



NHWA

Official journal of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia
incorporating Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



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Don't let
thieves steal
your Christmas
campaign



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First meeting
for 2018: NHW 4
Mudgeeraba



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FROM THE CEO

MARIA BENNETT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

Hello Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Happy 2018!

The new year is off to a racing start with many fabulous projects underway in communities across Australia and New Zealand.

Let's start with Awards and Presentations

At the November Board meeting, the NHA 2017 Police Commissioners Award and NHA 2017 Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer Member of the Year Award winners were announced. **Congratulations to Senior Constable Amanda Dohrman from Queensland who received the 2017 Police Commissioner's Award and Gailene Miller from Queensland who received the 2017 Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer Member of the Year Award.**

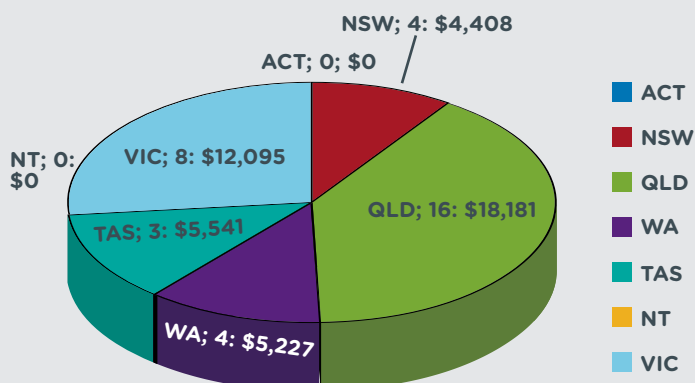
Also congratulations to every single nominee, your contribution and efforts have been recognised and acknowledged by your fellow Volunteers and friends. I acknowledge and thank our thousands of Volunteers, especially to those who nominated their fellow NHW members for your hard work, dedication and commitment to NHW. I always compare our Volunteers to super heroes, their work may sometimes go unseen, but their impact is tremendously important. See pages 7, 8 and 9 for a full list of the nominees and photos of some of the award presentations.

Here is an update on the five Federal Government funded NHA projects:

1. Continuation of the Community Funding Program (CFP)

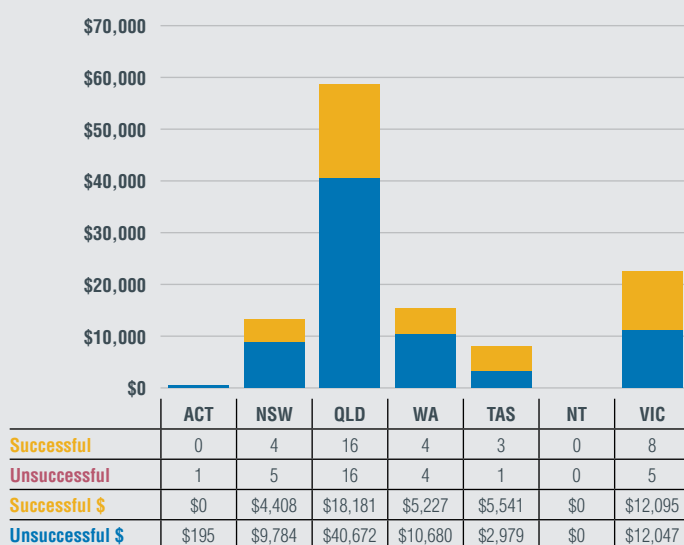
Thank you to everyone who submitted a funding application in the February 2018 CFP and for making a positive impact in your community. Your dedication and time is invaluable.

2018 Community Funding Program Approved Applications



The February 2018 CFP received a total of 67 applications, with 35 successful applicants, that's more than 50% receiving full or partial funding of over \$45,000.

Community Funding Program Total Applications by State/ Territory



2. Expansion of the Diagrammatic Brochures Project

Stay tuned for the launch of our new diagrammatic brochures. We've been working in conjunction with multi-cultural teams from within Police departments, local government/councils and migrant settlement organisations from right across Australia, to create, design and deliver some great resources for our culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community members. We often don't realise how many people in our communities don't speak English as their first language. Start thinking about how you can use these great new resources, put your orders in with your local State/Territory offices.

3. Continuation of the Remote and Vulnerable Communities Program

On a recent working trip to Gunbalanya in Arnhem Land Northern Territory, we were fortunate enough to be invited to speak with the seniors class at the Secondary School. During the meeting Paul Keightley a Northern Territory Community Engagement Police Officer spoke about the role of Neighbourhood Watch in local communities where he grew up and where he worked, Bernie Durkin the President of NHA spoke about Respect - respect for your body, the food you



Photo: Gunbalanya Secondary School seniors class, with Bernie Durkin NHWA President, Maria Bennett NHWA CEO and Paul Keightley Community Engagement Police Officer Northern Territory Police.

eat, making good choices, respect for your family and elders and respect for your community. I spoke about the different stages of our lives from childhood to adulthood and the importance of school and education and how that gives us good options for our future - work, careers and the roles we have in communities.

Hira Morgan Senior Teacher of the Gunbalanya Secondary School said “The visit sparked a concern for safety on our roads and around our homes in Community. As part of our Well-Being session ‘Keeping Ourselves Safe’ we have looked at how to keep ourselves safe as well as looking out for the safety of others. Students were given different scenarios of situations and asked how they would/should react, for example, someone unconscious, possible home invasion, house fire or fighting. Most responses were ‘use our Voice’ or ‘use our Feet’, not everyone has a phone. The voice is to yell for help, the feet are to run to the neighbours. This week students are creating posters for the Emergency Number. When to dial 000 and what information they might be asked, for example ‘Fire, Police or Ambulance’. We are hoping to put these up around the community in the coming weeks”.

4. Expansion of the Repository of Information Project

The repository of information is a dynamic resource that allows all jurisdictions to access ideas and projects previously conducted to prevent crime. It is a combined learning library that makes locating valuable resources and information readily available. Register and login to see if there are some ideas that might be useful for your group.

If you have a successful project that you’d like to share with others and would like it added to the Repository of Information Project Library, download

the form from the NHWA website at:

nhwa.com.au/projects/

You have the power to utilise this tool and share ‘what works’ with others.

5. Continuation of the Community Safety Training Days

We’ve locked in the dates for the next NHWA Community Training Day.

Saturday 16 June - Townsville Queensland

Sunday 24 June - Alice Springs Northern Territory

Save the date and RSVP to admin@nhwa.com.au to secure your spot. We are planning for these training days to be bigger and better; open to the public with a fresh focus on business, community and individual safety.

I look forward to celebrating National Volunteer Week with you on 21-27 May 2018.

Together we achieve great things!

See you soon.

Stay safe.

Maria Bennett
CEO NHW Australasia

**Let’s take action.
Let’s take ownership.
And number 1
Let’s Stay Safe.**



BOARD MEMBERS



Bernie Durkin – President, Western Australia

Bernie is the Executive Manager for the Community Engagement Division of the Western Australia Police. Part of this role encompasses the position of WA State Director for NHW. In 1988 Bernie joined WA Police as a sworn Police Officer then switching to a Public Servant in 2008. In his current role Bernie manages a team of crime prevention community engagement staff and is extensively involved with NHW at both a State and National level. Bernie is currently the President of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.



Clare McGrath – Vice President, ACT

Clare is currently the Vice-President and Board Member of the ACT Neighbourhood Watch Association. Clare has been an active member of NHW since 1985, primarily in the Ainslie Suburb of Canberra where she has lived since 1962 after moving from Melbourne.

Clare is employed with the Australian Electoral Commission and this is a busy role. Clare is a self-professed sports lover and a one eyed Hawthorn supporter.



Margaret Pearson – Secretary/Treasurer

Throughout Margaret's career she has made a significant contribution to the voluntary sector by being involved with numerous community organisations including ACT Neighbourhood Watch Association Inc. where she held a number of positions within that organisation including President.

Having lived overseas for a number of years Margaret returned, with her family, to Canberra where she continues to follow her great interest in local and international politics. Margaret is currently the secretary/treasurer of NHWA.



Maria Bennett – Chief Executive Officer

Maria has extensive knowledge, management skills and leadership experience in both the public and private sectors, working closely with many prominent charities and not for profit organisations. Prior to joining NHWA Maria was Director of a promotions company for 9 years and has had a successful career in corporate sales and marketing roles. Previous management roles in medical and health industries in Australia, New Zealand and Asia, have provided experience in coordination of major projects and exposure to the differing legislative and regulatory environments involved as well as an awareness of the unique physical and social challenges each location brings.



Jeff Knight - ACT

Station Sergeant Jeff Knight joined the Australian Federal Police in 1986, and currently serves as the Officer In Charge of Community Safety within ACT Policing. Throughout his career he has served in many areas including General Duties, Traffic Operations and Diversionary Conferencing Team, prior to being promoted to Station Sergeant in 2003. Since that time Jeff has served as the Officer In Charge of most ACT Police Stations, prior to his appointment to Community Safety. He is proud to have been able to serve in a Community Policing role for the most part of his career and enjoys working with people at the grass roots level. Jeff is keen to maintain the good relationship that ACT Policing has with the ACT Neighbourhood Watch, and is looking forward to his appointment as a Board Member of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.



