

November 2016



NHWA

Official journal of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia
incorporating Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



4

Board members
& staff

8

Interview
Interview with Jon White,
CEO ANZPAA

28

NHWA 2016
Awards





FITZROY HOTEL



With the oldest continuing pub licence in The Hawkesbury, the **FITZROY HOTEL** has been proudly serving locals since 1853. With its warm and friendly atmosphere, Trivia Wednesdays, live music Thursday to Sunday and the famous Thunderbolt Bistro open seven days, **THE FITZ** will always be the place to be in Windsor.

LIVE MUSIC / BAR & BISTRO / OUTDOOR SEATING / FUNCTIONS

Call us for your next party or catered event.



181 GEORGE ST. WINDSOR / 02 4577 3395 / [f/FITZROY HOTEL](https://www.facebook.com/FITZROYHOTEL)

ALARM AUSTRALIA

Specialists in Wireless Alarms For:

- Driveways & Rural Properties • Commercial Premises
- Industrial & Factories • Residential

Easy Installation • No Electrician • No Trenching or Wiring



Wireless
Probe Alarm

Wireless
Hose Alarm



Wireless Break
Beam Alarm

Wireless
Motion Alarm



**STOP INTRUDERS
BEFORE
THEY ENTER**

www.alarmaustralia.com.au | 1300 766 805

Gifts of the Earth



Dreamers, Creators, Believers
Designers, Inventors and Makers.

Inspirational Gifts,
Crystals, Gemstone
Jewellery,
Aromatherapy,
Essential Oils and
Flower Essences.

160 Elizabeth Street,
Cnr Elizabeth and Charles
St. Launceston Tasmania 7250.

Essential oils and flower essences, books, CDs, music,
audio books, gemstone jewellery, crystals, personalised
amulets, therapeutic products, inspirational gifts

Locally made Ethical international sources

Healing Centre

Flower essences, Aromatherapy

Massage: relaxation, remedial and oncology

Energy Healing, Reiki

Spiritual Counselling, Crystal Healing

Workshops and groups

We all get older.

**Dealing with the
changes can be a
challenge.**

"I am just not sure what to do now... no work, my partner is ill... I feel lonely and sad, like a death in the family" Demetri.

Managing life in changing times calls for professional help.

From anywhere in Australia,
and any time, call us to talk it
over.

1300 78 99 78

www.menslineaus.org.au

Talk it over
**Mens
Line**
AUSTRALIA

Specialist, professional counsellors - providing 24 hour, 7 day support.

A service managed by Crisis Support Services Inc.



MLA 006



20



24



14



30



CONTENTS

EVERY ISSUE

- 2 From the CEO
- 4 Board members

FEATURES

- 3 NHTA 10th Year Anniversary Dinner
- 8 Interview with Jon White, CEO ANZPAA
- 28 NHTA 2016 Awards
- 32 NHTA Connect

REPORTS

- 10 Australian Capital Territory
- 13 New South Wales
- 17 New Zealand
- 20 Northern Territory
- 22 Queensland
- 26 Tasmania
- 29 Victoria
- 30 Western Australia

Contributions to Neighbourhood Watch Australasia: Photography should only be supplied digitally via email or posted as original prints (please supply a stamped, self-addressed envelope for returning). Please avoid scanning of any type. Text should be supplied as a Microsoft Word document.

Advertisers Alert: Neighbourhood Watch Australasia appoints Countrywide Austral as the authorised publisher.

For enquiries regarding advertising in this magazine, please contact the publishers:

Countrywide Austral Pty Ltd

Level 2, 310 King Street, Melbourne 3000 | Postal: GPO Box 2466, Melbourne 3001

Ph: (03) 9937 0200 | Fax: (03) 9937 0201 | Email: admin@cwaustral.com.au

Disclaimer: Countrywide Austral ("Publisher") advises that the contents of this publication are at the sole discretion of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, and the publication is offered for information purposes only. The publication has been formulated in good faith and the Publisher believes its contents to be accurate. However, the contents do not amount to a recommendation (either expressly or by implication) and should not be relied upon in lieu of specific professional advice. Neighbourhood Watch Australasia makes no representation, nor gives any warranty or guarantee concerning the information provided. The Publisher disclaims all responsibility for any loss or damage which may be incurred by any reader relying upon the information contained in the publication whether that loss or damage is caused by any fault or negligence on the part of the publisher, its directors and employees. Copyright: All advertisements appearing in this publication are subject to copyright and may not be reproduced except with the consent of the owner of the copyright. Advertising: Advertisements in this journal are solicited from organisations and businesses on the understanding that no special considerations, other than those normally accepted in respect of commercial dealings, will be given to any advertiser.



countrywideaustral

FROM THE CEO

INGRID STONHILL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

Ten years, a decade, it is a long time for some, or a mere drop in the ocean for others. It is also space and time that some are no longer able to experience. For this reason, it is worth celebrating that Neighbourhood Watch Australasia turned 10 and as an organisation can be proud of what it has achieved collectively as a collaboration.

For me it seems so simple and straightforward to see the benefits and endless possibilities of working in partnership, collectively, giving and taking of information, knowledge and skill. So simple to see the importance of being connected to others. Most importantly through our families and communities. When I am required to enlighten others on the importance of our NHW programs, I often reflect and am buoyed by thinking about the extraordinary work that is done by some extraordinary community and police members. It is the commitment of our volunteers, just every day individuals, wanting to make their individual communities, and therefore collectively our countries, a better place to live that gives me such huge motivation. This was best highlighted this year through so many outstanding efforts during our inaugural Neighbourhood Watch Week.

At our 10-year celebratory dinner I shared with guests a couple of specific incidents both personal and important to me. The first was to share when I first became aware of the name Neighbourhood Watch in New Zealand in 1985. My father noted at the time, remember this date, as it is the first-time international terrorism has come to our peaceful country. The French government sent several undercover agents to Auckland, to blow up the Greenpeace protester boat the Rainbow Warrior. It all went terribly wrong for them. They killed a photographer on board the vessel and a national manhunt took place

resulting with New Zealand Police capturing two of the agents, thanks to the tip-off from some active NHW members. So poignant in today's world, for the potential of NHW.

The second was at the official conference for NHW hosted in New Zealand in 2007. It was at this conference that NHW received a gift from then New Zealand Assistant Commissioner Jon White, who presented our President Tess Walsh with the 'waka'. The 'waka' is a traditional Maori canoe, it signifies the vessel that will carry you and

are in good hands. Volunteering is not an easy task. To give freely of your time, knowledge and expertise for no return other than the feeling of worth, and for having made a difference. The 'waka' holds a place of pride within our organisation.

I have been privileged to have spent 10 years of my life with Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, first as a volunteer, then as the organisation's first employee. I am proud to have never missed a scheduled meeting and to continue to remain as committed today as I was 10 years ago.

"The 'waka' is a traditional Maori canoe, it signifies the vessel that will carry you and your group on your journey. For us this gift represented the hard work by the paddlers to move NHW forward."

your group on your journey. For us this gift represented the hard work by the paddlers to move NHW forward. Some NHW paddlers will retire or be retired, but the vessel will keep moving forward. On every 'waka' there must be a leader to call the strokes and set the direction. The gift of this 'waka' was to symbolise the journey of NHW and acknowledges the person in charge of steering the vessel. This 'waka' is handed to each NHW President, as a mark of the responsibility they hold in ensuring the vessel and its paddlers

There have been some amazing connections and lifelong friendships made through our organisation. Our achievements are too numerous to mention. Whilst there is so much more to do, today is about acknowledging our Board Members, past and present, our volunteers and our community members together in celebration of what has and will be achieved through NHW.

