

# The Maryborough District Advertiser

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SPORT



Avoca Police Leading Senior Constable Chris Trimble in front of Senior Constable Edward Barnett's grave at the Carisbrook Cemetery. Barnett was posthumously awarded the Victoria Police Star yesterday after he was shot dead in Havelock 161 years ago.

# BRAVE BARNETT

## Victoria Police Star awarded to Edward Barnett, a police officer murdered in 1858

RILEY UPTON

A police officer who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty more than 160 years ago has been posthumously awarded one of Victoria Police's highest accolades — the Victoria Police Star.

At the height of the Victorian Gold

Rush, 29-year-old Senior Constable Edward Barnett was shot through the heart on Monday, February 1, 1858 at the White Hills Goldfield near Carisbrook, now known as Havelock.

A special ceremony at his grave at the Carisbrook Cemetery was held yesterday, remembering and

honouring Barnett's heroic deeds 161 years and six months to the day after his murder.

The Victoria Police Star is awarded in recognition of the service and sacrifice made by Victoria Police employees who are seriously injured or killed in the line of duty, and Barnett's is now framed and

hanging inside the Maryborough Police Station, alongside the accolades of fallen comrades.

The ceremony at the Carisbrook Cemetery was attended by Victoria Police's Acting Chief Commissioner Wendy Steendam, a Police Band piper, local police officers, CFA members, students from the

Carisbrook Primary School, government representatives and Shrine Guards.

Act Chief Commissioner Steendam said although Barnett's death occurred more than 161 years ago, the risks faced by police remain.

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