Dr Carlene Mahoney - New South Wales

Dr Carlene Mahoney is a Detective Inspector within the NSW South Wales Police Force with over 20 years experience, working in organised crime, child protection and is currently managing the social media presence for online community engagement. Carlene also holds the position as an adjunct lecturer with the Terrorism and Security Studies, Charles Sturt University in Canberra. Carlene is currently undertaking a Masters in Terrorism, researching the complex social, political and international context of terrorism and contemporary security related issues.



Bambi Gordon - Victoria

Bambi Gordon's career has been in media marketing, particularly with senior roles at Fairfax Media – BRW Group of Publications, FOX FM, and the Ten Network; followed by some 15+ years in her own business providing business development, event management and marketing consulting to small business.

As CEO of NHW Victoria, Bambi is focused upon renewing and reinvigorating the organisation through enhancements in administration, communication, marketing, and generating financial sustainability.



Peter Edwards - Tasmania

Peter Edwards is a Commander in the Tasmania Police Service. He has extensive experience across diverse policing portfolios within his home state, as well as national and international law enforcement representation. He has served as a Detective, Prosecutor, Intelligence Officer and Head of Training. In recent years Peter has led the emergency management response to the bushfire disaster in south east Tasmania in 2013 and the state-wide recovery to the 2016 floods which severely impacted across the state. Peter is now the Officer in Charge of the Operations Support Command which includes responsibility for State Community Policing Services, the section which provides the police link to Neighbourhood Watch Australasia. Peter holds tertiary qualifications in management and policing. He has an interest in personal fitness and well-being through regular walking and swimming. He was awarded the Bravery Medal in 1989 and the Australian Police Medal in 2004.



Les Bulluss - Queensland

Les joined the Queensland Police Service (QPS) in June 2000 after 13 years with the New South Wales Police. In 2008 Les was promoted to Senior Sergeant, Officer in Charge, Thursday Island; the only police division in Australia with an international border. In 2010 Les was awarded a Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowship to travel to Canada and USA to research 'Culturally Appropriate Indigenous Community Policing Models'. Following the fellowship, Les made several recommendations to the QPS which were adopted into remote community policing models. In 2011 Les was promoted to Inspector and in 2013 was appointed to his current role as Manager, Community Programs and Engagement, Community Contact Command. His portfolio includes the Crime Prevention, Cultural Support, Crime Stoppers, Victims Assist, Queensland Police Pipes and Drums, and Queensland Police Museum Units. Les has a Graduate Diploma in Management from Central Queensland University and Graduate Certificate in Applied Management (Policing and Emergency Services) from Australian Institute of Police Management.



Virginia Read - Northern Territory

Superintendent Virginia Read has recently been transferred to the Northern Operations Division which encompasses Community Safety and Engagement for the Northern Territory Police Force. A police officer in the Northern Territory for thirty years, Virginia has served in a number of locations, her most recent move was from Alice Springs where she was stationed for the last three years.

With a long-term commitment to the Northern Territory, her new role provides the opportunity for Virginia to further promote community collaboration to address crime and antisocial behaviour issues.



Eric Tibbott - New Zealand

Superintendent Eric Tibbott assists the Commissioner of Police in driving the development and implementation of New Zealand Police's Prevention First Strategy in accordance with Our Business.

Eric fosters a "whole of government" approach to prevention by actively supporting and contributing to the inter-agency development of policies and strategies for community based crime prevention.

Business process owner for the Police Deployment Model (Command and Coordination Centres & Tasking and Coordination), Harm Reduction (Family Violence, Victims & Youth) and Community (Neighbourhood Policing, Schools & Alcohol Harm Reduction)



Anne Collishaw - Executive Assistant

Anne is a highly experienced, energetic and motivated finance and administration professional, with 19 years proven success in diverse administration, accounts, bookkeeping and customer service, across the Building and Construction, Engineering, Transport and Banking sectors. For six of those years Anne effectively completed PA duties for a CEO and Company Directors.

Anne holds a Certificate Level 4 in Bookkeeping and Financial Services and is proficient and current in the use of various software programs, including the ISO 9000 quality management system. Anne has 4 years' experience in the Australian Defence Force and currently holds a Staff position in youth development programs.

Award presentations for the 2017 NHTA Police Commissioners Award and the 2017 NHTA Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer Member of the Year Award

NHTA members receiving the Certificates of Appreciation for the State and Territory award nominees



Chief Superintendent Bradley Shepherd NSW Board Member, NHTA President Bernie Durkin, NHTA CEO Maria Bennett.

2017 NHTA Police Commissioners Award nominations:

- Senior Constable Paul Cleary, New South Wales
- Constable Natalie Wilson, New South Wales
- Senior Constable Amanda Dohrman, Queensland - Award Winner
- Detective Sergeant Tony Edmondson, Australian Capital Territory

2017 NHTA Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer Member of the Year Award nominations:

- Chris Quinn, Western Australia
- Maree Brand, Western Australia
- Edith Blanck, Queensland
- Roy Hayward, Queensland
- Gailene Miller, Queensland - Award Winner
- Terry Brown, Western Australia
- Jocelyn Marentis, Queensland
- Ugo Bayada, Australian Capital Territory
- Julia Eagles, New South Wales
- Wendy Walker, Queensland
- Ken Rehbein, Queensland
- William Jeffs, Queensland



Inspector Les Bulluss QLD Board Member.



Inspector Don Emanuel-Smith Jurisdictional Representative WA.



Judy Webster NHTA Public Officer receiving certificates on behalf of ACT.



Many proud NHW members from Bundaberg attended the ceremony to see Amanda receive the NHWA 2017 Police Commissioners Award. Senior Constable Amanda Dohrman front row with the award.

NHWA 2017 Police Commissioner's Award recipient Amanda Dohrman

Each year, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) recognises the hardworking individuals who make up Neighbourhood Watch. These individuals are highly valued assets within our communities.

The NHWA Police Commissioner's Award is presented in recognition of the outstanding service by an individual police officer through consistent contribution to Neighbourhood Watch (NHW).

Senior Constable Amanda Dohrman has been a part of NHW in Bundaberg for over 11 years. During that time she has held many positions, NHW Liaison Officer, Assistant Area Coordinator, Newsletter Editor and Secretary/Treasurer and in 2013 received the State NHW Liaison Officer of the Year award.

"From 2005 onwards Amanda has been instrumental in coordinating activities and events."

From 2005 onwards Amanda has been instrumental in coordinating activities and events, guest speaker at conferences, NHW meetings and delivering numerous presentations, organising Christmas family days and Neighbourhood Watch week information days, '50 in my street' wheelie bin stickers. All these things have been achieved regardless of whether Amanda is on duty

or in her own time. **These events bring together members of the community in a relaxed and happy atmosphere to learn more about making our neighbourhoods a safer, connected and more inclusive place to live.**

Congratulations Amanda on receiving the 2017 Police Commissioners Award, truly well deserved.



Pictured left to right: Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Chief Executive Officer Maria Bennett, award recipient Gailene Miller, Acting Superintendent Melissa Adams.

NHWA 2017 Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year Award recipient Gailene Miller

The award, named after Malcolm Sidney Grant OAM, known for his immense contribution to the Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) movement, recognises the outstanding contribution of an individual who demonstrates continual support to NHW.

As a founding member of NHW Riverview, Gailene Miller has had 30 years of outstanding service with NHW. Gailene has held numerous positions in the group's committee, from writing newsletters and delivery person to Zone Coordinator and Treasurer.

Ms Maria Bennett, CEO NHWA said "It is inspiring to see the dedication of NHW volunteers like Gailene. It's a credit to all NHW volunteers in Queensland for the tireless work that

"It is inspiring to see the dedication of NHW volunteers like Gailene. It's a credit to all NHW volunteers in Queensland for the tireless work that they do."

they do. Congratulations to Gailene for truly outstanding service and earning the Malcolm Grant Award".

Any meeting, function or event held in the Riverview, Ipswich district, you will find Gailene there planning and coordinating the events. Apart from making sandwiches, cooking sausages and serving popcorn, Gailene also provides her knowledge, guidance and community social connections to the group, whilst promoting and inviting others to

become involved. Her passion and commitment aligns with NHWA's overarching goal to create safer and more socially cohesive communities.

"I am thrilled to receive this award," Ms Miller said. "I enjoy the work that I do so much, and I love spending time with my fellow Neighbourhood Watchers and with so many wonderful people in Riverview. It's all about working together to make our neighbourhoods safer for everyone".

NHW ACT

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

NHW Forde Proudly Supporting Forde's Annual Christmas Party



Forde Christmas Party Support.



Clare McGrath and Ian McLean at their stall in December.