Happy 10th anniversary, here's to the next 10 years,

Ingrid



Celebrating 10 years
OF COLLABORATION



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 organizations 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.



Ingrid Stonhill – Chief Executive Officer

Ingrid has extensive experience in local government, federal government and non government agencies, predominantly focused on community development, crime prevention and community engagement – within the voluntary, policing and government sectors.

Ingrid has been an elected local body politician, an advisor to a senior Member of Parliament, run her own Public Relations and Marketing business and spent two years as a volunteer in the Pacific Islands. Ingrid brings to NHWA an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the organisation as a founding member and administrator of the board. Ingrid was the inaugural National Manager of Neighbourhood Support New Zealand prior to immigrating to Australia.



Detective Station Sergeant Jason Kennedy - ACT

Detective Station Sergeant Jason Kennedy has recently been appointed as the Officer in Charge of the newly formed Community Safety Team in ACT Policing.

Jason has been an operational police officer in the ACT for more than 20 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and ideas to improve community safety in the ACT.

Jason recognises that Neighbourhood Watch is a key partner of ACT Policing, and instrumental to a number of community safety strategies.

A new partnership has now been forged between Neighbourhood Watch and ACT Policing, and Jason has been appointed to the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Board.



Brad Shepherd - New South Wales

Chief Superintendent Brad Shepherd joined NSW Police Force in 1980. He currently serves as the Commander of Operational Programs and is the Corporate Sponsor for Crime Prevention and Chair of the Australia New Zealand Police Advisory Agency Crime Prevention Senior Officers Group. A 33 year career in law enforcement has spanned several roles including General Duties, Radio Technical, Covert Technical Surveillance, Staff Officer, Counter Terrorism, Operational Communications and Local Area Commander. Brad holds a Bachelor of Business (BBus) and a Master of Business Management (MBA).



David Cowan - Victoria

Superintendent Dave Cowan has been with Victoria Police for 26 years and currently manages the Community Safety Division within the Corporate Strategy and Operational Improvement Department. The Division comprises of the Drug and Alcohol Strategy Unit, the Victims Advisory Unit, the Safer Communities Unit, Diversion Alignment Project and the newly formed Policing Innovation and Research Unit.

Dave has led a range of organisational-wide reviews including counter terrorism; persons in police custody; family violence; and volume crime scene services in Victoria Police. Dave recently lead the development of the Victoria Police Corporate Plan 2016-2018 which shapes the future direction of the organisation aligned to the Blue Paper.

Dave has a Graduate Diploma in Executive Leadership and in 2013 was awarded the Australian Institute of Police Management, Australasian Policing Scholarship where he undertook studies at the John F Kennedy Harvard School of Government.



Paul Griggs - Northern Territory

A member of the NT Police Force with 28 years' service; Paul has served in a broad and diverse array of locations including Tennant Creek, General Duties Darwin, Drug Enforcement, Police College, Forensic Science Branch, Police Recruitment and most recently a move to the Public Safety Division. His current posting includes Neighbourhood Watch, Junior Police Rangers and Police Youth and Citizens Club (PCYC). In addition, Paul is a long-term member of the Northern Territory Police Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) team. Married with adult children and two grand-daughters, Paul's interests outside policing include family, motor sports and the activities associated with managing a 10-acre property in the tropics.



Jan Dunsby - Tasmania

Jan first engaged with Neighbourhood Watch in 2002 when a local group lobbied to form a Watch in their community precinct. She went on to representation at District and State level in ensuing years. Jan has held the role of State President for eight years and has overseen a positive change in direction for the State body.

Jan balances her role as an elected member of Glenorchy City Council with several other volunteer roles. These include Vice President of Lady Clark Centre Inc, Chair of Claremont College Association, Board member of West Moonah Community House and Secretary/Treasurer of Hobart Northern Suburbs Rail Action Group Inc. She also holds the office of Justice of the Peace and acts as a Bench Justice, hearing out-of-hours Magistrate Court matters on a regular roster basis.



Sharleen Stirling - New Zealand

Sharleen Stirling is currently the chair of Neighbourhood Support New Zealand and believes it is a fabulous opportunity for their organisation to be able to connect with NHTWA. She also looks forward to developing the relationship and the sharing of knowledge.

Sharleen has a background in education and working with young people and their families, helping them to grow and develop strengths that will support them through the challenges of life's journey.

Sharleen has had the privilege of founding Project Adapt, a service that supports families who have a young person in their care with a disability. She co-owns a coaching and facilitation business supporting individuals, groups and businesses to evaluate their strategic plans and intentionally start making them come to life.

Sharleen values being actively involved in the community in which she lives.



Les Bulluss - Queensland

Les joined the Queensland Police Service (QPS) in June 2000 after 13 years with the New South Wales Police. He has performed General Duties, Licensing, Water Police and Officer in Charge roles in New South Wales and Queensland.

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. Les' 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



Elaine Boyd - Executive Assistant

Elaine has extensive experience gained over 30 years working in administration and customer service with both large corporations and small businesses.

Elaine has held a variety of positions across a diverse range of industries including finance, retail, tourism, and construction.

Elaine has a Certificate IV in Financial Services, a certificate in Administration along with awards in Customer Service. She is currently undertaking a nutrition course online for her own awareness.

In her leisure time she is an avid runner, cyclist and enjoys working out at her local gym.



Angela Moore - Project Administrator

Angela established her own bookkeeping business, Moore Bookkeeping, in January 2013 after completing a Diploma of Accounting in 2012. Since 2009, Angela has undertaken the bookkeeping for her own business she owns with her husband and has a vast array of experience with many other businesses on the Sunshine Coast.

Angela is a BAS Registered agent, Institute of Certified Bookkeepers Member in Practice and a Xero Certified Advisor who is passionate about the bookkeeping industry.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia CHARTER

OUR VISION: Safe, connected and inclusive communities

OUR PURPOSE: Neighbourhood Watch Australasia promotes safe, connected and inclusive communities by fostering collaborative community safety and crime prevention partnerships between the community and police, by providing strategic leadership and coordination for Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support programs, and by advocating good practice and innovation.

OUR VALUES:

ADVOCACY – Progress national initiatives that service the principles of NHWA

UNITY – Foster unity across Australasia to capitalise on the potential of jurisdictions and their communities

BEST PRACTICE – Develop evidence based programs

SUPPORT – Assist jurisdictions to maximise the potential of NHWA programs

COOPERATION – Promote cooperation that respects the individuality of jurisdictions

INTEGRITY – Be transparent, inclusive and accountable in service delivery

CONNECTEDNESS – Collaborate over a shared vision of connected communities

EXCELLENCE – Demonstrate excellence in responding to community needs

PROACTIVITY – Be proactive in our approach to partnerships, innovation and advocacy

AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

- I am committed to the purpose and ideals of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia
- I am committed to the success of NHWA and its member programs
- I am committed to support and encourage my fellow members

AS A MEMBER OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

- I understand my purpose of belonging and accept my commitment to NHWA
- I understand my contribution is valued and respected
- I understand the importance of championing NHWA in my own jurisdiction

May 2016

Bernie Durkin (President, Western Australia)

Bradley Shepherd (New South Wales)

Nathan Finn (Northern Territory)

Jason Kennedy (AFP)

Claire McGrath (Vice President, ACT)

Les Bulluss (Queensland)

Brooke Jones (AFP)

Shazleen Stirling (New Zealand)

Margaret Pearson (Secretary/Treasurer)

David Cowan (Victoria)

Pat Leary (Tasmania)

Merid Stonhill (NHWA CEO)



JOIN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH TODAY



NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH
AUSTRALASIA

Celebrating
10 Years

INTERVIEW

WE TAKE A CASUAL LOOK AT WHAT COMMUNITY MEANS TO SOME OF OUR FRIENDS AND PROMINENT MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

In the community with ...

