# Episode 8 - Deanna Wadley\_v3.mp3

**John Pratt:** [00:00:04] Hello and welcome to Tasmania Police's brand new podcast, This is Tas Police. I'm Inspector John Pratt and I'll be your host as we chat to a wide range of Tasmanian police officers about why they joined the job and why others should too. We're coming to you today from Lutruwita, Tasmania. And before we start our conversation, I'd like to respectfully acknowledge the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of the land upon which we work and pay our respect to elders past and present. We recognise the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the continuing custodians of the rich cultural heritage of Lutruwita, Tasmania.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:00:53] Hi guys. My name is Deanna and I am 24 years of age. I graduated from the Academy on the 10th of September 2021 and was posted to Launceston. I work in the uniformed division, which is commonly referred to as the watch. I'm on night shift at the moment. It's currently 4:00 PM and I've just woken up from a sleep. I'm about to go and do a gym class at F45.

**John Pratt:** [00:01:17] As you just heard, Constable Wadley graduated last year and is relatively new to the job. In this episode Dea is going to take us through a day, or as the case may be, a night in the life of a uniformed officer in Tas Police. Let's check in with her as she prepares for a night shift.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:01:35] It's 8:56 p.m. and I've just arrived at the station and I'm just walking in to say hello to everyone. Hello, everyone. Hello.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:01:46] It's now 9:20pm Normally as soon as you get to the station I go to my locker and just put my vest on, which I'm doing at the moment. Then normally we get gear and then you sit out in what we call the read out room (muster room), and you pretty much go through read out, which is going through things that have happened since the last time you were at work. So generally you'll go through people who have been locked up, arrested. You'll go through Intel subs. Go through reports that have been popped into the system. And then pretty much you log on to the system and you're good to go for the night.

**John Pratt:** [00:02:22] As just explained, each shift begins with what we call a readout in the muster room. This is an important handover as it ensures everyone is aware of what's happening on previous shifts and means our officers are up to date and as prepared as possible as they start work. It's also an opportunity for the sergeants to brief their officers on matters that may need to be attended to during the shift, such as a search or details in relation to criminal activity.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:02:49] So the sergeants are in the armoury at the moment and they're the ones who give us our gear. So I've just gone into one of the rooms, which is where our body worn cameras are stored. And now Sergeant Heywood is going to give me my gear for the shift. Hello, Sergeant. Hi, Constable Wadley.

**Sergeant:** [00:03:10] Ready? Wait. Your little spray is 7200. Your radio is 6109. Your handset is three. Who are you with?

**Dea Wadley:** [00:03:20] Indy.

**Sergeant:** [00:03:21] Cool, so I'll give you the SD, which is 245. Your big spree will be 0058. And your plate will be 34.

**John Pratt:** [00:03:33] The equipment that our officers carry is subject to strict processes and is issued at the beginning of each shift. The safety of the public and our officers is a priority for Tasmania Police. This is why we make sure our officers are well trained and have the right equipment to respond to a wide range of situations. Now Dea's got a gear. Let's check in and see how a shift is going.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:03:54] It's now 9:55 p.m. at the station. Our shift is about to go and look for a family violence offender who has breached his police family violence order. And we are just about to get a briefing from Constable Beswick.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:04:10] It's 11:16 p.m. and we're just on mobile patrol in the Ravenswood/Mowbray area. Generally when vehicles go past, we just try and punch in the rego's and run checks on the cars. So we're just going to go out with the car now for a random breath test.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:04:28] It's now 11:43 p.m. and Indi and I are just about to drop a family violence order off at an address in South Launceston. And a family violence order is an order put in place by the court.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:04:44] It's 11:48 p.m. and we're clear of our inquiry, so we'll just show ourselves on mobile in the Launceston area.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:04:54] It's 12.06 a.m. and one of the other units has just had a vehicle evade them in Ravenswood. So Indy and I just on our way from Newstead now to help the other unit. A vehicle evade is when a police activate their lights to intercept a vehicle, however, the person with a driver fails to pull over.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:05:15] It's 12:45 a.m. and Indi and I have just arrived back at the police station to tap away at some paperwork. Each to their own, but I personally find that getting your paperwork done on a night shift is actually beneficial because the station is nice and quiet and can get your work done.

