

# Camera Base 7 Years on

On this day back in 2012 there was no great fanfare, it was straight to business on the night Wellington hosted the premiere of The Hobbit.

In classic New Zealand 'she'll be right' style volunteers were called for, no experience necessary, and training was limited to "you'll pick it up as you go along".

Sarah, one of two volunteers on that very first shift admits it was pretty scary knowing the safety of international celebs could be in your hands. "It was also fun though, especially having a bird's eye view of the stars!"

## The Volunteers

The Camera Base now has 46 carefully selected and well-trained volunteers.

David Webb, co-coordinator of the volunteers says, "we're very proud of the training and mentoring given to volunteers before they go solo, and also of the ongoing learning opportunities provided such as; Imagery Analysis, Gang Awareness, Police 101 and Multiple Screen Usability"

The real stars are mostly definitely the volunteers, collectively contributing 403 hours of monitoring time per month.

## '403 hours every month'





# **Our Technology**

If you remember how Camera Base looked in the beginning, you likely won't recognise it today. The desktop monitors are long gone, replaced with 10 x 50-inch wall monitors, adjustable desks, ergonomic chairs and, thanks to several grants, home comforts that make for a comfortable working environment.







## **Footage Playbacks**

In 2017 shift coverage was extended to include daytime volunteers, with the primary focus of processing playback requests.

Footage searches are done for both police and council personnel, and include casual 'walk ins', which are particularly useful when evidence is needed on the spot.

#### "The footage is gold!"

A newly simplified form has recently made the request process super easy.

If you think we can help with footage check out this link:

\\ppi.police.govt.nz\StationsData\Wellington
Central - 400\CCTV camera base\CCTV Footage
Requests

and contact <a href="mailto:sandy.cumpstone@police.govt.nz">sandy.cumpstone@police.govt.nz</a> if you have any questions.

Since June 2018 we've processed 282 playback requests with a high success rate.



### **New Cameras**

Camera coverage has also been extended over the years, with recent additions including 2 cameras in Newtown, 2 in Kilbirnie, and extra coverage of Te Aro Park.





## We're here to help

Funding by way of a community grant in 2018 allowed us to purchase uniform tops, which means you now can't miss us around the station! If you haven't been to Camera Base yet come and see us sometime and find out what we do and how we can help.

We're behind the watch house on the ground floor.



Volunteer Andrew Dinsdale



# Long service recognition

With 32 years service between them Basil, Sarah, Peter, Cindy and David are most definitely seasoned CCTV operators.

Asked why they do it and they're unanimous, "knowing that we're helping police and being appriciated".

A great volunteer role, working for the community and doing our bit to help the victims of crime.

Back row: Basil Chan, Sarah Webb, Peter Cooke, Cindy Jurie Front row: David Webb & Constable Sandy Cumpstone

### We recruit too

Providing a small window into the world of policing Camera Base experience has led to 5 of our volunteers, Kirill, Noah, Eric, Luke & Ian, becoming frontline officers. They go with our best wishes and we know that we'll be seeing the Wellington based constables before long when they need some camera footage!