the International Training Seminar, at the Sheraton Hotel, Brisbane. This was the first time the International Seminar had been held outside North America
- Craig Petterd becomes the Newsletter Editor
- The Branch introduces an ethics program and ethics committee



1998

Branch President:	Tony Ward	
Vice Presidents:	Gerry Bashford Peter Hibbard	
Secretary:	Kieran Gavin	
Treasurer:	Ron Scott	
Committee Members:	Mark Borlace Ian Gunthorpe Paul Murrhy	John O'Byrne Paul Thomas Dennis Walker
Immediate Past President:	Craig Petterd	
Annual Seminar:	Sydney	

Highlights:

- The Branch Newsletter is formally named VIN (Vehicle Investigator News)
- The International website is launched.



1999

Branch President:	Tony Ward	
Vice Presidents:	Gerry Bashford Peter Hibbard	
Secretary:	Paul Thomas	
Executive Director:	Ron Scott	
Committee Members:	Mark Borlace Martin Green Ian Gunthorpe Troy Hogarth	Paul Murrphy John O'Byrne Dennis Walker
Immediate Past President:	Craig Petterd	
Annual Seminar:	Canberra	

Highlights:

- Craig Petterd elected as the 4th International Vice President and awarded Life Membership of the Australasian Branch.



2000

Branch President:	John O'Byrne	
Vice Presidents:	Graeme Wright Troy Hogarth	
Secretary:	Paul Thomas	
Committee Members:	Gerry Bashford Dennis Connor	Ian Gunthorpe Ian Miller
Immediate Past President:	Tony Ward	
Annual Seminar:	Gold Coast	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	Sen. Const. Peter McKenzie, SA Police
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft:	Ray Carroll, National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council
Member of the Year:	Ron Scott

Highlights:

- The Annual Training Seminar is held in conjunction with the Australian & New Zealand Forensic Science Society who hosted an International Forensic Science Seminar. The IAATI Training Seminar was held on the Saturday and Sunday before the Forensic Science Seminar.
- The Australasian Branch launches an Awards program to recognise excellent in the industry.



2001

Branch President:	John O'Byrne	
Vice Presidents:	Graeme Wright Troy Hogarth	
Secretary:	Paul Thomas	
Committee Members:	Gerry Bashford Dennis Connor	Ian Gunthorpe Ian Miller
Immediate Past President:	Tony Ward	
Annual Seminar:	Melbourne (69 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	NSW Police, Strike Force Rift
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft:	Street Legal, SA
Member of the Year:	Paul Thomas

Highlights:

- The Australasian Branch launches its website – www.iaatiaus.org
- Afternoon meetings are trialed in Queensland



2002

Branch President:	John O'Byrne	
Vice Presidents:	Paul Thomas Troy Hogarth	
Secretary:	Ian Miller	
Committee Members:	Allan Beddall Serena Buxton Dennis Connor	Ian Gunthorpe Noel DeSair Keith Schmidt
Immediate Past President:	Tony Ward	
Annual Seminar:	Adelaide (71 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	QLD Police, Operation Ancient
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft:	Ashfield Mall, NSW
Member of the Year:	Ian Gunthorpe

Highlights:

- Tony Ward was awarded Life membership of the Australasian Branch



International 1st Vice President, Kent Mawyer (far left) represented the International President at our 2002 Seminar.

Right: Australasian Branch members Troy Hogarth, Craig Petterd, John O'Byrne and Serena Buxton at the 50th International Seminar in Albuquerque, New Mexico



2003

Branch President:	Paul Thomas	
Vice Presidents:	Lisa Young Troy Hogarth	
Executive Director:	Keith Schmidt	
Committee Members:	Allan Beddall Serena Buxton Dennis Connor	Ian Gunthorpe Joshua Rayner
Immediate Past President:	John O'Byrne	
Annual Seminar:	Canberra (87 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	NSW Police, Strike Force Worth
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft:	QLD Transport 'Operation Copra'
Member of the Year:	Keith Schmidt

Highlights:

- The Branch celebrated its 10th Anniversary back in Canberra, the site of our first meeting.
- Craig Petterd was elected as International President of IAATI at the 51st Annual International Training seminar in Los Angeles, California. In doing so he became the first International President from outside of North America



Craig and Jenny Petterd at the 51st International Seminar in Los Angeles.



Above: International President Kent Mawyer presents Member of the year Winner, Keith Schmidt with his trophy.