**John Pratt:** [00:05:34] Getting that paperwork done is extremely important and Dea's got the right idea by completing it whenever she's got a chance. Police paperwork can include things like preparing files and writing incident reports, which are crucial when it comes to presenting evidence and prosecuting offenders in court. As you've heard, Dea's been at work for just a few hours and has had a range of jobs from traffic enforcement to family violence to an evade incident. It's certainly a job that keeps you on your toes. Now Dea's got that paperwork done. Let's see how the rest of her night is unfolding.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:06:05] It's 2:43 a.m. Indi and I are on mobile patrol in the Ravenswood area and we're about to go and conduct a curfew check at someone's house. A curfew is given to a person when they're arrested and either police or the courts impose curfew on them, which means that that person has to reside at a certain residential address between a certain period of time. So this particular person that was on curfew between 5 p.m. and 5 a.m. daily.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:06:38] It's 2:46 a.m. Indi and I are clear of the curfew check, our person of interest was present. Hypothetically, if that person wasn't present, then police do up a statutory declaration saying the curfew checked that person and they weren't there. And the next time police interact with that person, they can be arrested for breaching their curfew.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:06:57] It is 3:41 a.m.. We have been conducting curfew checks in the Newnham area, so we just had another unit say that they have located a stolen motor vehicle. So we are just heading from Newnham to Youngstown to try and locate this vehicle to attempt an intercept, try and get a cordon in place in case the vehicle evades. Lima 33 attempted to intercept the vehicle and it avoided police, which is what we call an evade. Our sergeant has authorised spikes, which gives us permission to spike the vehicle if we see it for a certain period of time. So she's just putting in a cordon in place at the moment so that we can hopefully shut down the person driving the vehicle. Our sergeant back at the station has just been doing a little bit of digging into this particular car and it's linked to a person of interest. On the way to setting up the cordon or our position for the cordon Indi and I are just going to go and curfew check on the person of interest to see if they're home. If not, we've actually got a suspect for the evade, which is good.

**John Pratt:** [00:08:03] Tasmania is a very safe place to live and is one of the lowest crime rates in the country. But I think many people would be surprised at the amount of activity that occurs overnight when most of us are tucked up in our beds. Thankfully, stealing cars and evading police is not how most people spend their evenings. But no matter what time of the day it is, police are committed to preventing criminal activity, anti-social behaviour, investigating crime and bringing offenders to account.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:08:31] It's 4:28 a.m. and we have just arrived at the Newnham police station where we're meeting the team for a briefing to go and search for our family offender.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:08:44] It's 4:45 a.m. We've just finished our search briefing and we've got five police units which are about to go off at an address to search for a family violence offender.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:08:56] It's 6am. All units are clear of the search and one unit is heading back plus one to the station, which means that the search was successful. Indi and I are now heading to a missing persons job in Mowbray.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:09:09] It's now 6:30 a.m. We have just completed a missing person report and also a statutory declaration from the mother of the girl who's missing. We're currently just going through some associated addresses potentially, where this missing person may be located. However, we haven't had any luck yet.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:09:29] It's now, 6:51 a.m. in the morning, Indi and I located our missing person at a one of her associates in Newnham, which is really good news for her family. They're really happy. Whilst we were at that address, we located someone who's been identified as suspected of stealing. So we're now heading back to the station to interview that person in regards to the stealing matter.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:09:55] It is 7:53 a.m.. So once I finished presenting her to the custody Sergeant, I took her through to the Launceston Remand Centre, which is where the person stays until you're ready to interview the person. So basically to facilitate your investigation further. In this instance, the investigation was actually taken over by detectives up in the Criminal Investigations branch, so I came clear of that one and it was taken care of. As soon as I had finished a handover package to give to the detectives. I dropped my gear and I walked out of the station.

**Dea Wadley:** [00:10:36] It is 8:30 and I've just arrived home after nightshift. Each to their own, but generally I've just finished my four days on. So when I finish night shift, I tend to stay up just so that I can make the most of the day. But some people from the shift will go home and have to sleep straight away. But generally I just see how I go about my day. I normally get a second wind after I've finished, so we'll see how we go for the day.

**John Pratt:** [00:11:05] Tasmania Police is currently trialling a new four on four off roster at all our 24 hour stations. This means officers receive four days off after completing four day, afternoon or night shifts. This roster has been introduced to ensure the wellbeing of our officers because we understand how important it is to have a life outside of policing and to be able to switch off from the job.

**John Pratt:** [00:11:26] Dea you mention she's going to try and stay awake but that others will go home and sleep straight away. Adjusting to shift work can be challenging. Some people really enjoy the variety and not having to wake up to an alarm five days a week.

**John Pratt:** [00:11:37] As we heard from Dea, her shift was full of variety and she and the team had some great outcomes. Can you see yourself spending a day or not at work like that? We're recruiting more than ever before, so there's never been a better time to apply to join Tasmania Police. Have a look at our website Recruitment.police.tas.gov.au and start the process today.

**John Pratt:** [00:12:02] That's it for another episode of This is Tas Police and I hope you enjoyed it. Our next episode is a little bit different as we'll be sharing a video episode of our recent recruitment live stream event where we answer your questions and share some tips to make sure you're as ready as possible when you apply to join Tasmania Police. You can watch the episode or listen to it wherever you usually listen to podcasts.

**John Pratt:** [00:12:23] If you liked what you heard today, please subscribe on your favourite podcast app and while you're there, consider leaving us a review or a rating to let us know how we're going. You can also stay up to date with podcast episodes on our website at recruitment.police.tas.gov.au/podcast.