Forde Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Group from ACT was proud to support the Forde Community Association's (FCA) annual Christmas Party last December.

This is the second year that Forde NHW have set up stall and provided the community with information about membership, safety and crime prevention.

The group was fortunate enough to secure support from the Gungahlin Fire and Rescue team who brought

along a tanker and handed out information about preparing for the fire season.

Their support was a huge success with everyone, young and old. Forde NHW team really value these types of opportunities, it allows NHW Members to get out and meet the

residents, hear about concerns in their community and provide valuable support.

Working in conjunction with the FCA provides an extended voice to spread the word about NHW whilst keeping the residents of Forde safe.

Neighbourhood Watch Joined ACT Policing for Canberra Show

Once again, ACT Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has joined ACT Policing and Crime Stoppers at the Royal Canberra Show in February to provide inform the public on how to keep our neighbourhoods safe from crime and encourage the reporting of any suspicious behaviour.

Many brochures about joining NHW and other information leaflets were

handed out as an informative and crime preventative tool.

The Police Mascot Constable Kenny Koala was also present and has been for over 40 years. He is a favourite with children. The Police and Constable Kenny visit many schools in the ACT promoting the safety in the community.



Police Mascot Constable Kenny Koala at the Royal Canberra Show in February.

ACT Neighbourhood Watch Recognises Good Neighbours with their 2018 Good Neighbour Award



Sam Robinson – National Neighbour Day Campaign Manager, Relationships Australia, Constable Kenny Koala, Kenny's handler – David Packwood and Margaret Pearson – President ACT NHW.

Each year ACT Neighbourhood Watch celebrates Neighbour Day with a Good Neighbour Award to a resident of the ACT. It is granted to a nominee for making a positive difference to their neighbourhood; making a special effort towards people around them; offering to help out in practical or special ways or for volunteering or supporting the local community.

This year the Good Neighbour Award goes to Amy and Prescott Pym from Forde.

Amy and Prescott Pym actively promote community spirit, inclusiveness and engagement through the work they do as Events Manager and President of the Forde Community Association. They were part of the original team to establish the group and work tirelessly to engage with the residents of their suburb through social media and annual family events held throughout the year.

Amy and Prescott selflessly dedicate many hours of their own time to connecting families of Forde and supporting ACT Neighbourhood Watch through invitations to partake in their events and sharing many of the messages ACT Neighbourhood Watch publishes through social media. Amy and Prescott represent the true values of Good Neighbours in our community.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Community Funding Project: a first time for the Metford Neighbourhood Watch

It was a first time for Metford Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) to receive a Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) Community Funding Grant, a successful initiative that has been running for over 8 years. The grant was spent on 6 portable CCTV cameras, also known as known as trail cams which have addressed the needs of the community.

Each unit is weather proof and battery powered with up to 12 months standby. Cameras can record still or video footage with the capacity to capture day or night vision. The units are motion censored to catch every move where all data is recorded to a removable memory card for viewing on the unit or externally on computers or submitted to the Police.

The portable cameras are available to hire at no cost to vulnerable citizens who are not in the position to purchase their own CCTV, or to those simply wishing to assess the decisions on whether they'd like to purchase one in future.

Since the roll out of the Community Funding Project, the local NHW group have seen a big demand in hiring the cameras. In response, neighbouring NHW groups are looking to start their own inventory of the same units.



Hunter Regional NHW Coordinator for Metford Bill Hackney with the CCTV cameras.



CCTV cameras funded by the Australian Federal Government and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia in the 2017 Community Funding Project.

The CFP was definitely successful. At a small cluster of units which housed many residents over 50 years of age, it was recorded that twelve crime related events

had occurred within 6 months. Metford NHW responded to this matter and set four of their NHWA Australian Government funded cameras strategically surrounding the grounds of the property. The group also gave the residents crime prevention advice and information. As a result, a culprit was caught and the rate of crime related incidences had decreased.

NHW Metford can vouch that Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's Community Funding grants make a positive difference in reducing crime in the community.

“WatchOut!”

New ‘One-Stop-Shop’ for Crime Prevention

Ku-ring-gai/Hornsby Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has put together an innovative, free and easy-to-use online service to connect the community with all things crime and crime prevention.

Wanting you to “Love Our Links”, the never-before-done site - www.watchout.org.au - launched on Valentine’s Day, February 14 2018, includes an A-Z index of helpful information on a variety of topics. The data is provided by government agencies and not-for-profit organisations.

This was made possible through Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) 2017 Community Funding Program. The creative project concept was initialised from the NHW needs to locate new ways to direct the community to relevant information.

“Crimes have extended further into our lives through the use of technology, and a huge, crucial resource - the internet - was being missed. The site will point to advice for everyone; from how to deal with cyber-bullying for a 10 year old, through to warnings on romance scams for an 80 year old.” – Julia Eagles, Coordinator, Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby NHW.

The constantly evolving site is run by a roster of dedicated Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers, ensuring links and information are kept up-to-date. Neighbourhood Watch Ku-ring-gai invites all users of the site and members of the public to submit links

“The site will point to advice for everyone; from how to deal with cyber-bullying for a 10 year old, through to warnings on romance scams for an 80 year old.”
– Julia Eagles, Coordinator,
Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby NHW.”



WatchOut! logo.

and provide feedback to support this community inclusive project.

Ku-ring-gai/Hornsby NHW plans to roll out ‘WatchOut!’ at local community events and shopping precincts throughout 2018.

Please check out www.watchout.org.au and help Ku-ring-gai/Hornsby NHW identify new links.

Ku-ring-gai/Hornsby NHW also has a regular website you might want to check out: www.nhwkuringgaihornsby.org.au.

They offer the community a weekly eNewsletter, the opportunity to request items such as car rego platelocking screws (thanks to NHWA), NHW window stickers, etc, and they loan out items such as engravers, a driveway marking stencil, or a paper shredder. See the ‘Tips’ page, for the extensive “Our 20 Favourite Crime Prevention Tips” series that has been shared via the NHWA Facebook group and become very popular – are you a member?



Back Row left to right Gordon Levenson (Sec), Marion Gardner, Cudgen NHW Coordinator, and Cudgen Public School Deputy Principal with School Students.

School Watch – Tweed Valley

Over the last few months, Tweed Valley Neighbourhood Watch has been generating more schools into their Tweed NHW initiative of School Watch.

As it stands, we currently have six schools participating where another three are showing interest. The program is designed to inform children's parents as well as the general public on the importance of keeping watch over our schools during school holidays, weekends and during night hours.

Recently with the assistance of NHWA we have been able to

"The important factor of the School Watch Program is keeping in touch and keeping the interest going."

print a very attractive brochure with our new School Watch logo plus a School Watch sign. This brochure carries very important messages advising youth about social networking

and online safety. Page two covers the LOOK – LISTEN – REPORT information about the School Watch Program plus how to contact police telephone numbers and Crime Stoppers.



Tweed Head's New Police Station Public Open Day

Tweed Heads opened their new Police Station earlier this year. Superintendent Wayne Starling invited the public and Neighbourhood to inspect the modernised and professional new building.



In front, Superintendent Wayne Starling LHS with Geoff Provost, State Member of Parliament for Tweed Heads, with at back, RHS Police Horses and Riders.



Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Doreen Levenson, Piereina Rebetzke and John Evans with Geoff Provost, State Member of Parliament for Tweed Heads.

Additionally, our NHW Volunteers phone all participating Schools every few weeks to keep the contact and check all is well. The combined NHW Secretary also sends out safety hints for the schools to include in their Newsletters.

The important factor of the School Watch Program is keeping in touch and keeping the interest going.

Follow ups are vital to ensure the project sustains it lifetime and its effects/outcomes prolong.

Should any group be interested in starting a School Watch Program, please contact Gordon Levenson, Tweed Valley NHW on 0404029230.

Many came to witness the open day to see what a modern Police Station looked like as well as inspect the various types of new Police vehicles.

Neighbourhood Watch was invited not only to witness the opening, but also to set up stall and promote Neighbourhood Watch and community safety.

By 12 pm merchandise and pamphlets were running low

and by 2 pm most items were depleted. The public enjoyed receiving the NHW information and the children loved the balloons. Not to mention, the sausage sizzle was a winner (as it always is).

Tweed Police and staff carried out a terrific event and Neighbourhood Watch was beyond pleased to be a part of it.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND



Getting out and about to meet with members in Auckland and Central Districts.

New CEO for Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



New Neighbourhood Support NZ CEO, Tess Casey.

Neighbourhood Support NZ's new CEO, Tess Casey, is enjoying the opportunity to get out and about and visit organisations doing great work in their communities.



"I've always been a big believer in the power of community-led initiatives, so it's been great to see that our Neighbourhood Support members are organised in ways that best suit their area and community."

Tess took up the Chief Executive role in November. She has a background working in the community sector and for the past eight years has been the CEO of the disability sector umbrella group, Inclusive NZ. This involved supporting members to develop their organisations, representing sector issues to government and funders and providing information, networking and learning opportunities.