Jon White

Chief Executive Officer
Australia New Zealand Policing
Advisory Agency (ANZPAA)

"I think it's important to chat with your neighbours whenever the opportunity arises...so that subsequent conversations become easier and easier."



Jon White took up the ANZPAA CEO role in 2010 following a 36-year career with NZ Police, finishing as an Assistant Commissioner. Starting as an officer on the beat in Wellington, for the last part of his career his portfolios included national security, the international services group and community policing. In his CEO role supporting the 10 police commissioners of Australia and New Zealand, Jon has been at the forefront of cross-jurisdictional collaboration, striving for excellence in policing. Always keen to promote police-community engagement for the benefit of all, supporting Neighbourhood Support in NZ and NHWA was a natural fit for Jon. He congratulates and thanks all those who volunteer their time and efforts in making their communities safer, whether as part of NHWA or as a member of a local neighbourhood group.

To you, what is the best thing about living in Australia?

Being part of a globally advanced society with great diversity and values which underpin a terrific way of life.

Where did you grow up?

In Christchurch, New Zealand.

What did you love the most about the area you grew up in?

I always felt our neighbourhood was a friendly, safe and supportive place where people looked out for each other, and there were lots of interesting things to do.

What was the first community event you remember going to?

My mum was the Akela for the local Cub Scouts so we were involved in lots of scouting events which brought the community together.

What do you think is the most important individual contribution you can make to create community spirit?

Being friendly and approachable, and wanting your neighbourhood and community to be the best it can be.

When did you first hear about Neighbourhood Watch/Support?

I read about the emergence of Neighbourhood Watch in the UK when I was studying in the 90s and was attracted to the idea that people in neighbourhoods could be proactive in ways that could really improve their quality of life.

If you had to describe a Neighbourhood Watch program to a new resident to Australia, how would you describe it?

It's a great way to get to know the people in your neighbourhood in a new country, and to find out things that are important to settling in to your community. And it's a great way to be part of a group of people who care about the wellbeing of your neighbourhood.

Do you believe it is important to your community safety to be connected to your neighbours?

Oh yes. In the safest communities, people look out for each other in lots of different ways. Being connected doesn't mean being intrusive or not respectful of people's privacy, but is more about having a level of understanding and awareness so that you know when things aren't right and when to do something.

What is one example you can give about how you keep in contact with the people who live around you?

I think it's important to chat with your neighbours whenever the opportunity arises – even if you/they are busy and it's only the pleasantries – so that subsequent conversations become easier and easier.

Would you encourage your neighbours to start a Neighbourhood Watch group and why?

Yes I would, so that we can all feel connected to the extent we want to in the interests of a safer, happier neighbourhood.

What are the three favourite things you like doing in or around your neighbourhood?

Regularly catching up with our friends/neighbours for coffee and socialising.

Keeping up-to-date with what's happening in our community, and events coming up.

Helping out those who need a hand where you can – it's good for both parties!

NHW ACT

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



Launch of ACT Graffiti Busters

On Wednesday 5 October 2016, Neighbourhood Watch ACT members joined with the ACT Government Graffiti Coordinator, ACT Policing and Crimestoppers ACT for the launch of the ACT Graffiti Busters program.



The Graffiti Busters program was developed in response to a 2016 community satisfaction survey which revealed the ACT was above the national average for the public perceiving graffiti as a quality of life issue.

Whilst the ACT Government employs a contractor to remove graffiti from government property, it does not clean private property such as fences – even if those fences face onto public lands.

With the ever-increasing graffiti on private property, Neighbourhood Watch joined ACT Policing and Crimestoppers to develop a three-pronged approach (clean, report and take enforcement action) to remove graffiti from the ACT.

The Graffiti Busters program will use community volunteers, such as Neighbourhood Watch, to clean graffiti from private property utilising materials and insurance

provided by the ACT Government Graffiti Coordinator. This will not only remove unsightly graffiti from the city and suburbs, but also encourage the community to purposely keep a lookout for and report graffiti offenders through Crimestoppers for police to take enforcement action.

The Graffiti Busters program is currently being trialled in the suburb of Kambah, with a view to expand the program across Canberra.

ACT NHW Chief Police Officer's Award 2016

Detective Station Sergeant Joanne Cameron

The ACT Neighbourhood Watch Chief Police Officer's Award recognises outstanding service by an individual ACT Policing officer and/or ACT Policing employee who has consistently contributed to NHW and the concept of community policing in the ACT, and recently this award was presented to Detective Station Sergeant Joanne Cameron.

Detective Station Sergeant Cameron has worked more than 19 years as an officer in ACT Policing. She has a diverse policing background including general duties, criminal investigations and intelligence. She has been a consistent supporter of Neighbourhood Watch, particularly during her recent term as Detective Station Sergeant at Tuggeranong. Her ability to connect with the community was demonstrated through her regular active attendance at Neighbourhood Watch residents' meetings and at other community forums, where she delivered accurate information on crime statistics and addressed current crime prevention and safety issues, including any related questions raised by attendees.

Detective Station Sergeant Cameron's ability to provide factual and relevant information on issues of concern to the community has reinforced the strong relationship and mutual respect that exists between ACT Policing and ACT Neighbourhood Watch. Detective Station Sergeant Cameron has worked closely with Neighbourhood Watch on local issues and she has always been approachable and willing to discuss matters of concern.



She has encouraged positive interaction between community groups and ACT Policing and has contributed effectively to reinforcing the "human" face of active policing. Her efforts have been recognised with her recent appointment to a high profile role

leading a local team to tackle domestic and family violence. In recognition of her sustained and diligent service to the community, Detective Station Sergeant Cameron was also the ACT Policing recipient of the 2016 Community Protection Medal.

Neighbourhood Watch Week in Tweed Valley



Neighbourhood Watch Week started bright and early at Tweed Valley. A 6am start at Pottsville Markets saw many NHW Volunteers along with Senior Constable Brad Foster, Crime Prevention Officer, raring to go.

The morning started quite cool; warming up to a pleasant 24 degrees. The cool morning was a blessing when erecting marquees and setting up the stall and everything else required.

As the day went on large numbers of the public wound their way through the markets showing a lot of interest in the NHW and police displays. The main attraction at the police marquee was the NHW volunteers assisting the Crime Prevention Officer with fixing thief-proof screws to number plates in the endeavour of minimising number plate theft in the area. This proved to be a winner with the public, with a special area for car owners to bring their cars for the NHW volunteers to change the screws.

The NHW display was also a winner, allowing NHW volunteers to talk with public and pass on safety information and hand out giveaways to remind the folk of the importance of safety; even the children were given NHW and police balloons. The special NHWA products were most welcome and well accepted by the public.

By the end of the day some products had just about run out – a good sign that the day was a great success.

Our second venture was to join forces with a Volunteer in Policing, Pam Blowers (VIP/NHW), who gave an excellent safety talk to 63 retired folks at Noble Lakeside Park Kingscliff (an over 50s resort).

NHW volunteers were there to support the morning with hand outs and safety information. Topics discussed at this meeting included home safety, online crime and scams, amongst other items.

The feedback has been great from the attending residents who were all happy about the reminder. Morning tea was supplied by Noble Park Social Club.

All in all Neighbourhood Watch Week was very successful. We were able to continue our work of reminding the public about crime and how they can play a part in assisting police to catch the criminals as well as looking after their own safety. Our thanks to NHWA and NSW Police for their support.



