



ANNUAL REPORT

1 JULY 2017 – 30 JUNE 2018



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA INCORPORATED



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OUR MISSION

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia will promote community safety by supporting its members through education, awareness and resources to prevent crime.

OUR VISION

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch member organisations and the Police, will be the leading volunteer community inclusion and crime prevention organisation in Australasia.

OUR HISTORY

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) programs were introduced to Australian communities by Police in the 1980's. The logo of the four faces was designed in 1983 by a Victorian volunteer community committee and would become the recognised brand of NHW nationally.

In 2003 NHW conference participants from Australian policing agencies and NHW voluntary associations agreed that there would be significant value in forming a national structure to assist the growth and development of NHW across Australia.

By 2006 it was decided that an overarching national body, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA), should be established to provide a collaborative approach to the development of resources; training to members; cross sector information exchange and advocacy for Neighbourhood Watch (Australia) and Neighbourhood Support (New Zealand) programs.

The first NHWA Journal was printed in October 2006 and shared information on crime prevention initiatives and events from each of the member jurisdictions. In 2007 NHWA, as a not for profit organisation, registered as an incorporated association.

In 2010 NHWA established an online presence with the nhwa.com.au website. This continues to be a great point of contact and source of news and information for groups, members and the general public. Following the growth of social media the NHWA Facebook page was launched in 2011.

In 2018 NHWA's primary role continues to be to promote the exchange of information and knowledge between communities and Police and to improve community safety and social inclusion.





ABOUT US

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) is the national office of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) in Australia and Neighbourhood Support (NHS) in New Zealand (NZ). It is governed by a Board comprising NHW representatives and senior Police from each of the member States and Territories of Australia, and New Zealand.

NHWA supports and works in partnership with NHW and NHS to enhance the safety and security of communities. We share ideas and disseminate information through community programs that encourage participation in crime prevention and the building of safe and confident communities.

Board members and jurisdiction representatives at the 2017 AGM.

L-R: Rob MacFarlane, Dave Sheedy, Don Emanuel-Smith, Bernie Durkin, Virginia Read, Paloma Cheadle, Les Bulluss, Tracy-Dale Middleton, Maria Bennett, Eric Tibbott, Jeff Knight, Jenny Malone, Clare McGrath, Judy Webster, Margaret Pearson, Bambi Gordon, Peter Edwards and Bradley Shepherd.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Stakeholders and Members

On behalf of the Board, it gives me great pleasure to present our Annual Report for the financial year 2017/18.

In August 2017 we farewelled our inaugural Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ingrid Stonhill and were very happy to recruit Maria Bennett for this position in October 2017. Maria brings to our organisation a wealth of experience in both the public and private sectors having recently worked in the corporate sales and marketing fields. Maria is extremely motivated, hit the ground running and has steered our organisation towards a new working structure.

Since inception in 2006 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) has operated as a not for profit Incorporated Association and relied principally on Federal Government funding. Maria Bennett and the current Board are moving NHWA to a new entity as a Company Limited by Guarantee and a registered charity able to receive tax deductible donations. This makes NHWA more competitive in the corporate funding space and will enable us to become more self-sustaining.

During the 2017/18 financial year we have had some movement with Board Members and I wish to both thank those who have moved on and welcome our new Board Members. I wish to acknowledge and thank Chief Superintendent Bradley Shepherd NSW Police, Sergeant Lee Taylor Tasmania Police, Superintendent David Cowan Victoria Police and Superintendent Virginia Read NT Police for their commitment to NHWA. I welcome to the Board Detective Chief Inspector Carlene Mahoney NSW Police, Commander Peter Edwards Tasmania Police, Ms Bambi Gordon NHW Victoria and Superintendent Craig Barrett NT Police.

The NHWA Board will be focussing its attention on ensuring our governance, management structures and systems align with our strategic priorities in the year ahead.

Research tells us that people who are involved in Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) are more likely to report suspicious or criminal activity to Police than the general public so as an organisation, we need to build our numbers and magnify the benefits this brings to our communities.