"There are a number of parallels between the two organisations – particularly in terms of a commitment to support members and a focus on building safe, connected and inclusive communities," she says.

Since starting Tess has taken every opportunity to visit members around New Zealand. She has been

"She has been impressed by the work being done by committed staff and volunteers, and to see the variety of community initiatives undertaken by Neighbourhood Support groups."

impressed by the work being done by committed staff and volunteers, and to see the variety of community initiatives undertaken by Neighbourhood Support groups.

"I've always been a big believer in the power of community-led initiatives, so it's been great to see that our Neighbourhood Support members are organised in ways that best suit their area and community."

As well as getting to know NSNZ members and focusing on building a solid platform of membership supports, she is looking forward to exploring ways that NSNZ can work collaboratively with other agencies and organisations.

Tess is based at Neighbourhood Support NZ's National Office in Wellington, and can be contacted at tess@neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT NZ MEMBERS OUT IN ALL WEATHER



Some of the damage caused by ex-Cyclone Gita in the Golden Bay area.

It's been a summer of extremes in New Zealand. On one hand most of the country has experienced a long summer of warm weather and lots of sunshine, and on the other hand we have also had extreme weather events and drought.

Two tropical cyclones have recently crossed the country, bringing flooding, landslips and high winds to some areas. Knowing how to cope in an emergency is something that we have become very aware of since the Canterbury earthquakes and with extreme weather now being viewed as one of the biggest global risks in the coming year, emergency preparedness is a priority for communities.

Neighbourhood Support NZ groups throughout the country have played an important role in raising awareness about how to prepare for an emergency and over the summer they have also been active in helping communities recover from extreme weather events.

In late February ex-Cyclone Gita swept through central New Zealand, particularly affecting the Golden Bay area at the top of the South Island, which was still recovering from the impact of a major storm just weeks earlier. The area is home to

the Abel Tasman National Park and popular with tourists, but it is also largely rural. Landslips, mudslides and flooding have closed roads and effectively cut off and isolated some communities, and there has been extensive property damage.

The local Neighbourhood Support groups have kicked into action to support people affected by the storms. They have been checking on neighbours and assisting with clean ups. They are often the first point of contact in an emergency, and can provide assistance before other agencies are able to respond.

"Our members are telling us that the clean-up task is huge," says Neighbourhood Support NZ Community Advisor, Kelsey Scarr. "Many properties are a sea of mud and some homes are no longer habitable."

Rural and coastal communities are feeling particularly isolated.

"In these situations people are anxious to have up-to-date and accurate information about what is going on," says Kelsey. "They need to know how they can access assistance, what is happening to restore utilities such as power and water and which roads are open."

The local Neighbourhood Support groups have been playing a critical role in getting this information out to households. Not everyone has been able to attend public meetings to talk with Civil Defence and local council officials, so the passing on of information has been vitally important.

A particular challenge in the Golden Bay area has been lack of cellphone coverage. The telecommunications companies install temporary cellphone towers during the busy tourist season in January but permanent residents have no coverage in some places during the rest of the year. A temporary tower has been reinstated to help during the emergency, but Neighbourhood Support members are keen to see a permanent solution to the problem.

"It would be reassuring to isolated communities to know that they are able to connect with one another and access emergency services at any time of the year," says local Neighbourhood Support contact, Hilary Carson-Campbell.

The recent events have highlighted the importance of a co-ordinated response to civil emergencies, with good communication channels being critical.

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NHWNT Volunteers Geoffrey Boyton and Michael North pictured with Senior Auxiliary Sue Seears, Senior Constable Sharon Cameron, Senior Constable Daniel Bull and of course Santa.

Don't let thieves steal your Christmas Campaign

Christmas time traditionally results in many NT Residents travelling away from home. This year NHWNT ran an awareness campaign to remind the community about simple measures to take to protect their property when away from home.

The campaign featured two videos that aired on local TV Stations in the run up to the holidays. The first video featured tips on how to keep your property safe. Whilst the second focused on the dangers of oversharing information on social media.

NHWNT also created Christmas postcards that provided "holiday hot tips" for residents staying at home or going away. NHWNT members delivered postcards to resident's mailboxes in their own neighbourhoods. The postcards were also available at local councils and MLA offices throughout the NT.

Throughout the festive season, NHWNT also assisted NT Police with Operation Roble, a community engagement initiative of NT Police. Over the 6 week operation NHWNT volunteers and employees participated in 10 community displays at shopping centres and other key locations.

2017 NT Volunteer of the year awards

The 2017 NT Volunteer of the Year Awards recognised the countless hours, months and even years of selfless acts of goodwill from volunteers across the NT. At this ceremony two NHWNT volunteers were acknowledged.

Marion Hancock was nominated in the NT Wide category for Lifetime contribution to volunteering for her inspirational 15 years of dedication to our NHWNT. Janine Fong Lim also received a certificate of appreciation for her significant volunteer contribution.

NHWNT are extremely proud and grateful for the commitment of our volunteer team, who help us create safer communities in the NT.



NHWNT Volunteers Janine Fong Lim and Marion Hancock pictured with NHWNT President Jenny Malone at the NT Volunteer of the Year Awards 2017.

Youth Community Safety Art Project

NHWNT have been successful in obtaining a grant through the NT Department of Health to deliver a community safety themed art mural in Palmerston. Youth involved with alcohol and other drugs will be working in partnership with local artist David Collins and other stakeholders to develop a community safety mural.

The identified youths will be involved in the project management and implementation

of this community project. Participants will also benefit from receiving educational workshops to demonstrate the impact their choices have on the community and themselves.

Hannah Finbow, NHWNT Manager said "This project is designed to involve children in their community in a positive way. The idea is to have the young people involved in every stage of this project including community consultations, workshopping the theme of

community safety, selecting a site and designing and completing the artwork."

The project provides a great opportunity to promote key safety messages to the community via the public art mural. It also offers these young people education on community safety and provides a connection to their neighbourhood.

The project is scheduled for completion in June 2018.



Manunda NHW Area Coordinator Amanda Allan looks the part in her new shirt being interviewed by local news reporters.

Dressed to impress – Far North Queensland Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Groups in the Far North are certainly looking the part as they dress to impress in their new NHW shirts and aprons.

The fine new outfits were proudly funded by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) as part of the NHWA Community Funding Program.

Our Far Northern Volunteers are constantly hard at work running sausage sizzles and a range of other displays in the community which was leaving their previous NHW shirts looking a little worn out. The new aprons provide great protection for the new shirts!

"If you look closely you can see a beautiful green tree frog on the new NHW shirts. This particular tree frog was spotted by long-time NHW volunteer from the suburb of Woree, Mr Alvin Koo."



Alwin and Shaun from Woree NHW all decked out in the new shirts and apron at a NHW run community sausage sizzle.



NHWA CFP funded apron.



NHWA CFP funded back of t-shirt.

District NHW Coordinator Senior Constable Heidi Marek explains that a little piece of Far North Queensland appears on the new shirts.

"If you look closely you can see a beautiful green tree frog on the new NHW shirts. This particular tree frog was spotted by long-time

NHW volunteer from the suburb of Woree, Mr Alwin Koo,' said Senior Constable Marek.

"Alwin took a photo of our little friend who has since become the local mascot for NHW in the Far North.

"Tree frogs are a plenty every time it rains in Far North Queensland. Its

and indicator that our ecosystem is alive and well. The tree frog is an apt mascot because, like our green tree-frogs, we like to see plenty of NHW volunteers out and about wearing green in the community"

NHW Far North Queensland looks forward to continuing their work with NHWA.



Ken with the Mackay Regional Councillors when he received his certificate of appreciation.

Calm on the surface, working very hard under the surface

**Ken works on keeping us all safer.
Recognition well over due.**

Ken Rehbieen became involved in Northern Beaches NHW around 2008 when he and his family purchased a home at Eimeo.

Ken took on the position of Assistant Area Coordinator in 2010 and Area Coordinator in 2011.

He was Awarded District Winner and Nominee for Neighbourhood Watch Queensland Mackay District Member of the Year 2013.

Ken was appointed Mackay Police District Representative on the NHWQ Community Advisory Committee in 2015.

Working in conjunction with the Crime Prevention Unit and Northern Beaches Police, Ken has successfully established a Cuppa and Chat program in the Mackay Northern Beaches NHW Area.

"Ken has successfully established a Cuppa and Chat program in the Mackay Northern Beaches NHW Area."



Ken, Jenelle and Sgt Dalton with Ranger Stacey (NHWQ Goodwill Ambassador) at the NHWQ conference 2018.



Flash Mob hard at work in Mackay.



Ken leading from the front at the Flash Mob.



Ken with the Mackay Regional Councillors when he received his certificate of appreciation.

He has worked hard to engage the people of the Northern Beaches where his determination held strong even when very few attended the initial meetings.

When the Cuppa and chat program model was formed, the engagement and participation highly increased. Meetings were well attended, conversations were lively and many good community connections were made.

