

## POLICE DOG "ZAC"

Rego Number: PD217  
Born: 24<sup>th</sup> September 2004  
Handler: S/Const Phil COWLING  
Brisbane Dog Squad

The Queensland German Shepherd Dog Club would like to nominate Police Dog Zac to receive the GSDCA Service Dog Award to be presented at the GSDCQ July Double Headed Championship Show on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010. We believe that ZAC is truly worthy of receiving this award. For your information we provide the following information:  
In April 2006 PD Zac was purchased from Victoria. Zac commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) General Purpose Dog Course on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2006, along with his new handler Senior Constable COWLING.

Zac completed this course on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 2006 and was deployed to the Mackay District Dog Squad.

In 2007 Zac was crossed trained in the detection of Dangerous Drugs and since this time he has had numerous successful locations resulting in seizure of large quantities of dangerous drugs.

In March 2009, Zac and his handler S/Const COWLING transferred from Mackay to the Brisbane Dog Squad where they are currently stationed.

Zac has tracked and apprehended numerous offenders for a wide range of offences including Drink Drivers fleeing from traffic accidents through to apprehending offenders wanted for Attempted Murder.

In 2009 Zac saved the lives of three Police Officers, including his handler at a Runcorn address. An offender was wanted a number of serious criminal matters waited in ambushed for police to come inside her house before jumping out from hiding behind a door and attempted to stab the police with a large kitchen knife.

PD Zac apprehended the offender but as a result of this apprehension Zac suffered a life threatening stab wound. The knife past through Zac's left shoulder, under his spinal cord, cutting a ligament in his opposite shoulder. Zac was rushed to the Animal Emergency Service at Underwood where he underwent emergency surgery.

Zac's efforts in apprehending this offender prevented any serious or fatal injuries to police officers on that night and gave the ambushed police enough time to take the necessary action against the offender to prevent further attack.

There have also been other numerous instances where Zac has apprehended violent and unpredictable offenders, which if not for Zac could have resulted in serious injury to Zac's handler and/or other police officers attending these incidences.

### Notable occurrences

#### **10<sup>th</sup> of December 2009**

**Break and Enter:** Apprehension of two violent offenders hiding inside the Sinnomon Park Village Shopping Centre after breaking into chemist stealing a large quantity of Sudo Ephedrine based medication, PD Zac apprehended the first offender when he (the offender) seriously assaulted PD Zac and his handler with a chair and computer monitor. A short time later PD Zac was re deployed in a building search where he located the second outstanding offender. PD Zac apprehended this offender when he attempted to pull a knife out of his jeans. Both offenders were wanted for numerous break and enters offences as well as other matters including outstanding warrants.



### **14<sup>th</sup> of November 2009**

**Missing person:** PD Zac tracked and located 80 year old male with Huntington's Disease at a Westlakes address. Missing person had wandered off in the middle of the night from his home. The missing person walked for approximately 200 meters into a reserve before falling down a steep embankment next to the Brisbane River. The missing person was found in a very poor state of health and had suffered head injuries and fractured arm. If not for Zac locating this missing person the result could have resulted in a tragic outcome.

### **1<sup>st</sup> November 2009**

**Break and Enter:** Location of two offenders from a break and enter at a residence at Springfield. PD Zac tracked through bushland to an address approximately 1.5km away. Track was approximately an hour and half old. Offenders were also both wanted on numerous outstanding offences as well as return to prison warrants and other warrants.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009**

**UUMV and Dangerous Operation of Motor Vehicle:** Location of UUMV offender after a police pursuit at Mackenzie. Offender decamped into bushland after crashing the stolen vehicle. PD Zac tracked and located offender hiding in a gully under a log. The stolen vehicle also contained a quantity of stolen property. Offender also charged with numerous other offences.

### **19<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

**Attempted Murder:** PD Zac apprehended a violent female offender wanted for numerous break and offences, stolen vehicle and other serious matter including ramming a police vehicle. On confronting the offender, the offender has attempted to stab S/Const COWLING and two other police officers. PD Zac suffered a life threatening stab wound to his back during the apprehension of the offender. The injury suffered by PD Zac almost severed his spine. PD Zac returned to full duties 5 weeks later.

### **29<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**Attempted Arson:** PD Zac tracked and located offender at Mt Pleasant, Mackay, after attempting to set a caravan alight with female occupant inside. Offender decamped in an unknown direction. Tracked and located offender hiding approx 500 meters way.

### **13<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

**Stolen Vehicle:** PD Zac track and located two offenders after they crashing and decamped from a stolen vehicle in Napier St, Mackay. PD Zac tracked from the stolen vehicle to a residence approximately 400 meters away.

### **30<sup>th</sup> June 2008.**

**Break and Enter:** Tracked and located six offenders from a Break and Enter of the Work Cover Office at Mackay. PD Zac tracked through the CBD area of Mackay, locating the offenders hiding approximately 500 meters away.

### **29<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

**Armed Robbery:** PD Zac tracked and located Armed Robbery offender after holding up the BP Service Station at Mackay with a large knife. PD Zac tracked from the incident address to a nearby boarding house where a subsequent search of the house was conducted and the offender located.

### **21<sup>st</sup> January 2008**

**Home Invasion/Assault Occasioning Bodily Harm:** Tracked and located two offenders after decamping from a Mt Duke residence near Mackay. PD Zac track for approximately 4 km through bush and farm land as well as along sealed roads. First offender located approximately 1 km from incident address before continuing to track for a further 3 km. Cordons informed of the outstanding offenders direction of travel and a short time later was intercepted and arrested by police.

Above are listed the activities Zac has been involved in during the last 12 months, he has many other notable achievements that extend past this period and he epitomises the working ability of the GSD.