



Assistant Police Commissioner P.L. DOYLE APM



Assistant Commissioner (and Major) Doyle was president of the Club 2016-18

Paul Lawrence Doyle was born in Brisbane on 8 August 1958, the eldest of four children to Mervyn Doyle (1931-2016) and his wife Mary (née Curran) (b. 1931).

As the son of a soldier, Paul moved with the family from Brisbane to Penang, Malaya and then to Duntroon in Canberra before moving to Holsworthy army base and then married quarters at the Infantry Centre, Ingleburn NSW. Paul attended Ingleburn North Public School before the family were posted back to Brisbane and Paul attended St Columban's College Albion Heights (now Clayfield), where he was educated by the Christian Brothers. He represented the school in a variety of sports, was a school army cadet, a member of the School Executive (Prefect) and matriculated in 1976.

Paul married Registered Nurse Robyn Jane (née Hamilton) in 1984 and they have one child, a daughter Bridget who was born in 1995.

In his working life Paul was a career police officer serving for some 37 years with the Queensland Police. On retirement he held the rank of Assistant Commissioner and headed the

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Ethical Standards Command. Prior to this he was the head of education, training, and development - which included being the Commandant of the Queensland Police Academy. His policing experience was principally as an operational detective for over 26 years. His career included a number of significant appointments to major and organized crime units, counter terrorist operations, witness and dignitary protection, the Fitzgerald Commission of Inquiry, Criminal Justice Commission (CJC), and Crime & Misconduct Commission (CMC). Whilst at the CMC Paul spent considerable periods of time undertaking the role of Director, Crime Operations - heading investigations into organised crime, major crime and criminal paedophilia offences. He also performed duty acting as the Deputy Police Commissioner (Specialist Operations).

Amongst other roles within the Police he was Chair of the Research Committee, Deputy Chair of the Strategic Risk Management Committee, member of the Senior Executive Conference/Executive Leadership Team, member of the Audit Committee, member of the Board of Studies of the Australian Institute of Police Management (AIPM), member of the Australian and New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency (ANZPAA) Integrity Forum and a member of the International Advisory Board and Research Advisory Committee of the Australian Research Council (ARC), Centre of Excellence in Policing and Security (CEPS). Paul was also a Visiting Fellow on the Queensland Police Strategic Leadership Course which included national and international participants.

During his distinguished police career Paul received Commissioner Commendations and awards for excellence in operational policing and education and training.

Away from policing he was the foundation Chair of the School Board for the Holy Spirit School in northern Brisbane.

After retiring from the Queensland Police Paul established a consultancy business and has been engaged by the University of Queensland International Development Group to deliver sessions on the *Australia Awards Indonesia Corruption Eradication* course and to lead the delivery of its Pacific Leadership and Governance Precinct *Leadership in Information Studies for Law & Justice* Course in Papua New Guinea. He was also engaged as the Queensland Police representative on the State Government Review of the Blue Card and Foster Care in Queensland. He remains connected to policing as a member of the Retired Police Association, member of the Queensland Police Commissioned Officers' Mess, and through the annual 'Wall to Wall' (State/Territory Police Remembrance Walls to the National Police Memorial Wall in Canberra) motorcycle ride for the fallen - supporting Police Legacy. Paul is an avid motorcyclist.

Former Assistant Commissioner Doyle has a Graduate Certificate in Applied Management and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).

In his military life Major Doyle joined the Active Army Reserve in 1978 and served for 18 years in the Royal Australian Infantry Corps. He served in:

- 1 Training Group (Officer Cadet Training Unit Course 15 & Regimental Command and Staff Junior & Intermediate Courses),
- 11 Training Group (Officer Cadet Training Unit Course 12 graduating as a 2nd Lieutenant & posted to 9RQR),
- 9RQR (Redcliffe Depot Platoon Commander B Company, Support Company Mortar Platoon Commander and later as Officer Commanding B Company),
- QUR (Officer Cadet Training Instructor and later as Officer Commanding Training Company - including Officer Cadet training and qualification),
- 49RQR (Mortar Platoon Commander) and,
- Stand-By Reserve.

He formally retired from the Army Reserve in June 2019.

