

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

Friday, 12 August 2016

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## New police officers graduate from University

Showing that policing is a profession and not just a vocation, 84 Tasmania Police officers will proudly take part in the University of Tasmania winter graduation ceremony this morning.

The officers will be the first to complete the Associate Degree Arts (Police Studies) as part of a nationally unique partnership between the University and Tasmania Police.

Under the partnership Tasmania Police officers are the only officers in Australia given the opportunity to align their careers with the Bachelor of Social Science (Police Studies).

All recruits must complete the Associate Degree as part of their recruit training and then have the opportunity to complete the full degree qualification throughout their career and promotion path.

Current serving officers can also choose to complete the Associate Degree as part of their professional development through a fast track process known as the Tasmania Police Professionalisation Program (TP3).

University of Tasmania Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen said it was inspiring to see the importance placed on higher education by Tasmania Police.

“We are proud of our partnership with Tasmania Police. The University is a deeply ingrained part of the Tasmanian community and that comes with a responsibility we take very seriously,” Professor Rathjen said.

“These new graduands are examples of how the University’s work supports and strengthens our State.

“The partnership is producing police officers who not only have strong operational skills, but also have further professional qualifications giving them new ways to think and understand the communities they serve.”

The partnership is also attached to the internationally recognised Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies (TILES), formed by the University and the Tasmanian Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management (DPEM).

Of the 84 graduands being conferred today, 56 have completed the Associate Degree as new recruits, with a further 28 having completed the TP3.

The graduation ceremony will be held at the **Federation Concert Hall** in **Hobart**, at **10am**.

**Information released by:**

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