Ken was keen to expand the project, so we targeted one beach community at a time, which over several years has meant that 4 beach "Cuppa and a Chat" meetings happen every month in the Northern Beaches area. A fifth meeting

happens on the fifth Wednesday of the month at the Police Station so working families can participate. These meetings can be relaxed or quite formal with presentations organised, for example Scams it road policing etc.! A BBQ is also an option!

NHW Mackay "Lock Your" project was led enthusiastically by Ken when we gathered for a flash mob on a main road into Mackay. This project reminded drivers to lock their home and cars at all times to prevent theft.

Ken gave a 40 minute presentation at NHWQ Annual Conference in 2016 on the transition from a formal NHW group to a more informal structure which created a lot of interest in

Queensland and with Guest speaker Chief Robert A Davis of Lethbridge from Alberta, Canada.

Ken has always been busy assisting the organisation of events for example, the regular Men's breakfast in partnership with Shed Happens and cooking on the NHW BBQ at a local open water swimming event.

Sergeant Nigel Dalton, DCPC Mackay QPS, states "I see Ken as a duck, yes that's right! He looks calm on the surface of the water but his legs are always full speed ahead for the community. It is therefore very fitting that in 2017 NHWA has awarded him a certificate recognising his service to NHWQ."



NHWQ Mascot Seymour the Owl, Inspector Les Bulluss, Manager, Crime Prevention Programs Unit, QPS, NHWQ Ambassador, Ranger Stacey, Dogs on Patrol Mascot, PD Sarge At the 2017 NHW State Conference at Beenleigh Events Centre.

Neighbourhood Watch Queensland 30 Year Anniversary 2018

Neighbourhood Watch Queensland (NHWQ) has come a long way in its distinguished and prestigious 30-year history; from its inception and humble beginnings as a pilot program in the Gold Coast District in 1988, to its rapid advancement across Queensland (current membership stands at over 500 active groups) and its resilience in seamlessly adapting to the technology of the modern era.

"There have been many changes over the years although the core values remain the same, in that the community, including police, work together to reduce crime and make the community safer."

There have been many changes over the years although the core values remain the same, in that the community, including police, work

together to reduce crime and make the community safer.

Traditionally, the typical model of NHWQ was a cluster of 500

or so homes that were managed by the local NHWQ Committee featuring the Area Coordinator, Zone Coordinator and Block Coordinator, who would manage a few streets in their designated area. Regular meetings were conducted with local police to discuss crime statistics and trends and in partnership, develop crime prevention strategies to address local issues and residents' concerns. This model has transitioned into a more complex, multifaceted and robust mechanism, whereby technology has been embraced to spread the NHWQ message to the greater community who may not be able to attend meetings, but still want to be informed and involved in their local neighbourhood.

NHWQ believe that for ongoing success, the traditional model could be enhanced through the use of technology and social media to capture a greater proportion of the community and include a younger demographic. December 2012 marked the implementation of the NHWQ blog and since then there has been almost 12,000 registrations and over 1,000,000 page views! The blog has enabled people to reach and participate in the program where a local group had not previously been established. This encourages existing and new groups to embrace social media and permits each group to administrate their own blog. This model has allowed for crime prevention advice, strategies and general information to be disseminated in a much more timely and effective manner. In 2016, Facebook was incorporated as an additional online medium to enable the capture of further community members and our ability to adapt as an organisation is evident in the popularity of these platforms.

Another important facet of the renewal project was the development and inception of the NHWQ Community Advisory Committee (CAC) which was designed to act as an advisory

"NHWQ believe that for ongoing success, the traditional model could be enhanced through the use of technology and social media to capture a greater proportion of the community and include a younger demographic."

body to the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on issues pertaining to NHWQ and contribute to the strategic direction, promotion and participation of community members in the program. The CAC currently has around 15 members state-wide and they continue to work with the QPS to achieve positive outcomes for the NHWQ community. This group meets regularly with the NHWQ State Coordinator to discuss and determine the strategic direction and future planning of the program. More recently, 2017 saw the introduction of the much-loved mascot Seymour the All-Seeing Owl and popular TV presenter Ranger Stacey Thomson nominated as the NHWQ Goodwill Ambassador. It was lucky to have both appearing at the State Conference in October 2017, conducted in the Logan District.

2018 marks the 30 year anniversary of NHWQ and plans are underway to make this year's State Conference - to be held on the Gold Coast - the biggest and most spectacular yet! Over the years, the conferences have become a highlight of the NHWQ calendar as they are an excellent networking opportunity for all stakeholders and provide the opportunity to forge improved relationships between the QPS and the NHWQ community. The conferences have been conducted in venues all over Queensland and have featured a variety of themes from cultural diversity, community safety to adapting to social media. These events have hosted a number of local, interstate/international speakers, which have not only included QPS officers, but also

members from other jurisdictions such as South Australia, New South Wales and even Canada. The conferences are also an excellent opportunity to acknowledge the tireless, hard work and dedication of our membership via awards ceremonies for both police officers and NHWQ volunteers. As NHWQ was initiated on the Gold Coast it seems only fitting that this year's conference should return to its originating birthplace and whilst the overarching theme is yet to be finalised, it is envisaged the event will focus upon the celebration of the 30-year anniversary and the numerous positive achievements of NHWQ.

Current NHWQ State Coordinator, Acting Senior Sergeant Dave Sheedy, advises that "NHWQ continues to explore opportunities to embrace technological advancements and to work with all members of our diverse communities to promote the improvement of the safety of families and all people who form the makeup of our neighbourhoods."

NHWQ has grown exponentially over the last 30 years, and as they continue to build upon existing relationships and continue to grow in both the physical world and virtual platforms, it is safe to say that the future looks extremely optimistic and encouraging for NHWQ, the QPS and the wider community of Queensland.

We hope to see you at the State Conference in October 2018 on the Gold Coast!

Merrimac M5 Neighbourhood Watch Christmas Concert

Over the past twelve years, Merrimac Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has staged their annual Christmas Carols Concert for the Merrimac community. The event is funded by local Councillor Bob La Castra; entertainment organised by local artists Susie and Joe Jay; and event management, organisation and support by local members.

The need to revitalise the group led Merrimac NHW to gather residents' names and details at the concert, to send invitations to community members to attend meetings and be informed of the neighbourhood events and activities.

Robert Ormsby from Reedy Creek NHW and Annette Moon, Secretary of Mudgeeraba 4 Division did an

amazing job on the concert night, gathering the information in one night, and then contacting the residents by email and letters.

The group also said farewell to Senior Sergeant Mark Anderson from Mudgeeraba who sadly retired. He was magnificent with tireless support for the group. On the night, the group also thanked past Area Coordinator Gordon Malcolm and his wife Barbara, who for the past twelve years have been heavily involved in growing Merrimac NHW. They were thanked for giving their time so selflessly to the Merrimac community as chief organisers of the Christmas Concert.



Susie and Joe Jay organised the entertainers where children were spellbound by the magician.



Robert Ormsby from Reedy Creek NHW with Annette Moon, Secretary of Mudgeeraba 4 NHW, helping out on the table in the club foyer.

Free anti-theft one-way screws fun day

In September 2017, Coomera Police, Willow Vale Neighbourhood Watch (Coomera 10) and Queensland Police Service (QPS) Volunteers in Policing held a very successful "Anti-Theft One Way Screws Fun Day" event.

On the day, more than 100 drivers took advantage of the scheme to upgrade to the one-way number plate screws, thus contributing to the prevention of the use of stolen number plate criminal activities.

In June 2018, it is envisaged that this event will be even bigger and better, as the Gold Coast District have been lucky enough to secure the services of the famous QPS Pipes and Drums to conduct a performance, which will no doubt, draw an even bigger crowd. We look forward to seeing you there!



Thank you Gold Coast DCPC.

Crestmead Neighbourhood Watch wins Logan Safe City Award

Crestmead Neighbourhood Watch was selected as winners in the volunteer category of the City of Logan Safe City Awards.

"The Crestmead Neighbourhood group has been involved in activities such as Operation Bounce Back and Neighbourhood Day."

The Crestmead Neighbourhood Watch group has been a fixture of the community for the past 10 years where over time, they have provided extensive support to the safety of the community, covering the suburb of Crestmead with over 4,500 residences and business.

The Crestmead Neighbourhood group has been involved in activities such as Operation Bounce Back and Neighbourhood Day, which attracted their biggest attendance of the annual event in 2017.

Senior Sergeant Warren Parker, Officer in Charge, Crestmead Police said he was extremely proud of the work that Crestmead Neighbourhood Watch do.

"They are an integral part of the crime reduction strategy of the police at Crestmead," Senior Sergeant Parker said.

From Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, a big thanks and congratulations to Crestmead Neighbourhood Watch!



Santa is always popular amongst children.



Children in mini fire truck at local event.



Santa.



Awards/ Certificates for Crestmead in 2017.