Cabramatta NHW volunteers

Neighbourhood Watch Week in New South Wales

The NSW Police Force, in association with NHTA, hosted the inaugural national launch of Neighbourhood Watch Week on Tuesday 4 October to raise awareness and encourage community members to join Neighbourhood Watch and make a difference.

Planned to coincide with the October long weekend, the launch was held at Freedom Plaza in Sydney's Cabramatta and opened by Acting Deputy Commissioner Carlene York.

"The NSW Police Force has worked in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch for more than 30 years and we're very proud of the work that has been done by this community-led program. Local Neighbourhood Watch programs aim to prevent crime, stop social isolation and increase the safety, security and quality of life for everyone in the community," Acting Deputy Commissioner York said.



NHWA CEO Ingrid Stonhill

"Neighbourhood Watch is the largest community-based crime prevention activity in Australia and the single largest crime prevention activity in the world."

The press conference was a great opportunity to promote Neighbourhood Watch Week, which ran from 3-9 October 2016.

"Neighbourhood Watch Australasia is moving into a new era, with the recent release of the new 'NHWConnect' App," said NHWA CEO Ingrid Stonhill.

"It allows members of the community to easily join or create Neighbourhood Watch groups, receive news and keep in touch with NHW colleagues.

"Becoming a NHW group member is a great way to get to know your

local community and get to know your local police," Ms Stonhill said.

Acting Deputy Commissioner York said through Neighbourhood Watch Week, organisers were hoping to attract more members from the wider community to the program, particularly baby boomers

"There are 96 active Neighbourhood Watch Groups in New South Wales and the interest is increasing."

and those who might have more time on their hands, as well as young families who are starting to buy properties, and school children who can learn about personal safety.

There are 96 active Neighbourhood Watch Groups in New South Wales

and the interest is increasing. Police Local Area Commands remain the key point of contact and support for Neighbourhood Watch Groups in New South Wales. Those commands that have developed strong relationships with their Neighbourhood Watch groups benefitting from receiving

real time information on community crime issues and an opportunity to work cooperatively to reduce crime through joint problem solving.

NSW Police Force Crime Prevention Officers actively assist Neighbourhood Watch groups with local events,



Superintendent Brad Shepherd, CEO Ingrid Stonhill, President Bernie Durkin



A/Deputy Commissioner Carlene York



Federal Member Cabramatta, Chris Hayes

attend meetings and provide advice from a police perspective. They help local Neighbourhood Watch groups' work through crime prevention strategies to improve personal, residential and business safety.

Neighbourhood Watch members are active in their communities and many create their own social media sites and newsletters. In one of NSW's most active areas, Eastwood's Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator Philip Brown writes, edits, prints and arranges the delivery of 4,700 newsletters every two months for his community.

In addition, police and local Neighbourhood Watch groups often conduct joint community engagement events to provide crime prevention information. These are often stalls at community events with a range of information displayed.

"Community support for police and the work we do is fundamental to our success in reducing crime and making New South Wales a safer place. Support from members



Cabramatta NHW volunteers

of the community across all ages and from a range of multicultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds drives us to continually improve our efforts," Acting Deputy Commissioner York said.

"It's the only way to build a strong partnership between police and the people we serve. It generates confidence, trust and respect."

The Acting Deputy Commissioner also acknowledged the Neighbourhood Watch volunteers for their time and efforts.

"I would like to personally recognise the increased workload this campaign has brought to these volunteers and thank them for their dedication and commitment to their communities and to crime prevention."

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND

Alexandra Blossom Festival

The Alexandra Blossom Festival is held each September at the start of spring, when all the blossom from the orchards and gardens are in full flower. This is the longest running festival in New Zealand and has just held its 60th year celebrations.

The festival runs for two weeks starting with a Senior Queen Competition for women over 70 years. On the Friday night there is a Mardi Gras in the main street, starting with a race of teams and individuals running from the main street, across the Manuherikia River, around the clock on the hill and back. On the Saturday the procession through the town starts with a convoy of 70 highly polished trucks, a large convoy of vintage cars followed by 16 floats (eight of them carrying princesses) and 20 florreys decorated with crepe paper flowers. Here a Festival Queen is announced. She is selected from the princesses who are entered on each float. They have a full week of activities where they are assessed before the winner is announced on the Saturday afternoon. She and her two attendants then have a week of attending events such as the Alexandra Blossom Festival musical production (this year it was *The Pirates of Penzance*) which runs for the rest of the week, garden tour, Combined Churches Service and at the NZ Merino Shearing and Wool Handling competitions held at the end of the week.

In a rash moment Alexandra and Clyde Neighbourhood Support decided to enter a Florrey (a decorated New World shopping trolley) in the parade. This event started three years ago and on the Saturday morning they assemble in the Alexandra New World car park and are judged. There are four categories, with an overall winner announced before joining the procession.

One of the Neighbourhood Support trustees and a husband of one of our Street Contacts agreed to build it from a picture we had of 'the old woman who lived in a shoe.' They also painted it. The husband then agreed to be the Old Woman. For three-four weeks we had several people making paper flowers; then three of our Trustees, with help from the above Street Contact, glued them onto the frame. It took in excess of 70 hours to build and glue the flowers on.

It was thought the theme would tie in well with our Neighbourhood Support organisation and as our local Police Community Constable was all for being part of it, we had her help the Old Woman push the trolley in the procession. It received fantastic applause, feedback and national TV coverage.

Neighbourhood Support won their section, receiving a \$150 voucher from Alexandra New World. The local children who walked with the florrey carried plastic Neighbourhood Support bags so that people could see who was represented and to show support for the fantastic community event.

Neighbourhood Support were thrilled to be involved and look forward to coming up with ideas for future celebrations.



Neighbourhood Support New Zealand announces national awards

One of the chief ways to recognise the important role that Neighbourhood Support play in providing an additional safety net for communities is by awarding them for outstanding community service, according to Sharleen Stirling-Lindsay, Chairperson of Neighbourhood Support New Zealand.

Neighbourhood Support NZ Inaugural Awards Winners

Category	Award	Recipient	District
Neighbourhood Support Champion	Gold	Lorraine Jones	Bay of Plenty
Neighbourhood Support Champion	Gold	Lyn Robins	Southern
Neighbourhood Support Champion	Highly Commended	Marty Price	Tasman
Innovation Award	Gold	Jane Bealing	Tasman
Innovation Award	Highly Commended	Gill Popleer	Southern
Innovation Award	Highly Commended	Dave Coe	Eastern
Junior Neighbourhood Support Cohesion Award	Gold	Katie Wood	Counties Manukau
Neighbourhood Support Long Service Award	Gold	Barbara Barraclough	Waikato
Neighbourhood Support Long Service Award	Highly Commended	Ralph Seyb	Canterbury
Neighbourhood Support Long Service Award	Highly Commended	Kelvin Deal	Bay of Plenty
Neighbourhood Support Member of the Year Award	Gold	Myra Moon	Bay of Plenty
Neighbourhood Support Member of the Year Award	Gold	Peter Leversedge	Canterbury
Neighbourhood Support Member of the Year Award	Highly Commended	Ian Roffe	Southern
Police Officer – Above and Beyond Award	Gold	Peter Crins	Tasman
Police Officer – Above and Beyond Award	Highly Commended	Craig Berquist	Waikato
Police Officer – Above and Beyond Award	Highly Commended	Keith Butters	Central
Neighbourhood Support Safe City Award	Gold	Manurewa Neighbourhood Support – Jo Collins	Counties Manukau
Neighbourhood Support Safe City Award	Gold	Mataikona – Packspur Neighbourhood Support Group	Wellington
Working Partnership Award	Gold	The Housing Foundation	Counties Manukau
Working Partnership Award	Highly Commended	Masterton District Council	Wellington
Working Partnership Award	Highly Commended	Dunedin City Council (Peter Hughes)	Southern
Working Partnership Award	Highly Commended	Delta – Alexandra	Southern
Working Partnership Award	Highly Commended	Alexandra Radio Central	Southern



The Neighbourhood Support NZ Awards are not a contest between Neighbourhood Support volunteers but rather an opportunity to recognise the tireless work being done by dedicated volunteers and active Neighbourhood Support groups in the fight against increasing crime levels across our communities.

