

Pin-up Scholarship Girl . . .

POLICE BURSARY GOES TO AID HILLSTON FUND FOR OUR PATRICIA ANN

The people of Hillston feel a natural pride that one of their star students, Patricia Ann Williams, has become the N.S.W. Police Department's first pin-up bursary girl.

For it was the people of Hillston themselves who first recognised Patricia Ann's talents and ambition and launched her on an advanced scholastic career at the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Croydon.

The headmaster of Hillston Central School, Mr. A. T. Duncan, who is the girl's "education guardian", brought Patricia Ann's early attainments under the notice of the Aborigines Welfare Board back in 1959.

As a result, the Board awarded Patricia Ann a bursary in 1960. She followed this award with a brilliant pass in the Senior Primary Final—a special examination set up by the Education Department to encourage children to aspire to higher education.

The shy, unassuming country girl went on to greater success last year when she gained her Intermediate Certificate with passes in six subjects—General Mathematics, History, Geography, Business Principles and Art.

In addition to her scholastic achievements Patricia Ann, during the year, was:—

- Elected school captain.
- Took charge of the school's banking fund.
- Became president of the Junior Far West Group, and
- Figured prominently in the running of the school library.

It was then that the Hillston headmaster recommended that Patricia Ann (then only 14) be given a chance to repeat study for the Intermediate Certificate at a specialist school.

The people of the district rallied in support of Mr. Duncan's suggestion. A fund of close on £700 was raised by Presbyterian Church workers, and private gifts and family contributions of £150 came from the girl's father and brothers.

Of this amount £200 was needed for essential school clothing and accessories when the girl was enrolled as a boarder at the Croydon P.L.C.

It is estimated that the girl's schooling over the following three years, when she will proceed to the Leaving Certificate and probable matriculation, will cost £500 a year.

At the beginning of the year the Darlinghurst Police Social Club decided to award three-year scholarships worth £300 to two aboriginal children selected by the Aborigines Welfare Board.

This scholarship will be known in future as the N.S.W. Police Aboriginal Scholarship Award and will be made each year.

It was perhaps natural that such a brilliant student as Patricia Ann Williams should become the first to receive a scholarship which will mean £50 a year for three years towards her education.

Dawn's picture (by courtesy of the *Sydney Morning Herald*) shows the retiring Commissioner for Police, Mr. Colin J. Delaney, making the award to Patricia Ann at a special presentation ceremony.