Far Northern District NHW groups take a well-earned break over Christmas holidays



Edmonton NHW thank their volunteers and community at their December Christmas party.



Palm Cove NHW group enjoy Christmas celebrations at their last meeting for 2017.

"Close to 20,000 community members now follow our Far Northern NHW groups Facebook page."

Our Far Northern District NHW volunteers worked extremely hard over 2017.

The year included successful launches of Manunda NHW and Coral Sea Gardens Village NHW Watch. The Far Northern District now boasts 29 NHW groups extending from Edmonton to the far northern most point of Queensland.

Close to 20,000 community members now follow our Far Northern NHW groups Facebook page. The successful establishment and maintenance of our NHW Facebook pages are a result of never-ending, hardworking Woree NHW Area Coordinator Mr Alwin Koo.

Alwin's outstanding commitment to NHW was recognised in 2017 when he was awarded NHW volunteer of the year for Queensland at the State Conference in Logan which was held in October. Alwin provides tremendous support to the NHW District Coordinator and his commitment to developing and improving NHW in the Far Northern District is unflinching.

Also, a special thanks to Mr Mark Ellwood from Palm Cove NHW



Brinsmead NHW get into the Christmas spirit by dressing up their shop display stand.

for representing the Far Northern District as a member of the NHWQ, Community Advisory Committee.

Shopping centre displays, community BBQ's, public meetings, letter box drops, market stall, movie nights. You name it. Our Far Northern NHW groups were there in 2017.

Our groups took a well-earned rest over December and

January however they are ready to rock it again in 2018. This year is already on the move with a new electronic NHW group (E-Watch) establishing in the idyllic town of Port Douglas, 65kms north of Cairns.

We look forward to seeing what 2018 holds for NHW in Far Northern Queensland especially with Queensland's 30 year anniversary of NHW.

Santa Goes West



Pictured, George Goudie (driver), passengers Rita Batzloff, Alma Haaijer, Verity Vohland (inside the vehicle). In the tray - Area Co-Ordinator Glenda Underwood, Olive Goudie and Lane Ram.



After the parade, a Santa Fair was held with activities for children, including a visit from Santa and freebies from the NHW group.

On 9 December 2017, the town of Oakey was involved in a grand parade with over sixty entries. These entries included local businesses, community groups and the local Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group.

The event was held to reclaim the town after ongoing adverse

media publicity in relation to the expansion of Stage 3 New Hope Mine and the contaminated water saga caused by operations at the nearby Army Aviation Centre.

After the parade, a Santa Fair was held with activities for children,

including a visit from Santa and freebies from the NHW group. The event featured entertainment and music for adults; fireworks were included and the day's activities culminated to an outdoor movie. It was a definite great day out for all involved.

First meeting for 2018: NHW 4 Mudgeeraba

NHW 4 Mudgeeraba had their first meeting for 2018 in January with an 'information day' theme. This meeting was well received with the largest group of residents in attendance since 2015.

The group set up a NHW marquee and displayed leaflets from the Council and Queensland Police providing security information, listing the various services and organisations.

All different types of literature were available. From Heritage walks to transport brochures, along with services to help assist

elderly residents within the area. NHW letterbox plaques to Security Door Shields were also distributed.

Senior Sergeant Holly James from the Gold Coast District Crime Prevention Unit attended with her toolbox in hand. In that tool box was anti-theft one-way screws which they secured to those who yet did not have them.

They intend to do this again at the next meeting. All residents in the area are welcomed to come along and have the one-way screws fitted to their vehicles. Simply contact NHW 4 Mudgeeraba to find out when their next meeting is.



Senior Sergeant Holly James from the Gold Coast District Crime Prevention Unit ready for action.

Van Watch, Hospital Watch and Beach Watch

Van watch - Reducing criminal activity at Caravan Parks



WIN news reporter interviewing Senior Sergeant Matt Robertson at the launch of Van Watch.



Van Watch launch day in December 2017 at Maroochydhore, QLD.

Launched 18th December 2017 at Cotton Tree Caravan Park.

The aim of the program 'Van Watch' is to harness the resources of caravan park management, Neighbourhood Watch, police and the local community in a partnership aimed at reducing opportunity type crime.

Interchangeable crime prevention signage have been distributed to all caravan parks in the Maroochydhore Police Division with a message from their local police, encouraging visitors to the parks to report suspicious activity to Policelink on 131 444 and secure all property around campsites to prevent thefts.

Thieves often take advantage of people enjoying the camping lifestyle and target their valuables while they are away from their campsite or when left unsecured overnight.

Most opportunistic crime is preventable and can be deterred by

following simple crime prevention strategies such as keeping your valuables out of sight and in a safe area, securing vehicles and bicycles and keeping a look out for suspicious behaviour.

This signage aims to prompt caravan park visitors to lock up and report suspicious activity.

Van Watch is part of the Community Funding Programme supported by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

Reducing Number Plate Thefts

A refreshing way to remind drivers to secure their number plates

Neighbourhood Watch are helping Maroochydhore police turn the screws on licence plate thefts within the Sunshine Coast District by reminding vehicle owners to secure their plates in a new promotional campaign.

Funded by Australasia Neighbourhood Watch air fresheners have been distributed to drivers with

the message 'secure your plates and reduce number plate thefts'.

Number plate theft is of great concern to the community as stolen number plates can be used by offenders in an attempt to make their identification more difficult.

These one way screws can't be removed with conventional tools, with the removal tools only being available at local police stations.

Last year there was 429 licence plate thefts in the Sunshine Coast District; 115 of those were stolen in the Maroochydhore Police division.

Local police urge all vehicle owners to fit one way screws to their number plates to prevent theft.

Air fresheners were distributed free through the Maroochydhore NHW groups, car dealerships and petrol stations. One way screws are available to purchase from leading auto retailers.

Beach Watch – Reducing Opportunistic type crime on beaches



Beach Watch Pamphlet Distribution.



Beach watch Sign in Sunshine Coast Region, QLD.

In 2015, a crime reduction program was launched at Mooloolaba Beach called *Beach Watch 01*. This program is part of the Neighbourhood Watch program and was funded by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) to raise property and personal safety awareness of people who utilise the Mooloolaba foreshore for beach and recreational activities.

'Beach Watch' signs were erected along the beach and carparks, encouraging beachgoers to report suspicious activity to Policelink on 131 444.

Thieves often took advantage of people enjoying themselves in beach

and camping activities and target their valuables while they are having a swim or when they have moved away from their area.

Most opportunistic crime is preventable and can be deterred by following simple crime prevention strategies such as keeping your valuables in a safe area and keeping a look out for suspicious behavior.

This program has seen results with a 41 per cent decrease in reported

property crime around Mooloolaba Beach and associated carparks where the program is operating compared to the same time frame the previous year.

Beach Watch 2 was launched last year and included the Cotton Tree parklands, Maroochydore Beach and the caravan park. The program aims to encourage the community to report crime and suspicious activity, so that there is more detection, apprehension and prosecution.

Sunshine Coast's Beach Watch program received a bronze award in the police-led category of the 2016 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards (ACVPA).

Hospital Watch – Reducing criminal behaviour within a Hospital

A unique partnership in crime prevention has started at the Nambour General Hospital from October 2017. A first of its kind, the Hospital Watch has brought together Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service staff, Nambour Police, Neighbourhood Watch and the local community together with the aim to discourage any incidence of crime in and around the hospital.

Criminal offences often occurred in the surrounding areas of hospitals, including violence, property, theft and anti-social behaviour," Superintendent Johnson said.

A significant amount of this criminal behaviour is preventable and can be deterred by the adoption and fostering of proactive partnerships with the community and by following simple crime prevention

strategies such as placing valuables in a safe area and keeping a look out for suspicious behaviour.

To help support the program, signage has been installed around the hospital and in its carpark to encourage the reporting of any suspicious activity around Nambour General Hospital to Policelink on 131 444 or directly to the hospital on 07 5470 5146.

Boondall 18 NHW celebrates the festive season with 130 locals and Santa is delivered in a Police car!



Manning the BBQ: L-R Col Crosthwaite and Eric Gall NHW Boondall Members. Councillor Jared Cassidy in the background.



Raffle prizes with Narelle Hoelzl - NHW group.



Part of the crowd attendance at NHW group 18 Boondall Christmas party 26 November 2017.

Santa was delivered in a Police car!

No, the big man in red was not in trouble, in fact he was brought along to help celebrate the Annual Christmas Function in the Donna Philp Reserve Park late November 2017.

Boondall 18 from the North Brisbane District of NHWQ holds an annual Christmas function in the local park for the community residents. We had a record of 130 residents of College Green Estate and their friends in attendance from 11.00am that morning.

With brilliant sunshine, the weather was definitely in our favour on the day.

The crowds flocked to the Donna Philp Reserve besides the great

and ever popular Santa himself. The local Taigum Fire and Rescue crew (along with their Fire Truck), Officers from Boondall Police Service and local Brisbane City Councillor, Jared Cassidy came along to celebrate the event.

