



GAVAN RYAN PRESIDENT

Gavan Ryan served as a Police Officer for 34 years. He was with Victoria Police for 29 years reaching the rank of Detective Inspector. Throughout his career, he was stationed at inner-suburban police stations, including Port Melbourne, St Kilda, Fitzroy, and Brunswick. His tenure at the Homicide Squad spanned three ranks, during which he investigated over 100 murders and seven fatal police shootings.

In 2003, he was seconded to the Purana Taskforce, established to investigate a series of underworld murders in Melbourne. By 2004, he was appointed to lead Purana, overseeing critical investigations that helped dismantle Melbourne's gangland violence. He continued his work with both Purana and the Petra Taskforce until 2008. Under his leadership, Purana successfully halted the shootings and charged numerous individuals with serious indictable offences, including 34 counts of murder.

In 2008, he was invited to join the Australian Federal Police International Deployment Group. Between 2009 and 2012, he completed two tours of Afghanistan, including one as the Commander of the Contingent. During his deployment, he trained the Afghanistan National Police in investigative methods across Kabul, Kandahar, and Tarin Kowt. In Kabul, he oversaw the training of 205 detectives, specialising in serious crime, kidnapping, and corruption investigations.



He also served in the Solomon Islands as a Superintendent for a year teaching local police investigative methods. He travelled extensively throughout the Solomons.

In 2010 he was the Police Forward Commander of the tragic sinking at Christmas Island of Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel 221 (SIEV221) where fifty persons died and thirty-nine survived. He was responsible for all activities on the island including investigation, repatriation, and interviews.

In 2011, he was deployed to Christchurch to assist the New Zealand Police in the aftermath of the earthquake. He later took on a leadership role, coordinating Australian Police efforts on the ground.

In 2013 after thirty-four years of dedicated service, he retired from policing.

He first joined Tramways East Melbourne RSL, where he quickly became an active committee member. Following the merger with Camberwell Pompey Elliott RSL, he continued his involvement and was elected President on 27 February 2025.