Above: John Alt, NSW Police, receives the Investigation of the Year Award from Nola Watson, IAG



Left: Chris Stott from DataDot

Right: Andrew Bide from Charles Sturt University.



2004

Branch President: Paul Thomas
Vice Presidents: Dennis Connor
Lisa Young
Executive Director: Keith Schmidt
Committee Members: Allan Beddall Harry Rakintzis
Ian Gunthorpe Joshua Rayner
Warren Lewington
Immediate Past President: John O'Byrne
Annual Seminar: Brisbane

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year: Queensland Police 'Operation Bravo Mattock'
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft: Comprehensive Auto-theft Research System
Member of the Year: Keith Schmidt



2004 Investigation of the Year winners, members of QLD Police's 'Operation Bravo Mattock'.



2004 Member of the Year winner, Keith Schmidt, receives his award from International President Craig Petterd.

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Highlights:

- Det. Insp. John Alt, NSW Police, becomes the first Australasian member to win the International Award of Merit for 'Strike Force Worth'.



John Alt receiving his award from International President Karen Metz.

- At our 2004 Annual Training seminar in Brisbane we were spoilt with a range of International presenters of the highest quality including:
 - Graham Wright, Director Organised Crime Project, BAC, South Africa
 - Guss Wesselink, Director, Foundation for Tackling Vehicle Crime, Netherlands
 - Ton Van der Lee, European Branch President of IAATI
 - Mike Diack, Officer-in-Charge, IMPACT, Royal Canadian Mounted Police



- In March 2004 Branch President, Paul Thomas, along with Vice-Presidents Dennis Connor and Lisa Young presented at a 3 day Vehicle Crime Workshop hosted by the New Zealand Police in Wellington. Their attendance led to the first New Zealand based Australasian Seminar two years later.

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In his final act as International President , Craig Petterd hands over the gavel to incoming International President, Karen Metz, at the International Seminar in Antwerp, Belgium.



Delegates at the Australasian Branch's 2004 Training Seminar



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2005

Branch President: Dennis Connor
Vice Presidents: Harry Rakintzis
Lisa Young
Executive Director: Keith Schmidt
Committee Members: Peter Butts
Ian Gunthorpe
Brian Hogan
Warren Lewington
Bob McKay
John O'Byrne
Immediate Past President: Paul Thomas
Annual Seminar: Sydney (92 delegates)

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year: QLD Police, Operation Copra
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft: Subaru Australia
DataDot Investigation of the Year: Vic Police, Operation Coupe
Member of the Year: John O'Byrne

Highlights:

- Delegates at the 2005 Seminar in Sydney attended field visits to the NRMA salvage yard at Smithfield and the RTA's identity inspection station at Botany.



2006

Branch President:	Dennis Connor	
Vice Presidents:	Harry Rakintzis Lisa Young	
Executive Director:	Keith Schmidt	
Committee Members:	Mark Bennedick Mark Gibson Ian Gunthorpe Frank de Jong	Bob McKay John O'Byrne Allie Smith
Immediate Past President:	Paul Thomas	
Annual Seminar:	Wellington (108 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	Jeff Haynes, New Zealand Police
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft:	U-Turn, Brisbane YMCA
DataDot Investigation of the Year:	NSW Police, Operation Maserati
Member of the Year:	Bob McKay

Highlights:

- The Australasian Branch holds its first ever Annual Training Seminar in New Zealand.
- For the first time the Branch has representatives from New Zealand on the committee (Mark Gibson and Frank de Jong).



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- A special one day 'abridged' seminar is held in Sydney for those delegates who could not travel to New Zealand.
- Australasian Branch wins the hosting rights for the 2008 International Training Seminar.
- John O'Byrne awarded Life Membership by the Branch.
- Mark Pollard hosts a live vehicle arson demonstration for delegates.



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2007

Branch President:	Dennis Connor	
Vice Presidents:	Harry Rakintzis Mark Bennedick	
Executive Director:	Keith Schmidt	
Committee Members:	Ian Gunthorpe Frank deJong Bob McKay	John O'Byrne Mark Pollard
Immediate Past President:	Paul Thomas	
Annual Seminar:	Melbourne (112 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	NSW Police, Strike Force Hindley
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft:	Glenorchy City Council, Tasmania
DataDot Investigation of the Year:	SA Police, Forensic Response Section
Member of the Year:	Gerry Bashford

Highlights:

- IAATI member, Gerry Bashford of Victoria Police, receives an award of appreciation from the office of the Federal Investigation Agency at Quetta, Pakistan.
- International President, Tommy Hansen attended our 2007 Annual Seminar.