Mrs Stirling-Lindsay says, "The inaugural awards recognise those dedicated individuals, groups, police officers and partner organisations who shine a light on the communities they operate in. The Neighbourhood Support New Zealand Awards recognise the excellent contribution of local members and groups who are making a difference in their communities. All recipients are a credit to themselves, their local community and the Neighbourhood Support partnership."

There are thousands of like-minded Neighbourhood Support members in communities across New Zealand, who give their time and are committed in making our communities a safer and more caring place in which to live.

Neighbourhood Support groups are the eyes and ears of our communities, and the work they do in their own time is an invaluable resource with Neighbourhood Support NZ ready to recognise their achievements.

SHARLEEN STIRLING-LINDSAY

Chairperson, Neighbourhood Support NZ

Neighbourhood Support New Zealand Rural Advisor – Richard Hurrell

Having spent more than 22 years in the New Zealand Police, based in a rural town in the Waikato district, Richard Hurrell has recently taken on the role of Neighbourhood Support NZ (NSNZ) Rural Advisor.

Richard has spent the last 14 years working as the Community Constable for the Te Awamutu area. This was easy for him as he has lived in the area for "many" years, has driven school buses around most of the area and was a volunteer fireman for 20 years, so he knows what rural life is about. His wife, Gail, is a rural mail delivery contractor in the area and he sometimes gets the chance to drive around the countryside.

He has been involved in Neighbourhood Support for more than 14 years and has been the Waikato District Representative and Executive Sub-committee member for more than four years.

More than 11 years ago he was instrumental in setting up a community organisation, CommSafe. This charitable trust revitalised Neighbourhood Support groups and started community patrols in the Te Awamutu area.

CommSafe has recently purchased the GetsReady programme that was developed specifically for Neighbourhood Support and this has increased the communication with Neighbourhood Support groups in the area.



One benefit of GetsReady is the capacity for local Neighbourhood Support members to put their own skills/facilities and requirements into the database, which is helpful in the case of a Civil Defence emergency.

Richard is looking forward to visiting rural areas around NZ and finding out what issues they are having and encouraging them to join Neighbourhood Support. He will be working alongside local Police/Civil Defence/Federated Farmers/Insurers and other like-minded organisations in the prevention of rural crime and increased safety and preparedness for members of our rural communities.



The role of the NT Police Aboriginal Liaison Officer

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICE OFFICER CONSTABLE FIRST CLASS PAUL KEIGHTLEY

The role of the NT Police Aboriginal Liaison Officer (ALO) is an increasingly valuable role on many levels.

ALOs are quickly proving themselves invaluable, working with local police and their communities to improve community safety and improve relationships on many levels.

ALOs assist in putting important messages into a local cultural context, with external agencies, schools, Community Engagement Police Officers (CEPOs) and local members.

The ALOs communicate to their communities – often in language – issues including the dangers of volatile substance abuse (VSA) or sniffing, the importance of education



and making good choices, supporting remote school attendance teams (the RSAS – or yellow shirts as they are known in the Top End) linking in pathways for future employment, and being Croc Wise.

Because they're from the communities they work in, ALOs have strong cultural and family connections. They work in a culturally appropriate manner, where they can build a strong rapport and better relationships.

Gapuwiya ALO Damien Guyula and local members regularly support the local RSAS team by teaming



up with the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet government engagement coordinator (GEC), schools and students. He has input with local families to reinforce the importance of education not only for the individual, but the community.

Damien also helps run the Gapuwiya Arts centre which is currently expanding, creating more local jobs and ensuring traditional art work is showcased to buyers across the world.

He is also a great role model to local students, having in recent years been a RSAS coordinator and teacher aide at the Gapuwiya school.

Maningrida ALO and ex-night patrol member of many years, Billy Williams is not only a valued member of the Maningrida police team, but also the school where he has regular input with students and families.

Billy does a great job reinforcing the importance of education, making good choices, being Croc Wise and road safety. He recently travelled to Darwin to provide valuable input at the PMC tri-service college open day.

Billy attends school awards days and recently presented graduation awards to a couple of young ladies who have just graduated from Year 12 at Maningrida College.

The graduation was a significant event for Maningrida, celebrated

with traditional dancing and ceremonial singing.

It was attended by traditional owners, elders, families and some of the Territory's highest education and government officials.

Of particular relevance for Billy – and something that gave him immense pride – is one of the graduating female students is his granddaughter.

Billy is also an AFL coach in Maningrida and has been pivotal in providing support for the ongoing 'No More' family violence campaign message throughout Arnhem Land.

Galiwinku (Elcho) ALO Ralph Gurrawarra also does a fine job in his role, recently assisting with VSA and Be Croc Wise education in the community.

Ralph is a traditional owner and custodian, having also been a senior indigenous ranger and Aboriginal Community Police Officer (ACPO).

Ralph and ACPO Bettina Danginbar are working together with CEPOs and the Indigenous Projects Office in recruiting ALOs.

The importance of ongoing collaborative community engagement is paying dividends in the top end.

The 2016 Australian Rules footy finals at Ramingining and Maningrida were peaceful, family-friendly events. DV has dramatically reduced in Ramingining.



Queensland's 'Dogs on Patrol' is Woof-tastic!!

April 2016 saw the first year anniversary of Dogs On Patrol, which has been a truly fabulous initiative by our police officer in the role of District Crime Prevention Coordinator at Stafford Police Station, Di Knatochvil!



At the event celebrating this milestone, the 'Dogs on Patrol' Dog-in-Charge 'PD SARGE' met his new paw-some recruits at the 'Paws Recruiting Day' to give them each a paw-shake in congratulations!

Back in 2015, this idea was officially launched on Sunday 26 April at 3pm at the Roy Harvey Park, Shand Street, Stafford. The Dogs on Patrol program runs in conjunction with Neighbourhood Watch Queensland, aiming to educate dog walkers about personal safety strategies. It also encourages dog walkers to help keep their communities safe by reporting any suspicious activity they may observe on their walks to police.

'Paws Recruiting Days' for Dogs on Patrol are becoming regular business across the state with patrols now at the Gold Coast, Mitchelton, Brighton, and Chermside/Wavell Heights. These days are proving popular with displays eager to promote Dogs on Patrol including the below at the original launch at Stafford in 2015:

- Queensland Police Service – Crime Prevention, Dog Squad, Mobile Community Police Station, and Community Supporting Police
- FREE 'Dogs on Patrol' dog-tags with FREE engraving
- Stafford Neighbourhood Watch groups
- Dog competitions
- Police dog demonstrations
- FREE sausage sizzle
- FREE face painting and dog-shaped kite making for kids
- RSPCA
- Animal Welfare League
- Charlotte Reeves Pet Photography
- Chew Comp & Chill
- Hound Hutt
- Guide Dogs Queensland
- Kedron AnVet
- Lock2Lock
- Sacred Pet Boutique
- Cafe2U coffee van
- Australian War Dogs Association
- Crime Stoppers
- Arana Hills PCYC
- Stacey Apples Photography
- Two Teas
- Concoctions Kerbside Food Truck
- Mr Whippy
- Brisbane City Council
- Soapy Moose
- Best Friends Virginia
- Brisbane Fitness Empire
- Pawsitive Connection
- Mary Puppins Pet Sitting
- The Doggie Bag
- Nat & Darcy Chiropractic for people and pets

At a typical sign-up, the new 'recruits' patiently waited in line to receive their very own Dogs on Patrol tag and to learn how to put their sniffing to good use on their regular walks in their own neighbourhoods! The new paw-some recruits come from far and wide to join their doggy friends in helping keep their neighbourhoods staying safe.

