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Positive Mental Health Program

**Provision of Primary Mental Health Care
to Youth in an Adult Maximum Security Prison.**

RAMPAGE TIMELINE OF PARKVILLE RIOTS

March 6, 2016 — A group of six boys rioted on the roof of the Youth Justice Centre in Melbourne for almost seven hours.

May 6, 2016 — A boy and another inmate arm themselves at Parkville with tennis rackets, then kick open the staff locker room and push one of the lockers down a set of stairs, forcing staff to retreat. They then broke off sections of wooden shelving and brandished them at staff.

August 17, 2016 — Youths spent hours on a roof, causing lengthy lockdowns. It is believed a group climbed on to the roof of an accommodation building about 3pm and remained there through most of the evening.

November 13, 2016 — Youths rioted inside Parkville where up to 30 rampaging teen inmates trashed their cells and pulled security cameras from the walls. Some of the youths had climbed on the roof armed with garden tools.

November 14, 2016 — About 40 inmates were involved in a riot at the juvenile jail at Parkville, some wielding garden equipment.

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A police dog
outside the
Parkville
Youth Justice
Precinct



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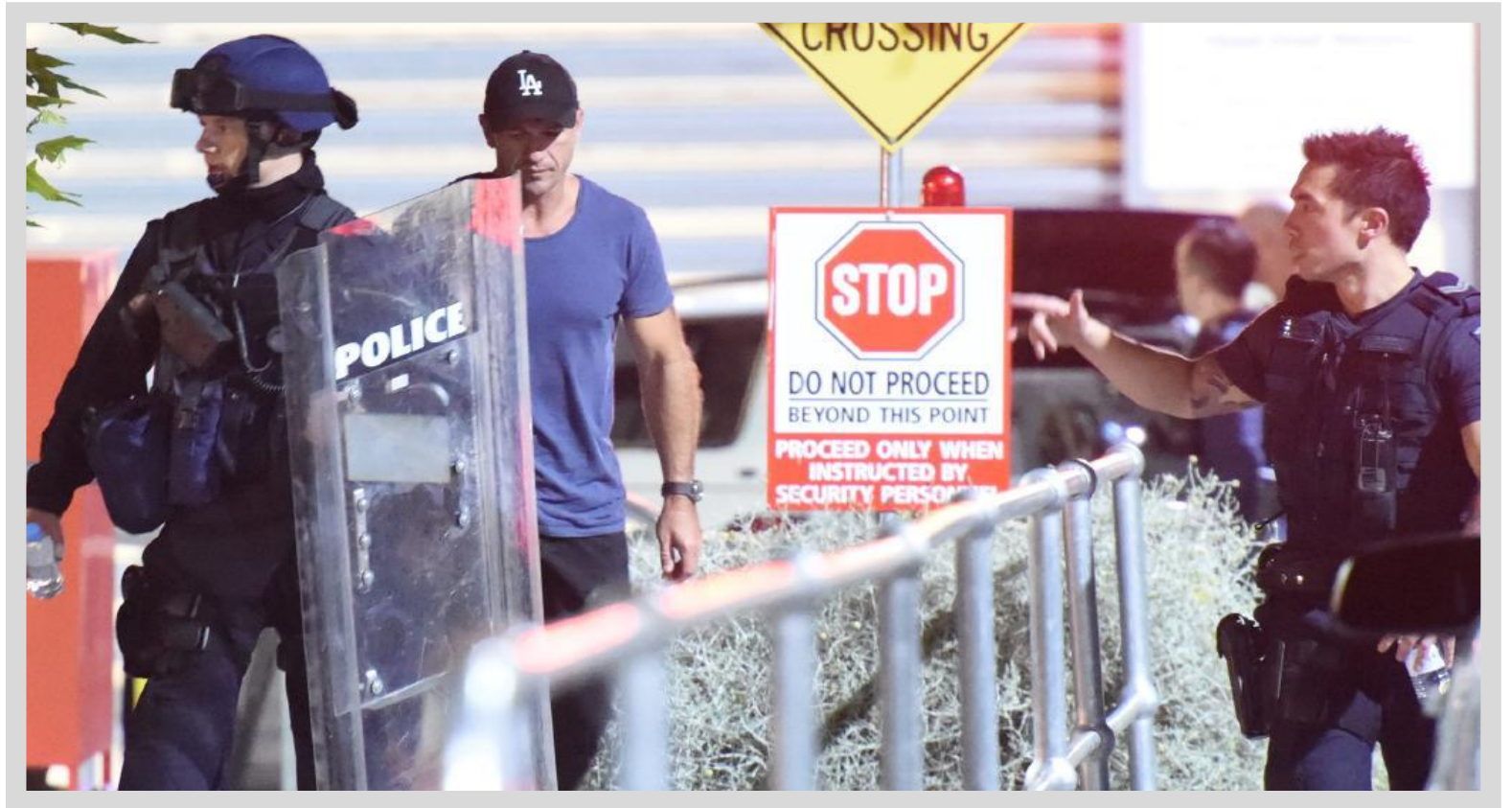
**A Police
prisoner
transport van
exits the
Parkville
Youth Justice
Precinct after
the matter
was resolved**



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Police
Incident
Response
Team
members exit
the Parkville
Youth Justice
Precinct



On November 17, teenagers were transferred to [Barwon Prison](#) in November after the [Parkville Youth Justice Centre](#) was damaged in riots.