- Our 2007 Seminar in Melbourne included field visits to the HSV factory and the VICPOL Vehicle Storage Facility
- Dennis Connor joins John O'Byrne as a Director on the International Board.





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2008

Branch President: Mark Benedick

Vice Presidents: Harry Rakintzis
Mark Pollard

Executive Director: Keith Schmidt

Committee Members: Nigel Apps
Terry Campbell
Ian Gunthorpe
John Hambridge
Bob McKay
Todd McCormack

Emily Scanlan
Vince Scopelliti
Jason Smith
Paul Thomas
Maurie Tong

Immediate Past President: Dennis Connor

Annual Seminar: Sydney (261 delegates)

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year: NSW Police, Strike Force Olympian

Outstanding Contribution to the
Reduction of Auto Theft: Identitek Systems

DataDot Investigation of the Year: NSW Police, Strike Force Shiprock

Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year: Jason Ostrofski

Member of the Year: Terry Campbell

Highlights:

- Our Branch hosts the 56th International Training seminar in Sydney and the event exceeds all expectations. The Seminar achieved 261 delegates representing 21 different nations, including 7 first time countries.





IAATI's 56th Annual Training Seminar 2008

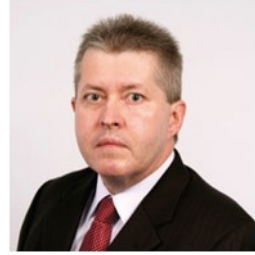


SYDNEY AUSTRALIA 3-7 AUGUST 2008



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- Mark Bennedick was elected as the new Australasian Branch President



- John O'Byrne was elected as 4th International Vice-President of IAATI



- Ian Gunthorpe and Paul Thomas were awarded life memberships of the Australasian Branch for their many years of contribution to the development of the Branch.



- Dennis Connor is re-elected as an International Director of IAATI.

IAATI

2009

Branch President: Mark Bennedick

Vice Presidents: Harry Rakintzis
Mark Pollard

Executive Director: Keith Schmidt

Committee Members: Peter Butts
Terry Campbell
Kym Chilton
Ian Gunthorpe
John Hambridge
Frank de Jong
Brett Judd

Angharad McCormack
Todd McCormack
Emily Scanlan
Vince Scopelliti
Jason Smith
Paul Thomas
Maurie Tong

Immediate Past President: Dennis Connor

Annual Seminar: Auckland (60 delegates)

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year: NSW Police, Strike Force Deeble

Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft: Sgt Barry Woolven, SA Police

DataDot Investigation of the Year: Taiwan Crime Bureau

Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year: Jason Ostrofski

Member of the Year: Frank de Jong

Highlights:

- Our Annual Training Seminar was held in the lovely city of Auckland. This was our second annual training seminar to be held in New Zealand and was attended by International President, Mickel Longman.





- Jason Ostrofski wins the 2009 Insurance Industry Auto theft Investigation of the Year Award

- In November the Branch held a one day training seminar in Perth, our first training event in Western Australia. During the event delegates raised almost \$500 for WA Police Legacy.



- John O'Byrne was elected as 3rd International Vice-President of IAATI and Dennis Connor is re-elected as an International Director.

IAATI

2010

Branch President:	Mark Benedick	
Vice Presidents:	Harry Rakintzis Mark Pollard Frank de Jong	
Executive Director:	Keith Schmidt	
Committee Members:	Peter Butts Kym Chilton Ian Gunthorpe John Hambridge Brett Judd Angharad McCormack	Todd McCormack Emily Scanlan Jason Smith Paul Thomas Maurie Tong
Immediate Past President:	Dennis Connor	
Annual Seminar:	Brisbane (108 delegates)	

Award Winners:

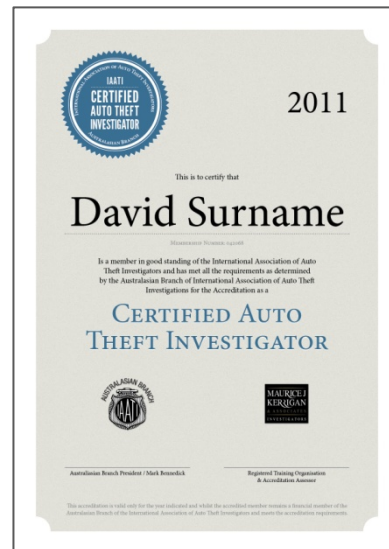
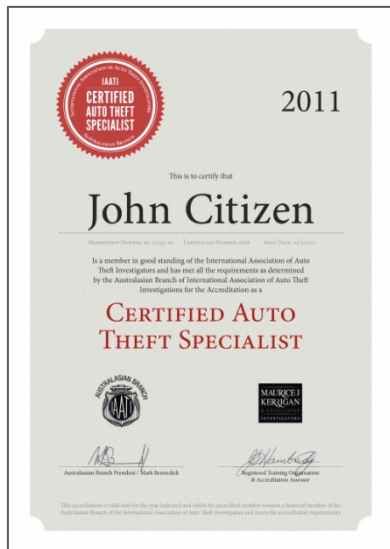
Investigation of the Year:	Auckland City Police, Operation Beryl
Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft:	Region Three Vehicle Theft Task Force, Victoria Police
DataDot Investigation of the Year:	QLD Police, Operation Hotel Raptor
Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year:	Karen Suljic
Member of the Year:	Brett Florence

Highlights:

- Mark Benedick and Dennis Connor are elected as Directors to the International Board of IAATI. John O'Byrne become the 2nd International Vice President.
- Our Annual training seminar was held in Brisbane and was attended by 1st International Vice-President, Chris McDonold.



- Another one day training event is held in Perth to cater for the interests of local delegates in Western Australia
- The very first group of Australian Branch members to achieve certification received their certificates during the 2010 Annual Training Seminar in Brisbane. The Australasian Branch introduced a Certification program for members working in the fields of law enforcement (i.e. Investigations, Intelligence, and Forensics); the insurance industry (i.e. licensed investigators, Claims Officer or Claims Assessors); Government Authorities and Regulators; and members that are Technical Specialists.



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2011

Branch President: Mark Bennedick

Vice Presidents: Mark Pollard
Frank de Jong
Jason Smith

Executive Director: Keith Schmidt

Committee Members: Kym Chilton Harry Rakintzis
Amanda Gleeson Emily Scanlan
Ian Gunthorpe Karen Suljic
John Hambridge Paul Thomas
Angharad McCormack Maurie Tong
Todd McCormack Andrew Waterman

Immediate Past President: Dennis Connor

Annual Seminar: Melbourne (121 delegates)

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year: NSW Police, Strike Force Oliveri

Outstanding Contribution to the Reduction of Auto Theft: Vehicle Crime Unit, QLD Police

DataDot Investigation of the Year: QLD Police, Project Nemo

Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year: Jason Ostrofski

Member of the Year: Peter Ziser



Highlights:

- Mark Bennedick became the first Australasian member to win the IAATI President's Award. This award is given by the International President of IAATI to honour members who have distinguished themselves by giving extraordinary service to IAATI.



- Mark Bennedick represented the Australasian Branch of IAATI as a keynote speaker at the Asia Insurance Review's 2nd Asian Motor Insurance and Claims Management Conference in Sri Lanka. This was the first time IAATI had been invited to present at an Asia Insurance Review event.
- The branch undertook its first ever comprehensive survey of current and recent past member to gather feedback and assist with the branch's strategic planning process. .
- Mark Bennedick and Dennis Connor were re-elected as Directors on the International Board of IAATI and John O'Byrne becomes the 1st International Vice President.



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2012

Branch President: Mark Bennedick

Vice Presidents: John Hambridge
Frank de Jong
Jason Smith

Executive Director: Keith Schmidt

Committee Members: Kym Chilton Mark Pollard
Frank Colborne Harry Rakintzis
Amanda Gleeson Emily Scanlan
Ian Gunthorpe Paul Thomas
Jim Manser Maurie Tong
Angharad McCormack Andrew Waterman
Todd McCormack

Immediate Past President: Dennis Connor

Annual Seminar: Sydney

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year: NSW Police, Strike Force Burindi

President's Award Joint winners: QLD Police, Project Gypsy and Glenorchy City Council 'Choose a Ride

DataDot Investigation of the Year: NSW Police, Strike Force Nelme

Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year: Jenny Caldwell

Member of the Year: Chris Loane

Highlights:

- Officers from NSW Police, Strike Force Burindi, receive the International Award of Merit at the 2012 International Seminar in Kansas City, USA.