Each and every new paw-some recruit is reminded that when on their walks, to never place themselves in danger, always carry their mobile telephone with them, and if they see a crime being committed, call Triple Zero (000) immediately. For non-urgent situations, call Policelink on 131 444, or use the Policelink app to take a photo of things like graffiti or wilful damage and report it.

Dogs on Patrols encourages everyone to think about your own safety and the safety of your community.

In closing, Dogs on Patrols like to leave the thought with you that, not only is walking good for you and your dog, it's good for the community too!

Far North NHW groups bleed green



Far Northern Neighbourhood Watch Groups are set to bleed for a good cause. NHW residents are encouraged to Bleed Green and head into their local Red Cross Blood Donor Centre and donate as part of the new NHW Bleed Green initiative in the Far North.

Far North District NHW Co-ordinator Senior Constable Heidi Marek is encouraging her state counterparts and NHW groups to follow suit and Bleed Green for the cause.

"Last week as part of NHW Week, our NHW groups ran a number of events, one of which is the Bleed Green project," Senior Constable Marek said.

Brinsmead NHW Area Co-ordinator Marie Pierce and Whiterock NHW Area Co-ordinator Sarah Pulfer rolled up their sleeves and prepared to bleed green.

"I just thought it was a novel way to engage our NHW volunteers and help out our community in a different way.

"I did contact the Red Cross and was advised that no other NHW groups in Australia have registered as a group to donate blood, so we are definitely a first in Cairns."

The concept is very similar to the Red Cross Emergency Services blood donation. Consideration could be given to setting aside a month for NHW volunteers to donate or encourage regular donors throughout the year or

register as an organisation with regular updates and figures as encouragement which could be sent out to NHW members via their groups.

Brinsmead NHW Area Co-ordinator Marie Pierce jumped at the chance to bleed green.

"Whilst I do enjoy helping out the Red Cross with blood donations, I struggle to produce enough blood platelets so I do make an effort and give once a year," Ms Pierce said.

"I went with Whiterock NHW Area Co-ordinator Sarah and she'd never done it before. She was a first timer and has already agreed to donate on New Years' Eve, when supplies are incredible low due to people being unwilling to help out at this time of year.

"Apparently every little drop helps and it's a great opportunity for a group to get together and do something different for the community."

It's a relatively easy process to register and can be done by contacting your local Red 25 Red Cross Representative on ph: 1300 886 524.

1. **Notify** – The Blood Service needs to collect a certain number of donations every day to meet patient need. If you need to cancel or reschedule your appointment, please notify the Red25 team as soon as you can on 1300 886 524.

2. **Prepare** – On your donation day, don't forget to:

- drink plenty of liquid the day before you donate and three glasses of water/juice in the three hours before donating
- eat a substantial snack in the three hours before donating
- bring at least one form of photo ID
- be proud of yourself – you're making a huge difference to the lives of patients across Australia!

To give you an idea of the ongoing need for blood donations and those that donated blood assists, please visit [youtube.com/watch?v=rQnhC57Whq0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rQnhC57Whq0)

Through Red25 we're not only saving lives, but we're working alongside other organisations and community groups to achieve 25 per cent of all blood donations.

Sunset sausage sizzle celebrating NHW Week Mackay style

Mackay Northern Beaches NHW group held a sunset sausage sizzle at Shoal Point Park on Friday 7 October 2016.



A wonderful venue for a sausage sizzle.



Claire Rehbein and Acting Sergeant Stephen Smith preparing the food on our NHW Trailer barbecue.



Shoal Point Beach sunset.



Senior Sergeant Adrian Rieck addressing the group.



Senior Sergeant Adrian Rieck having a chat with the locals.



Senior Sergeant Adrian Rieck addressing the group.

What a wonderful turn out with around 50 residents and community-minded individuals attending. It was reassuring to have two of our local Mackay Regional Council members, Councillor Laurence Bonaventura and Councillor Ross Gee, mingling with the group.

It was an opportune time to sign up a number of new NHW blog members as well as promote our forthcoming Annual NHW Conference and the NHW Barking Owl Mascot naming competition. One of our attendees was the Principal of Walkerston State School who gave an assurance the Mascot

Naming Competition would be on the agenda for his 360 students.

Our new OIC of Northern Beaches Police Station, Senior Sergeant Adrian Rieck, was introduced to the group and took the opportunity to bring members up-to-date on activities in the Northern Beaches area. He was particularly appreciative of the involvement of the NHW groups within his area.

Acting Sergeant Stephen Smith from Mackay Crime Prevention Group also attended and was very active in promoting NHW group activities within the Mackay District.

Plenty of sausages and special grilled onions on bread with sauce

satisfied the group, with hot coffee and tea for those who wanted it.

Probably one of the most pleasing aspects of the evening, other than the magnificent venue, was the number of residents who had been involved in NHW when it was first introduced "last century", who turned up to once again become involved.

KEN REHBEIN

Area Coordinator, Mackay Northern Beaches NHW Group

Mackay Police District representative on the NHW Queensland Community Advisory Committee

Project O changing attitudes in Tasmania

Commissioner Darren Hine met with some of the “amazing young women” from Wynyard High School involved in Project O.



Project O drives change in rural communities experiencing family violence.

It is a long-term project focused on generational change, initiated by young women, to help shift local culture that permits violence.

Through Project O young women develop skills and opportunities to contribute to their community. These include awareness raising, peer support, mentoring, public speaking and innovation. These opportunities lead to personal development and the ability to self-entrepreneur.

Commissioner Hine described them as, “An amazing group of young women leading the way

in changing community attitudes to family violence”.

Project O is being trialled in Wynyard in north west Tasmania. If successful it will be available across the country.

“Through Project O young women develop skills and opportunities to contribute to their community.”

Farewell to Pat Leary

At the September Board meeting, it was with regret that we accepted the resignation of Pat Leary, long serving volunteer from both our Board and as our representative with Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

Pat brought immense experience to our Board, gained over many years of employment roles and varied volunteering engagements. Her wealth of experience will be missed, but we wish her the very best in all of her future endeavours.

JAN DUNSBY

State President



Anniversary celebrations

October has been a busy month as we have combined our thirtieth anniversary celebrations with Neighbourhood Watch Week.