Brisbane City Council's Waste and Recovery Services crew had a popup information booth providing advice on litter clean-ups in the area. They made it interactive and fun of course providing games and giveaways which were popular amongst children.

The kids had a blast playing sports games and receiving prizes run by members of Boondall 18 group and friends.

And of course Santa brought his supply of small presents that he gifted the children.

The free sausage sizzle, cold drinks and watermelon went overly well with the families and kept everyone hydrated in the summer season.

The NHWA Community Funding Grant helped ensure that our successes of the year were achieved. It was a great way to celebrate. The event allowed residents of College Green Estate to gather for Christmas, get to know their neighbours and foster the positive community spirit in the area. Neighbour Day on 25 March 2018 was celebrated by NHW Boondall 18 with a similar event.

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PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE YOUTH IN OUR
LOCAL COMMUNITY THROUGH THE NHW



Attendees at the Crime Stoppers workshop, with the founder Greg MacAleese.

International Crime Stoppers Founder Visits Tasmania

Crime Stoppers founder and ex-Albuquerque, New Mexico Detective, Greg MacAleese visited Tasmania in December 2017. Attendees included Crime Stoppers CEO's, Co-ordinators and representatives from Tasmania and interstate, local Community Policing personnel, and representatives from Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania.

It has now been 40 years since the inception of Crime Stoppers now with over 1,700 world-wide programs. Crime Stoppers Tasmania CEO, Ron Franks, said "Without the tremendous foresight and commitment that Greg has shown

"The hard work and dedication of our volunteers is what makes the program so successful and we can only be further inspired given the opportunity to meet with the founder."

over the years, Crime Stoppers would be nothing like it is today."

2017 has been a big year for Crime Stoppers Tasmania with a range of community projects and campaigns being rolled out. "The hard work and dedication of our volunteers is what makes the program so successful

and we can only be further inspired given the opportunity to meet with the founder", said Mr Franks.

It is essential that we all work together in order to keep our communities safe. Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crime Stoppers are motivated to achieve this.

Huonville Project Booyah participants graduate with new skills

Recent Project Booyah graduations saw another 28 at-risk youth from Tasmania complete the 20-week course with a raft of new skills.

The youth were nominated by local high schools and had successfully graduated from the program in front of friends, family, community members, and representatives from Tasmania Police, Save The Children, TasTAFE and PCYC.

The group gained qualifications including:

- White Card
- First Aid Certificate
- Statement of Obtainment, Operate & Maintain Chainsaw
- Certificate I in Vocational Pathways.

The cohort also:

- assisted Landcare with construction of a pathway at Castle Forbes Bay
- assisted with the construction of a memorial garden at the Veterans Memorial Centre
- walked and camped at the Freycinet National Park
- undertook a construction activity at Bunnings
- visited a number of businesses/ organisations.

Project Booyah is funded under a grant from the Australian Government and is an opportunity for young people to re-engage with education and/or create pathways into employment.



Commander Tony Cerritelli with participants of Project Booyah.

The program provides intensive support to young people with the aims of developing life and employability skills, improving physical, social and emotional health and identifying vocational/ employment goals.

Malcolm Grant Memorial

It was a pleasure to see the tireless work within Neighbourhood Watch of the late Malcolm Grant OAM, recognised with the installation of a memorial seat on the Knocklofty Reserve in West Hobart. Malcolm gave more than 25 years of dedicated service to Neighbourhood Watch and we are pleased to provide this lasting memorial. Members of Malcolm's family, local Watch members and friends attended the official dedication ceremony recently.

The design of the seat was a consideration for its

placement within the walking trails of Knocklofty Reserve. Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania President, Jan Dunsby, said "...the natural timbers of the local pine incorporated into the seat complement the area and I am sure Malcolm would approve".

Malcolm's widow, Linley, expressed her appreciation "...the wording for the plaque is so satisfying to us, Malcolm's family - and I am sure Malcolm would have felt truly honoured.

A loving thank you from me in particular. Linley."



Malcolm Grant Memorial Seat.



Inscription.

Proudly supporting Neighbourhood Watch



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Let's work together to help
prevent crime and keep
our communities safe.



2018 CRIME PREVENTION
AND COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE

7-8 June 2018

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

crimeprevention2018.com.au

2018 Crime Prevention and Communities Conference

The Australian Institute of Criminology and the Victorian Department of Justice are hosting the 2018 Crime Prevention and Communities conference at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre on 7-8 June 2018. The Crime Prevention and Communities conference is the biggest crime prevention conference in Australia targeted at practitioners. This is the fourth time the Australian Institute of Criminology has hosted the event. The theme for 2018 is 'Translating evidence into practice'. This important conference will inform local government, police, urban planners,

"This important conference will inform local government, police, urban planners, policy makers, non-government community organisations, researchers and students about best practice, policy, evaluation and research."

policy makers, non-government community organisations, researchers and students about best practice, policy, evaluation and research. The conference will feature speakers from a diverse range of

backgrounds speaking about the latest developments in effective crime prevention.

**Australian Institute of Criminology
and the Victorian Department
of Justice**



Bradley Ross, NHW Latrobe City volunteer, received a Certificate of Appreciation from Morwell Lions Club for his ongoing commitment and passion towards the Morwell Community.



Peter Gray receiving the Latrobe City Australia Day 2018 Award on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch Latrobe City for Community Service.



Neighbourhood Watch Latrobe City members and Russell Northe MP with their Latrobe City Australia Day 2018 Award for Community Service.

SECRETS TO OUR SUCCESS

There are times when it can feel like Neighbourhood Watch is all about one way screws. For almost 35 years, groups across the country have been running Safe Plate days. And though there are other programs that we run often, these can be inward looking – all about Crime Prevention.

Of recent weeks I heard of a Group in Victoria (Cardinia) who gets creative about ways they can engage with the Community. At a recent festival Neighbourhood Watch Cardinia ran the Lost Children's Tent. In this way they provided a great service and reached lots of young families.

One of our groups – Neighbourhood Watch Latrobe City – recently provided us the article below and it really demonstrates how the Group has become a vital part of

"We look forward to working with all members of our community to help bring awareness and help strengthen a positive relationship between police and our community."

their local community, not just a crime prevention agency.

The article writes:

"SECRET TO OUR SUCCESS"

Working as a team should not be

limited to only your NHW group. Sometimes you can achieve stronger results by working with and including other community groups and organisation from your local community.



Launch of the Latrobe Koori Family Violence Police Protocols (KFVPP) at Morwell Police Station.



Banner promoting the launch of Latrobe Koori Family Violence Police Protocols featuring an artwork by local Indigenous Artist Ronald Edwards.

Every year our local Bunnings run a BBQ fundraiser for the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and State Emergency Service (SES). This year our volunteers assisted with setting up and manning of the BBQ. Although all funds go to CFA and SES, it gave us the opportunity to meet residents who have recently moved to Latrobe City and to promote local NHW projects and values.

On January 26th, Morwell Lions Club supported by Latrobe City Council, sponsored an Australia Day breakfast event. On the day our volunteers assisted with setting up the dining area and traffic management. New to this year's breakfast program was Morwell's Most Valuable Citizen award recipient Bradley Ross (NHW volunteer). He received a certificate, not only for his NHW work but also, his broader voluntary service to the Community.

Later that afternoon, NHW Latrobe City received an Australia Day Award for Community Service.

The first meeting of the Latrobe Community Safety Committee was held on Monday, 29th January with two of our members in attendance.

We were honoured to attend the official launch of the Koori Family Violence Police Protocols (KFVPP) at the Morwell Police Station on Wednesday January 31. We look



Local community members, NHW LC, VIC Police, Indigenous elders and leaders and media at the official launch of KFVPP.

"By not limiting our activities to Operation Safe Plate & Property Marking, we have been able to validate NHW Latrobe City as a valuable Community group."

forward to working with all members of our community to help bring awareness and help strengthen a positive relationship between police and our community. Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer Laurie Marks opened the event. Ronald Edwards, local Aboriginal artist, created the artwork shown on the banner and also performed a smoking ceremony.

By not limiting our activities to Operation Safe Plate & Property

Marking, we have been able to validate NHW Latrobe City as a valuable Community group.

Follow us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/scgnhwlatrobeCity/> if would like to know more detail, about any of our programs or ideas, don't waste time in reinventing the wheel. Drop us a line at nhwlc@speedweb.com.au. We're more than happy to share our experiences and knowledge."

Community commitment to Neighbourhood Watch

In March 2005 Ron and Doreen Jones moved into their new house they built in Port Bouvard near Mandurah. With 98 lots in the street all having direct canal access, it was soon realised this location was their small piece of paradise. By late 2005, thirty 2 story houses were completed and included a small number that were weekend residences. All of these homes soon had their own jetty with boats of all sizes up to 15mtrs at their doorstep.

Having previously lived in Coogee, where Neighbourhood Watch was spreading its wings, and through the then newly created Coogee Rate Payers Association, which Ron & Doreen worked with the residents to develop, it was enlightening to have a member of the WA Police Force address a meeting of residents on the benefits of participating in this Community activity.