- John O'Byrne becomes the 61st International President of IAATI. He is only the second Australasian member to achieve this feat, following Craig Petterd's appointment in 2003.
- Mark Bennedick and Dennis Connor were re-elected as Directors on the International Board of IAATI.
- Delegates at the 2012 Seminar in Sydney donated almost \$1,600 to the David Rixon Memorial Fund. Senior Constable David James Rixon from the NSW Police was tragically killed on duty on Friday, 2nd March 2012.
- In October, IAATI hosts another one day training seminar in Wellington which included a presentation from District Commander Superintendent Mike Clement, New Zealand Police Auckland City.



Above: Our 2012 one day training seminar in Wellington

Below: Our 2012 Annual Training seminar in Sydney





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2013

Branch President:	Mark Bennedick	
Vice Presidents:	John Hambridge Amanda Gleeson	
Executive Director:	Keith Schmidt	
Committee Members:	Frank Colborne Frank de Jong Ian Gunthorpe Eddy Langmair Jim Manser Angharad McCormack Todd McCormack	Dorothy Phillips Mark Pollard Emily Linke (nee Scanlan) Matt Taylor Paul Thomas Andrew Waterman
Immediate Past President:	Dennis Connor	
Annual Seminar:	Gold Coast (125 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	South Australia Police, Operation Echidna.
President's Award	Stop Car Theft Program', a joint initiative between South Australia Police and the Royal Automobile Association of South Australia
DataDot Investigation of the Year:	Detective Senior Constable Joshua Tam of North Shore LAC, NSW Police Force.
Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year:	Ms Jennie Hayes, Suncorp Insurance
Member of the Year:	Paul Thomas

Highlights:

- The Branch celebrated its 20th Anniversary
- Gerry Bashford Awarded Life membership.
- On behalf of the International Board, Mark Bennedick and Paul Thomas undertook a Member Survey of all IAATI members worldwide.



- The Branch's newsletter, VIN, was upgraded from a pdf document to a html formatted email to improve its accessibility by readers on a wider range of devices including tablets, and smart phones.
- Mark Bennedick and Dennis Connor were re-elected as Directors on the International Board. Jason Smith was elected as an Associate Director on the International Board.
- For his work with the international survey of IAATI members, Paul Thomas was awarded the International President's Award during the 61st International Seminar in Rimini, Italy
- IAATI Sponsored a one day training day on 29 April in Wellington. The day was organized by NZ Police and featured an arson demonstration by Mark Pollard.



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2014

Branch President:	John Hambridge	
Vice Presidents:	Frank Colborne Emily Linke Mark Pollard	
Executive Director:	Mark Benedick	
Committee Members:	Jason Beesley Brett Florence Amanda Gleeson Ian Gunthorpe Chris Hauler Jason Henderson	Eddy Langmair Jim Manser John O'Byrne Matt Taylor Matthew Theedom Paul Thomas
Immediate Past President:	Mark Benedick	
Annual Seminar:	Sydney (125 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	Operation Ice Pharlap, Queensland Police, Suncorp Insurance & NRMA
President's Award	Insurance Council of Australia -(Insurance Fraud Bureau of Australia)
DataDot Investigation of the Year:	Strike Force Granite, NSW Police.
Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year:	Mr Jason Ostrofski, Verifact
Member of the Year:	Mark Pollard

Highlights:

- Mark Benedick Awarded Life membership of the Branch and Paul Thomas was appointed an Associate Director on the International Board.
- The Branch released a major upgrade of its website, which had been redesigned to be fully compatible with mobile device including mobile phones and tablets. The new website incorporated a substantial increase in the amount of training materials, including selected presentations from the 2013 and 2014 seminar and past copies of APB, ATT and VIN.





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2015

Branch President:	John Hambridge	
Vice Presidents:	Frank Colborne Eddy Langmair Mark Pollard	
Executive Director:	Mark Bennedick	
Committee Members:	Jason Beesley Brett Florence Russell Broom Ian Gunthorpe Chris Hauler Kelly Greenhill	Emily Linke Renee Kurtz Bob McKay Matthew Theedom Paul Thomas
Immediate Past President:	Mark Bennedick	
Annual Seminar:	Sydney (89 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	(Joint winners) Operation Kilo Zurich - Queensland Police, Vehicle Crime Unit and Organised Crime Squad, State Crime Command Strike Force O'Halloran - NSW Police, Property Crime Squad Operation Ice Pharlapp, Queensland police, Suncorp Insurance & NRMA
President's Award	Operation Discover - Victoria Police, Vehicle Crime Squad
DataDot Investigation of the Year:	Strike Force Granite, NSW Police.
Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year:	Mr Mathew McKee
Member of the Year:	Emily Linke