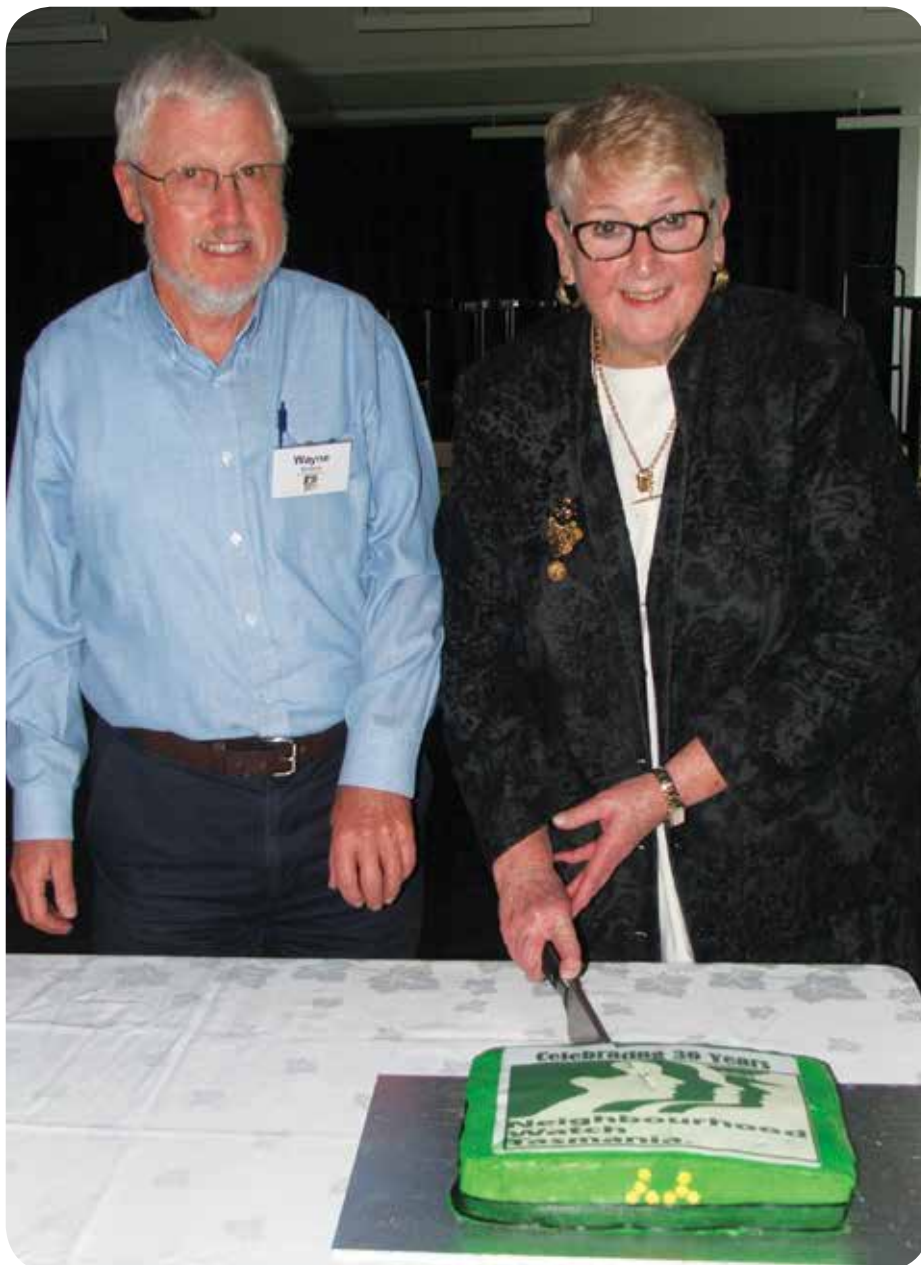


In Hobart, we were joined by state, local government and police representatives at George's on the Park for lunch. Guest speaker Dan Casey engaged and inspired those present to recognise the contributions they have made and how to take that forward.

Most people have regrets and disappointments in their lives. Many people get fixated chasing dreams. Once the dream is achieved they lose interest and chase another dream. Dan looked at what's really important for us to achieve in our lives. It might be that you want to enjoy your job more or to enjoy your volunteering more. He talked about how people are wishing part of their lives away in the hope that 'next year will be better.'

Many people go through life without ever smelling the roses. However you can't just sniff a rose. You have to learn how to enjoy the rose. You have to see the rose for its own beauty. You have to become immersed in its beauty without being bothered by other thoughts.

Dan's presentation was very well received, with all the feedback being positive.



Wayne and Pat cutting the cake.

Long serving volunteers Treasurer Wayne Burgess and recently retired Secretary Pat Leary were asked to cut a cake to mark the occasion.

Our Northern celebration was held at Pier01 at Ulverstone, with police, state government, local government and Neighbourhood Watch

representatives from both Northern and Western Districts present. Rather than a guest speaker, this event was a little more social with musical entertainment tailored to the event.

At each of these events the Neighbourhood Watch Week goodies were well received.

NHWA 2016 AWARDS



2016 NHWA Police Commissioners Award – QPS Commissioner Ian Stewart, NHWA President Bernie Durkin, Senior Constable Candice Strain (winner) and Senior Constable Sandy Atkinson.



2016 Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year – LSC Joe Clarke, Helen Worcester (winner) and QPS Commissioner Ian Stewart.



2016 Certificate of Merit – Inspector Les Bulluss and NHWA Board Member with recipient Melissa Price (QLD).



2016 Certificate of Merit – Inspector Les Bulluss and NHWA Board Member with recipient Geoff Smith (QLD).



2016 Certificate of Merit – Chief Superintendent Brad Shepherd and NHWA Board Member with recipient Doreen Levenson (NSW).

LSC Janine Walker celebrates 10 years as Ballarat's NHW Police Coordinator

In 2010 NHW volunteers in Ballarat realised that they can sit around and talk about crime until the cows come home, but it's not going to prevent it!



I'm sure of it.

How do I see NHW Victoria moving forward? More partnerships with local businesses and media outlets, building bridges not barriers, developing relationships to take back the ownership of our public spaces and looking out for our neighbours.

Importantly, NHW volunteers in Ballarat have never felt more effective than they do right now. They have become an educational resource, providing people with information through their website and at public displays.

Since this time, they have embraced social media and commercial airtime to promote NHW branding, to teach other likeminded members of the community how to target harden against crime. Ballarat NHW group are lucky that they have a consistent Police Coordinator to show them the way and it has truly been my pleasure working with them. It is a bit like the story of the Western Bulldogs...Together we believe we can achieve goals.

Crime across the state is relative to our own police areas and I prefer to focus on proactive projects and programs to showcase what the community can do when they become connected with each other. A better connected community can assist to reduce crime,

NHW volunteers in Ballarat have set up their own working space independent of police facilities to store their NHW equipment and resources. This space now also supports the Ballarat & District Community Support Register, which has proven to be an excellent move.

Our NHW members are providing a service to vulnerable members of the community who either live home alone, or are isolated from the community in some way. They are also providing a database for police members to utilise in times of need. This type of program includes the supporting of 'Neighbour Day' to prevent lonely deaths. This has enabled us to develop a Seniors Portfolio for the Police Proactive Unit. Seniors Rights (Elder Abuse) and



Dementia Australia are also becoming a main focus within my role. The position has really evolved over time.

Social media has largely replaced the newsletters as a call to action as social media provides that urgency to get faster results, sometimes within minutes. We still have the same message to get across and that is that people need to take responsibility for their own safety and security.

My main message is "We all have a role to play in crime prevention and the community you want starts at your front door!"

LS/C JANINE WALKER

Ballarat Police Proactive Unit

PROGRAM

I am making this report because it relates mainly to my participation in the following program:



Atul Garg, NHW Chairperson

Neighbourhood Watch re-establishes itself as a conduit for information sharing between the community and WA Police

One of the core functions for the establishment of Neighbourhood Watch in WA was to provide an avenue for WA Police to gather information from the community about suspicious or criminal activity in their neighbourhoods.

This proved highly successful and resulted in a number of NHW groups forming across the metropolitan and regional areas of WA.

As new technology has been introduced including new methods for people to pass on information to police, Neighbourhood Watch has struggled to retain its integrity as an information-sharing mechanism.

When WA was branded the burglary capital of Australia in 2005, WA Police reacted swiftly by introducing a new intelligence gathering program called Eyes on the Street (EOS).

The EOS program targeted businesses and organisations that worked in the community. For example, local government rangers, gardeners, security staff and retailers. These people were trained and given specific resources to be the eyes and ears for police while going about their normal working duties in the community.