An incident occurred in Port Bouvard East Port in late 2007 when equipment was stolen from one of the boats and that encouraged the residents to talk and consider what action they might take to protect their houses, boats and other assets. The very first matter raised was the need for all residents to work in the community interest and keep their eyes wide open, reporting any suspicious activity. With that commitment Ron Jones offered to produce a resident's booklet containing the names, address, phone numbers and email address. Notices were prepared and delivered to all 30 residents and it was



Residents of Sandpiper Island Retreat.

pleasing to see that 28 responded quickly. The first resident's booklet was produced and copies were delivered to all residents.

In the summer of 2008 another incident occurred where one resident reported a suspicious incident and with the benefit of the resident's booklet the details were quickly conveyed by email to all residents, suggesting everyone should be aware and report details of anything suspicious to the Mandurah Police. In 2011 another incident was reported and those details were circulated to all including the Mandurah Police who put us in contact with the Neighbourhood Watch office and we were pleased to receive a number of stickers to attach to the rubbish bins. At about the same time the City of Mandurah made available stickers to attach to the bins encouraging drivers to slow down and protect our kids. Both of these stickers are effective and the Police and City of Mandurah are thanked for their initiative.

Contact booklets were again produced in 2011 then 2014 with the latter printing including photographs of each resident's boat alongside their jetty. As the years progressed the number of houses in Sandpiper Island Retreat slowly increased to 58 and in 2017 it was decided to again update the Residents contact booklet including all boats as that was found to be useful detail.

All residents are appreciative of having the Contact Booklet and respond promptly whenever a change is required. The booklet has contributed to the residents increasing their interest in the street, feelings of safety, communication and strengthened the sense of community. Since the inception of the booklet residents have held a Christmas gathering in the local park and a number of residents have convened Christmas gatherings at their home which have always been thoroughly enjoyable and further strengthened to community connection link.

Neighbourhood Watch support earns Shire prestigious Gold Award

The Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale has been recognised for fostering a safe and inclusive community with a prestigious Gold Participation Award (Local Government) from Neighbourhood Watch WA.

The award acknowledges the Shire's support of the Serpentine Jarrahdale Neighbourhood Watch – a volunteer group whose members take an active role in crime prevention and community safety.

Run in conjunction with the Mundijong Police Station, the program provides residents with up-to-date crime prevention and safety advice while facilitating open lines of communication with local police. It receives administrative support from the Shire, who also coordinates various community crime prevention events.

Neighbourhood Watch members meet monthly with Shire staff and police, and are active at many local events. Last year, members hosted seven community barbecues, and were a visible presence at the Mundijong Police Open Day and various community fairs.

Shire President Councillor (Cr) Michelle Rich joined Ct Jacqui See and Mundijong Police Station's Officer In Charge Darryl Brandis to accept the award from Neighbourhood Watch Australasia President Bernie Durkin and State Coordinator Jenny O'Brien last week.

Cr Rich said the Gold Participation Award – the highest such accolade bestowed to local Government – recognised the Shire's longstanding support of Serpentine Jarrahdale Neighbourhood Watch.



L:R Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale President - Cr Michelle Rich, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Development Officer - Janice Ferguson, Bernie Durkin - Executive Manager Crime Prevention and Community Liaison, OIC Mundijong Police Station Senior Sergeant Daryl Brandis, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Councillor - Cr Jacqui See, Sergeant Andy Allison - WA Police.

"The program really embodies the sense of community spirit we enjoy within the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale and is a visible sign that our residents care about their neighbours and neighbourhoods," Cr Rich said.

"Serpentine Jarrahdale Neighbourhood Watch is a collaborative approach to community safety involving residents, the Shire and local police. While crime prevention is obviously a focus, the program is about so much more. It offers a way for people to make a meaningful contribution to their community while also establishing friendships and building community spirit.

"It gives me great pleasure to accept this award and reaffirm our commitment to supporting Serpentine Jarrahdale Neighbourhood Watch into the future."

As part of Serpentine Jarrahdale Neighbourhood Watch, the Shire and Mundijong Police distribute a monthly e-watch newsletter containing crime and community safety updates to more than 1400 subscribers.

For more information about the Serpentine Jarrahdale Neighbourhood Watch, visit the Shire's website.



www.smarthandbooks.com.au



NHWA PARTNERS UP WITH STREETSMART HANDBOOKS!

NHWA is proud to endorse the Streetsmart Handbook.

Since 2002, the Streetsmart Handbook has been delivered to teenagers in secondary schools with the aim of helping educate our youth in important, relevant topics as they transition into adulthood.

NHWA's partnership with the Streetsmart Handbooks will assist teenagers with issues such as cyber bullying, depression, social behaviour in the community, dangers of drugs/alcohol and much more. It will also engage our brand and goals in creating a safe, connected and inclusive community, where people feel empowered, informed and engaged with one another and with local police. The Streetsmart Handbook will not only benefit teenagers but will also give their families guidance towards various places, organisations and contacts whenever they need assistance.

This is an exciting venture for NHWA!

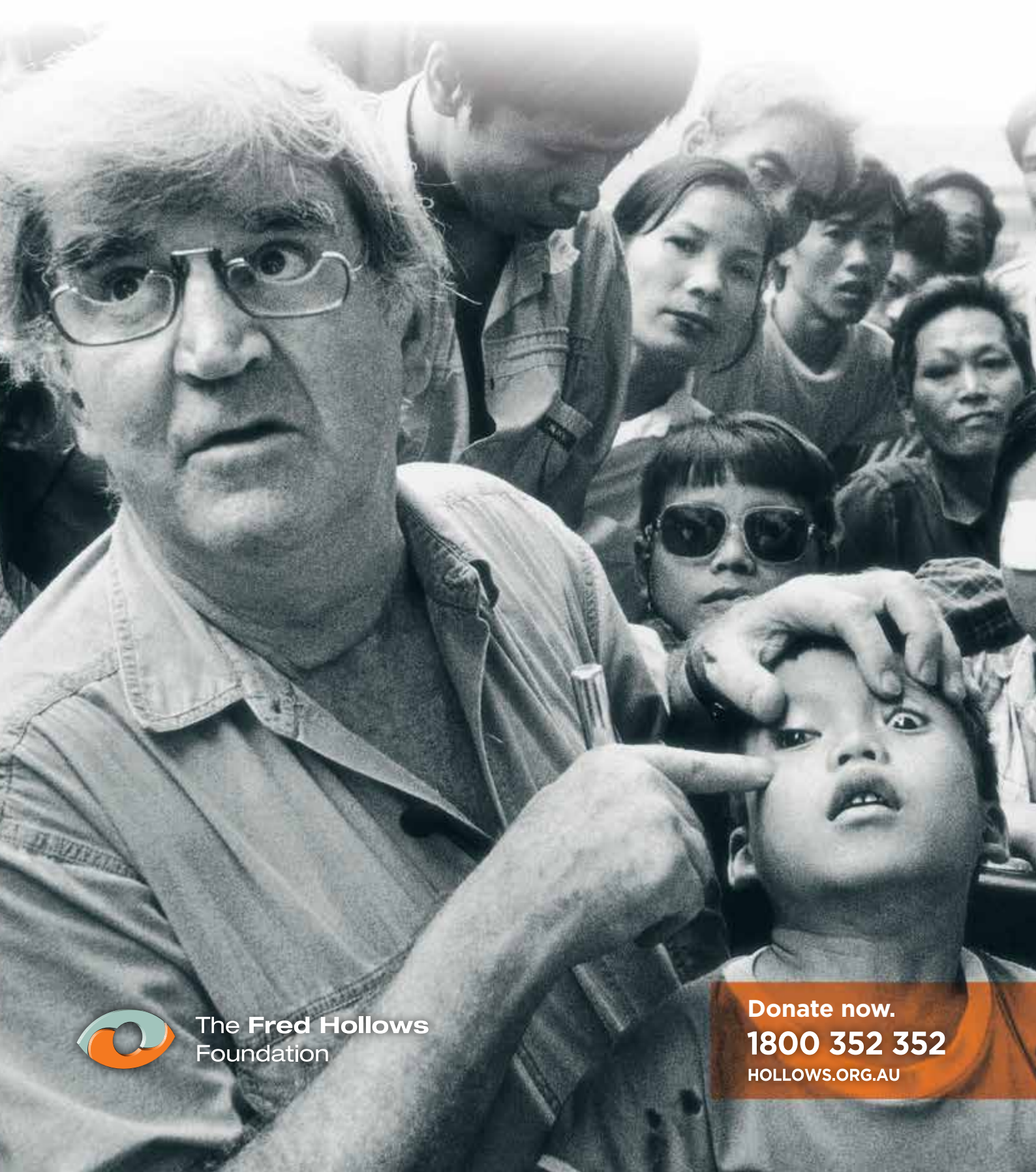
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