Picture: Tony Gough

Source: Herald Sun newspaper

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ESTABLISHMENT OF YOUTH JUSTICE CENTRE WITHIN BARWON MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON

- ✓ Victoria law – defines a child as a person under 18 years of age – it has been recognised that the behavioural and emotional characteristics of children require different approaches from custodial services to those applied to adults.
- ✓ The sentencing Act allows for some young offenders of serious offences to be detained in Youth Justice Centre instead of an adult prison if the court believes there are reasonable prospects of **REHABILITATION**.
- ✓ **This presenting is addressing the Provision of Health Care under following events at the Parkville Youth Detention Centre**

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YOUTH JUSTICE FACILITIES IN VICTORIA

- ✓ Prior to November 2016, the Department of Health and Human Services operated custodial facilities for young offenders in Parkville and Malmsbury. The Parkville Youth Justice Precinct houses 10 – 18 year old males and 10 to 20 year old females. About 80% are on remand.
- ✓ At the Malmsbury site the DHHS operates a Senior YJC for 18 to 20 year old males and a Secure YJC for 15 – 20 year old males. Most of the people at Malmsbury are serving sentences.

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YhaRS – YOUTH HEALTH AND REHABILITATION

- ✓ YHaRS is a Consortium of three leading Victorian agencies delivering an integrated, therapeutic, holistic, comprehensive, continuum of care approach across the health services and rehabilitation programs in partnership with the Youth Justice Custodial precinct, Secure Welfare Services (SWS) and Youth Justices Community Teams.
- ✓ **St Vincent's Hospital**
- ✓ **Youth Support Advocacy** – AOD practice
- ✓ **Caraniche** – Forensic Psychology Organisation

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ORIENTATION

- ✓ All staff commencing at Grevillea Unit are required to undergo a Correction Victoria orientation prior to being given access to the Grevillea
- ✓ All agency staff will be provided access to the resource folder and given a supernumerary shift on the unit.
- ✓ All staff requires Police check and Working With Children Check

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Our Medical Cell



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ROLE OF NURSE

- ✓ **Admission by RPN**
 - **Indigenous Clients within 12 hours**
 - **Non-indigenous clients within 24 hours**
- ✓ **Medical Emergency within 30 minutes**
- ✓ **Mental Health Crisis – within 2 hours**
 - **Risk Assessments**
- ✓ **Transfer: review by RPN within 24 hours**
- ✓ **Review by GP and Psychiatrist - PRN**

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LACK OF RESOURCES AT GREVILLEA

- ✓ **No Emergency Policy**
- ✓ **No keys**
- ✓ **No access to Telephone or Computers**
- ✓ **Medical and Psychiatrist cover**
- ✓ **Medication**
- ✓ **Working in Close proximity with DHHS staff – very challenging and poor Communication**
- ✓ **Health and Safety issues**
- ✓ **Legal Challenges – Human Rights Lawyers**

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USE OF CAPSICUM SPRAY

- ✓ **Capsicum (Oleoresin /OC) Policy Chemical Exposure, Foam and Spray**
 - **Main issue is to wash the person with COOL water and remove clothes.
To place clothes in plastic bag and seal.**
- ✓ **Treatment of Eye Irritation**

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STATISTICS

- ✓ **Number of Admissions from November to 31st March 2017 = 56**
- ✓ **African Youth form the large %. 70% of clients are from South Sudan**
- ✓ **Only 1 or two Indigenous Clients**
- ✓ **Number of Code Blue: - Officer requires Assistance – assault against another client or staff = 12**
- ✓ **Mental Health Assessment / Risk Assessment recorded = 56 CRISIS REFERRALS HAS BEEN HARD TO QUANTIFY BECAUSE THESE HAVE BEEN RECEORDED IN DIFFERENT FORMS – PSYCHIATRIC CRISIS AND MEDICAL CRISIS HENCE WE HAVE 56 ASSESSMENTS AND REVIEWS**
- ✓ **Emergency Hospital Visits = 6 – this requires minimum of 3 DHHS staff with a client and can prove challenging for DHHS management**

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INCIDENTS RECORDED

- ✓ Riot x1
- ✓ Overdose x 1
- ✓ OC Spray x 1
- ✓ Attempted/ assault of Staff x 2
- ✓ Assault of fellow clients x 6
- ✓ Self harm x 1
- ✓ Damage to property x 1

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IMPROVEMENTS

- ✓ From April 4th 2017 – Juvenile Service was moved Corrections Victoria – Department of Regulation and Justice. Same as Adult prison services
- ✓ Changes in Management Personnel
- ✓ More settle DHHS staff and some routine in place
- ✓ YHaRS staff has keys and a 2-way radio / personal duress
- ✓ Some consistency in the daily operations of the Unit
- ✓ Corrections staff (Emergency Response Group) ERG based on Unit
- ✓ Clients are managed through rotation systems that prevents some clients with mixing with certain clients
- ✓ No riot
- ✓ No major assaults were recorded
- ✓ Nursing Role being the safety and Mental Health care of the clients in custody.
- ✓ On going legal challenges about the legality of housing “Child” in a Maximum Security.

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- ✓ In a judgment handed down on **11 May 2017**, Justice Dixon found that the State government had breached the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* (the Charter) and therefore acted unlawfully. Specifically, his Honour found that the **Grevillea Unit within the Maximum Security** Prison was incompatible with the children's human rights and best interests.

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