The EOS program quickly established itself as a highly visible and effective intelligence gathering program for

WA Police, resulting in over 10,000 reports made to police in its short 10-year lifespan. When compared with the number of reports made by the NHW program, the results were remarkable: 10,000 to 23. It wasn't that people were not reporting, they just weren't identifying that they were NHW participants when they did.

In 2015, the EOS and NHW program coordinators began working together to address this anomaly and set about a way of transferring the success of one program across to the other.

Reporting workshops were established to educate the community about reporting and were offered through local governments and local NHW groups. The workshops were highly interactive and engaging and covered topics such as what numbers to call, what happens with information, observation skills, how to record information and the power of reporting. Most importantly, through the workshops, it was highlighted the importance of acknowledging the NHW brand as people shared their information with police.

Along with the reporting workshops, both the EOS and NHW coordinators worked with Crime Stoppers WA to have the EOS and NHW programs included on their opening web page.

We now have a mode of accurately measuring NHW specific reports made to Crime Stoppers. For the first nine months of 2016 a total of 308 NHW-specific reports have been received at Crime Stoppers via phone calls or online reporting. The average NHW-specific monthly contact to Crime Stoppers is 34 (just over one a day). Out of the 308 calls to date, 291 have been converted into incident reports. This equates to a conversion rate of 94 per cent. In summary, 94 per cent of the information reported by an identified NHW participant is quality information that results in an incident report being developed and actioned.

For the NHW program this is invaluable information as we move into an evidence-based environment to justify that WA Police are getting value for money for their investment with NHW.



NHWA recently acknowledged the contribution of Sergeant Warren Ameduri, Eyes on the Street Coordinator, to NHW WA. Being presented with his certificate by Bernie Durkin.



Starting your own group is easy

Find some other neighbours who would support wanting to live in a safer community and to become part of a Neighbourhood Watch program with you. Often people are willing; it just needs a neighbour to take the first initiative by asking them if they would like to be involved.

It's easy to create a group online! Just go to <http://www.nhwconnect.com.au> and fill out the information requests to create a log in.

1. Privacy Policy and Terms and Conditions

Please ensure you have read and agree to the NHWA privacy policy and terms and conditions in order to register.

2. Your details

This information is for identification purposes only and WILL NOT be shared or published.

3. Identify your community area

Your community area could be a cluster of homes around you, your street or a larger block area.

For example:

- A cluster of houses
- A block of units, a housing estate or complex
- A street/streets
- A larger block area
- Other

4. Register your community interest with your NHW State Office

Sign up to stay informed. Your NHW State Office will assist you in establishing your NHW Group and provide you with all the information you need to get started.

The screenshot shows the nhwconnect.com.au website. At the top is the NHWA Connect logo. Below it are two input fields: 'Email address' and 'Password'. There is a checkbox for 'Remember me'. Two buttons are present: 'CREATE LOGIN' and 'LOGIN' with a right arrow icon. Below the buttons is a link: 'Forgot password? Click here'. A large green button with a magnifying glass icon says 'FIND A GROUP TO JOIN'. At the bottom left is the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia logo. To its right, text reads 'BROUGHT TO YOU BY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA'. At the very bottom is a link: 'PLEASE READ TERMS AND CONDITIONS'.

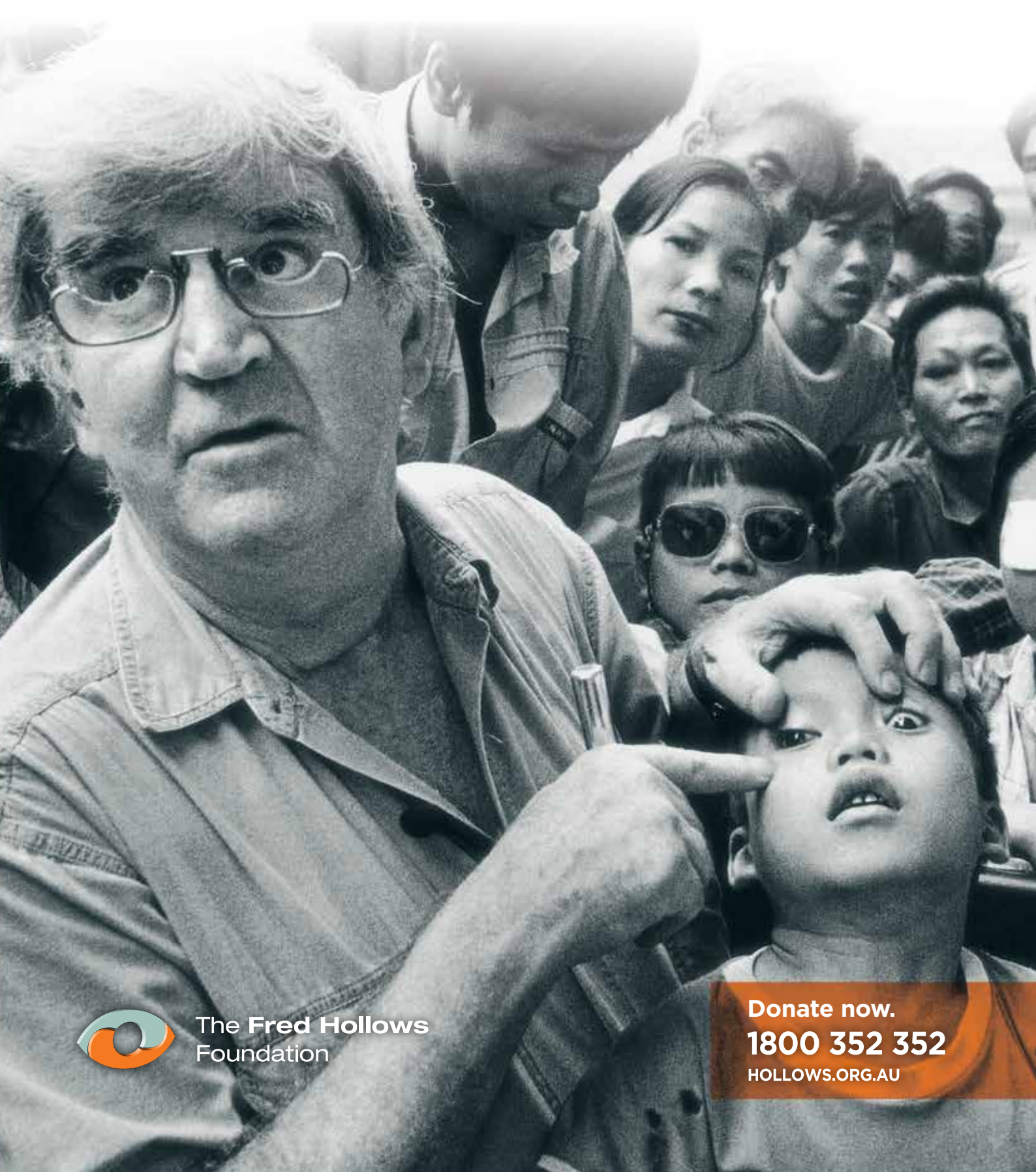
Register at

<http://www.nhwconnect.com.au>

\$25 can restore sight.

4 out of 5 people who are **blind** don't need to be.

Help keep Fred's dream alive.



The Fred Hollows
Foundation

Donate now.

1800 352 352

HOLLOWS.ORG.AU

DONATE BLOOD AND YOU'LL SAVE THREE LIVES.



AND GET THE BEST BISCUIT EVER.

When you give blood, you save three lives. No wonder the biscuit you eat afterwards is so satisfying. To donate, call **13 14 95** or visit donateblood.com.au because giving blood feels good.