Following in the footsteps of his father - Major M.L. "Blue" Doyle (President 1994-96; Life Member 2015) - Paul joined the Club in 1990. He was elected to the Committee in 2009 and served until 2013, and again from 2014 to 2018. During his time on the Committee, he chaired the Member & Member Services, Audit & Risk, and the Property Sub-committees. He was elected as Vice-President from 2014-2016, and President from 2016 to 2018 (and as a director of 183 Wickham Terrace Pty Ltd).

2017 was a significant year for Paul and the Club alike. Early in that year Paul's Vice President, Brigadier Chris Hamilton ADC, resigned from the Committee due to work commitments which had him resident interstate. Consequently, Major Trevor de Carteret RFD filled the casual vacancy of Vice-President, and Lieutenant Colonel Tony Coyle (a future President) was recruited to fill the Committee member vacancy created. Later in the year Paul underwent major heart surgery with some resulting complications from which he recovered. The Club was not impacted, being in the good hands of his deputies.

2017 also saw the Club celebrate two significant milestones. Friday 26 May 2017 marked the 70th anniversary of occupying the Wickham Terrace premises, and Friday 22 December marked our 125th birthday as the United Service Club. The 70th anniversary event provided an opportunity to remedy some past oversights with our Patron, Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul De Jersey AC unveiling a name plaque for our wonderful *Montpelier* building over its front door, together with unveiling a name plaque over the re-named 'Owen Room'. The new 'Owen Room' (which was previously the 'Montpelier Room') addressed the oddity where we had a function room named after the building it was in, and we could now give due recognition to our founder - the then Major General John Owen RA. The Club ended its commemorative year on a high note with the 125th Birthday Ball, also with our Club Patron and Mrs De Jersey, on Friday 15 December.

To acknowledge the Club's 125th anniversary year (2017) a special discounted Family Membership was offered to encourage family of Club members to take up Club membership for \$125.00. This proved to be a highly successful initiative helping to reduce the declining trend of memberships to a plateau resulting in 237 new members for the calendar year, which was the most in over a decade. Other celebratory initiatives included new Club cufflinks and individually numbered lapel pins, Challenge Coins, and a specially labelled vintage Club Port.

On the social front, amongst many others, memorable dinner speakers included entertainer Normie Rowe AM, Former Deputy Prime Minister Tim Fischer AC, Director of the Australian War Memorial Dr Brendan Nelson AO, and Chief of Army Lieutenant General Angus Campbell DSC, AM.

Member engagement initiatives included the introduction of awarding certificates acknowledging members with 10, 20 and 30 years of membership and conducting Member Recognition Receptions. Prospective Member Receptions were also introduced. Additionally, a Property Development Survey was conducted, building on the 2014 Survey, as the Committee recognised that factors such as Club membership, the Brisbane real estate market, and the Spring Hill Neighbourhood Plan had changed.

During his Presidency, several notable occurrences took place - including the loan of the Club's two Victoria Crosses to the Australian War Memorial for display in its Anzac Centenary Exhibition.

Significant time and effort were expended on progressing the development of the Club's under-utilised carpark land, which was stymied by the delay in approval of the Spring Hill Neighbourhood Plan, and which ultimately added the land to the CBD zoning allowing the Club to build up to 30 stories. Also of note was the refurbishment and recovering of the foyer reception lounge chairs. A most important Club event, involving two Special General Meetings, was finally moving the Club from being an Unincorporated Association to being an Incorporated Association - 'United Service Club Queensland Inc.' Toward the end of his tenure Paul undertook the process (with Major de Carteret and Lieutenant Colonel Coyle) which selected Kim Young as the new Club Secretary and General Manager.

Along with several citations, Paul is a recipient of the Australian Police Medal (being recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2011 for Distinguished Service in an Australian Police Force), National Police Service Medal, Reserve Force Medal, National Medal with two clasps, Australian Defence Medal, Commissioner's Medal for Meritorious Service, and the Queensland Police Medal with 35-year clasp.



Past-Presidents Major "Blue" Doyle and Major Paul Doyle

Sources included:

- Various web pages
- *United Service Club, Queensland: The First Century, 1892-1992* by Flight Lieutenant Murray Adams and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Charlton
- Club Meeting Minutes, Annual Reports, and sundry documents
- Contribution from AC Doyle June 2021