Highlights:

- The Branch held its first ever annual training seminar in Perth and was attended by International President Heidi Jordan. The seminar was extremely successful and included a third day of offsite training workshops.
- The annual charity raffle raised \$2,000 for Bright Blue, children's charity founded by the WA Police Commissioner Karl O'Callaghan to make a positive difference to the lives of sick kids.
- Cathy Horton from Queensland Police, Vehicle Crime Unit and Organized Crime Squad, State Crime Command won the International Award of Merit for Operation Kilo Zurich. Cathy accepted the award at the 63rd International Seminar in Phoenix, Arizona.
- Paul Thomas was elected as an Associate Director on the International Board.
- The branch introduced an e-news mag on the website using the new aggregator platform Scoop-it.







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2016

Branch President:	Mark Pollard	
Vice Presidents:	Brett Florence Jim Manser Eddy Langmair	
Executive Director:	Mark Benedick	
Committee Members:	Jordon Brown Russell Broom Tamara Clark Frank Colborne Ian Gunthorpe	Cathy Horton Bob McKay Danny Sammy Paul Thomas
Immediate Past President:	John Hambridge	
Annual Seminar:	Melbourne (115 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	Strike Force Granite 15, NSW Police
President's Award	Police Initiative 'Refocuss', New South Wales Police
Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year:	Mr Mathew McKee
Forensic & Supporting Services Award:	Det. Sgt. Callum McNeill, Operation Maloo, New Zealand Police
Member of the Year:	Det. Sgt. Brett Florence, Victoria Police

Highlights:

- Mark Pollard was elected as new Branch President and Paul Thomas was elected as 4th Vice President on the International Board. International President, Todd Blair and his wife Sandi attended our seminar.
- The Branch launched a new award recognizing the contribution of Forensic officers and other Supporting staff in vehicle theft investigations. The award was extremely well received
- The Branch launched a \$3,000 travel scholarship and member exchange program with the European Branch. Det. Sgt. Callum McNeill was the inaugural recipient and represented the Branch at the 2016 European Branch conference in Spain.







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2017

Branch President:	Mark Pollard	
Vice Presidents:	Brett Florence Jim Manser Eddy Langmaid	
Executive Director:	Mark Bennedick	
Committee Members:	Brendan Batt Jordan Brown Frank Colborne Kelly Greenhill Ian Gunthorpe Cathy Horton Emily Linke	Bob McKay Daniel Sammy Keith Schmidt Warren Stevenson Paul Thomas Maurie Tong David West
Immediate Past President:	John Hambridge	
Annual Seminar:	Melbourne (105 IAATI delegates)	

Award Winners:

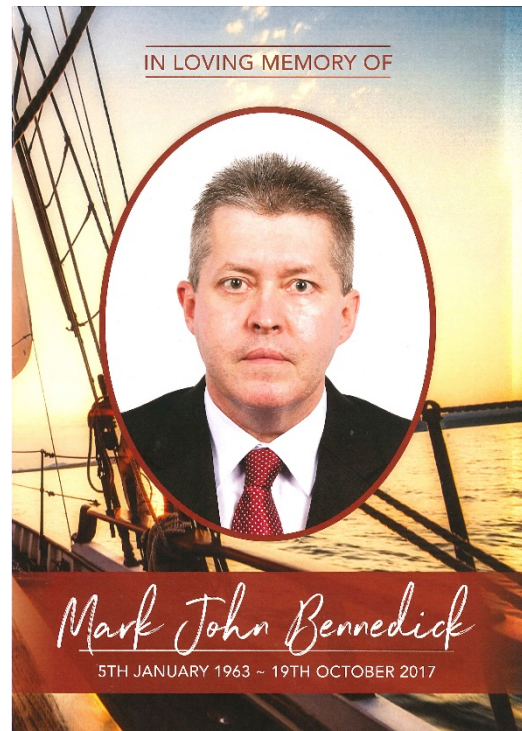
Investigation of the Year:	Strike Force Jardine, New South Wales Police Force, Property Crime Squad
President's Award	Synergy Repairs - A joint initiative of Mission Australia, Suncorp Group and the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council.
Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year:	Mr Mathew McKee
Forensic & Supporting Services Award:	David West, Intelligence Manager, Property Crime Squad, New South Wales Police
Member of the Year:	Jim Manser, Manser Fire & Marine
Travel Scholarship:	David West, New South Wales Police

Highlights:

- The Branch saw its 24th Annual Training Conference in Melbourne in April, which proved to be an exciting event. This year's conference was different from the past year as it was a combined conference with the Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council.
- We were pleased that IAATI President Hans Kooijman and Det. Chief Insp. Oliver Little, City of London Police were able to join us and be part of our conference.



