

Thursday 20 September 2012

“LONE” RANGER’S RYDE EXCHANGE

Ranger Paul Everett from the Central Darling Shire, sometimes dubbed the “Lone” Ranger of NSW due to the size and remoteness of the area he alone patrols, briefly joined City of Ryde’s Ranger team in an officer exchange program.

During his stay Paul got a taste of enforcement city-style on matters common to both Councils including illegal dumping, abandoned vehicles and dog related issues.

But in stark contrast to the 40 sq kms patrolled by Ryde Rangers, the 53,511 sq kms of remote outback that makes up the Central Darling Shire (1,000 kms due west of Sydney) requires Paul to travel up to 500 kilometres in a day. This often requires him to spend the night in the bush sleeping on a camp bed that he carries in the back of his vehicle.

Another interesting aspect of Paul’s role is his need to have a gun licence, and it is not unusual for him to encounter wild dogs, pigs, snakes, injured wildlife and even roaming camels as part of his normal daily duties.

During the exchange Paul was also briefed on various legislative policies and procedures which will help provide safer and more effective environments for residents, businesses and visitors to the Central Darling outback regions of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Menindee and White Cliffs.

The Officer Exchange program is part of a Country Council Partnership between the two organisations that started in 2007. Plans are underway for a return exchange by a Ryde Ranger early next year. No doubt Paul will enjoy showing his city counterpart how things are done out west.

Attachment: Photo shows L to R: Leon Marskell (City of Ryde Manager Regulatory Services), Paul Everett (Central Darling Shire “Lone” Ranger), David Ngeru (City of Ryde Senior Ranger)
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