- At the International Seminar in South Africa Paul Thomas was elected as 3rd Vice President on the International Board and presented with the 2017 President's Award.
- Our 2017 Charity Raffle raised \$1,790 for the Princess Alexandria Hospital Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit.
- In October, our Executive Director, Past President and Life Member, Mark Bennedick passed away unexpectedly. Mark was the backbone of IAATI's Australasian Branch for many years having been heavily involved at both the International and Branch levels. Mark first joined IAATI in 2002 and quickly become an active member of the Branch Committee including serving as our Branch President from 2008 – 2014.
- Mark was instrumental in the growth and development of IAATI over the last 10 years. He played a vital role in the success of the International IAATI conference held in Sydney in 2008, spearheaded the Association's efforts to expand in Asia, and was the driving force behind the establishment of our Insurance Industry Award in 2008.
- On the International Board Mark was a strong supporter for change and modernization of the Association and he served as chair of the International Certification Committee and the International Survey Committee.
- Mark's attention to detail, and methodical approach saw IAATI grow significantly during his time as Branch President. He not only increased our membership but also strengthened our financial position and fostered stronger ties with our public and private sector partners. He raised the professionalism of the branch to a new level.
- In 2011 Mark's contributions to the Association were rewarded with the International President's Award. In doing so he became the first Australasian Branch member ever to receive this award. Then in 2014, he was awarded Life Membership by the Australasian Branch.
- Mark was an honest and hard-working individual who always gave 100% commitment to any task. He was a sponge for knowledge and a person that enjoyed learning and finding better ways of doing things. This is clearly demonstrated by his studies for his two Masters Degrees in Criminology, all while undertaking his Suncorp and IAATI commitments, looking after his elderly mother, and finding time for his love of surfing.



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2018

Branch President:	Mark Pollard	
Vice Presidents:	Brett Florence Jim Manser Maurie Tong	
Executive Director:	Mark Bennedick	
Committee Members:	Daniel Burke Frank Colborne Kelly Greenhill Ian Gunthorpe Cathy Horton Eddy Langmair	Emily Linke Chris Loane Daniel Sammy Keith Schmidt Warren Stevenson Paul Thomas
Immediate Past President:	John Hambridge	
Annual Seminar:	Brisbane (103 delegates)	

Award Winners:

Investigation of the Year:	Strike Force Wolf – Motor Unit, Financial Crimes Squad, New South Wales Police
President's Award	Operation Autounion – Vehicle Crime Squad, Victoria Police.
Insurance Industry Investigation of the Year:	Ralph Bach of Nexus Investigations
Forensic & Supporting Services Award:	Vendor Management Australia (VMA)
Member of the Year:	Detective Senior Constable Cathy Horton – Queensland Police Service
Travel Scholarship:	Detective Leading Senior Constable Brett Florence, Victoria Police

Highlights:

- The Branch's 25th Annual Training Seminar was held in Brisbane with a focus on heavy vehicles, plant and equipment. After 2 days of classroom presentations day 3 included a visit to Caterpillar's Distribution Centre at Yatala, and then onto Hastings Deering facilities where we toured their facilities and demonstrated points from some of the classes.



- We were pleased that IAATI President JD Hough, UK Branch President Mike Briggs, and Nick Mayell from DataTag (UK) and AG Speake from Berla (USA).
- Mark Pollard was re-elected as new Branch President and in August Paul Thomas was elected as 2nd International Vice President on the International Board.
- NZ Senior Investigator John Borland of ISACORP received the Associations International 2018 Insurance Investigation of the Year Award at the International IAATI seminar in Pittsburgh, USA. He received the award in recognition of his professional and extensive investigative actions which successfully recovered three motor vehicles (valuing \$291,200NZD) stolen in New Zealand and further identified parties culpable for the theft.







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