The NHWA Board will be looking at every opportunity to enhance our existing programs and will also be exploring new and exciting options that involve all sections of society and ultimately make our local communities safer and happier places to live.

In conclusion I wish to thank our CEO, staff and my fellow Board members for their outstanding efforts and I look forward to the consolidation of our organisation and an exciting year ahead.

Best regards



Bernie Durkin
President



BERNIE DURKIN

CEO'S REPORT

It is an absolute pleasure to be working with such a great organisation.

NHWA is a unique organisation that supports the efforts of State and Territory based NHW groups, coordinating and supporting national approaches to crime prevention initiatives.



MARIA BENNETT

Two days before I officially started in the role as CEO, I was fortunate enough to attend the Neighbourhood Watch Queensland (NHWQ) conference. It was inspiring to see the NHWQ Awards presented to so many dedicated Police Officers who work with Neighbourhood Watch (NHW), often in their own time, putting great initiatives in place with their local groups. Then the Volunteers and Members came forward to accept their NHWQ Awards; their countless hours of commitment being recognised. These are just a few of the thousands of NHW Volunteers and Members who should be recognised for the incredible work they do. What a great introduction to the role.

NHWA has five Federally funded projects. These projects allow NHWA to deliver programs nationally. There have been significant achievements over the past year, including the effective delivery and completion of three of the five projects:

1. Community Funding Program – Supporting local crime prevention initiatives. The final funding round was held in February 2018.
2. Repository of Information – Known as the 'Project Library', provides an online source of projects implemented in various regions. There are over 200 projects to source ideas from.
3. Community Safety Training Days – Providing crime prevention information and resources to NHW members. The final two events were held in Townsville and Alice Springs in June 2018.

The remaining two projects will be completed during the next financial year. They are:

4. Diagrammatic Brochures – Specifically designed for community groups where English isn't their first language.
5. Remote and Vulnerable Communities – Working with Indigenous Communities to develop resources for local issues such as community safety and truancy.

During the year we saw the development of NHWA moving from an Incorporated Association to a Company Limited by Guarantee. This change is evidence of the drive and determination within the organisation to establish itself in the strongest possible position for the future.

Anne Collishaw joined the NHWA team as the Executive Assistant and brings an abundance of project management skills to the office.

Central to all NHWA activities and projects is the relationship between NHW and policing organisations. The future of effective crime prevention lies within the strong partnerships between communities and Police, as we work together to achieve common goals and create safer, inclusive and more resilient communities.

Let's take action. Let's take ownership. And number 1, Let's Stay Safe.



Maria Bennett
Chief Executive Officer



OUR PEOPLE

Board Members and Staff



OUR FIVE FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

1 COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM

Community Funding Program (CFP) is a program that provides funds for crime prevention initiatives and projects across Australia.

A total of 257 applications were received from local NHW groups, of which 128 were successful and allocated funds.

Three rounds of the CFP have been completed in the last 26 months:

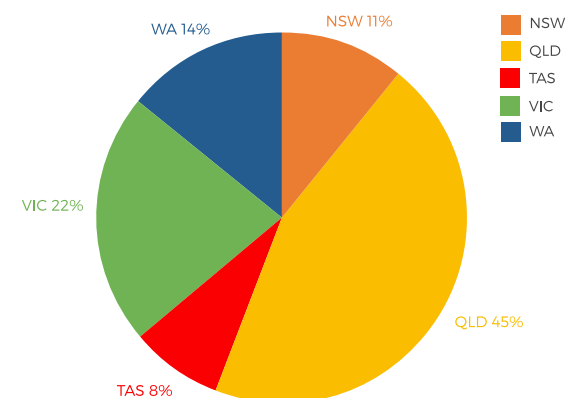
- August 2016
- June 2017
- February 2018

A total investment of over \$300,000 worth of project grants and resources were funded and shared amongst all member States and Territories.

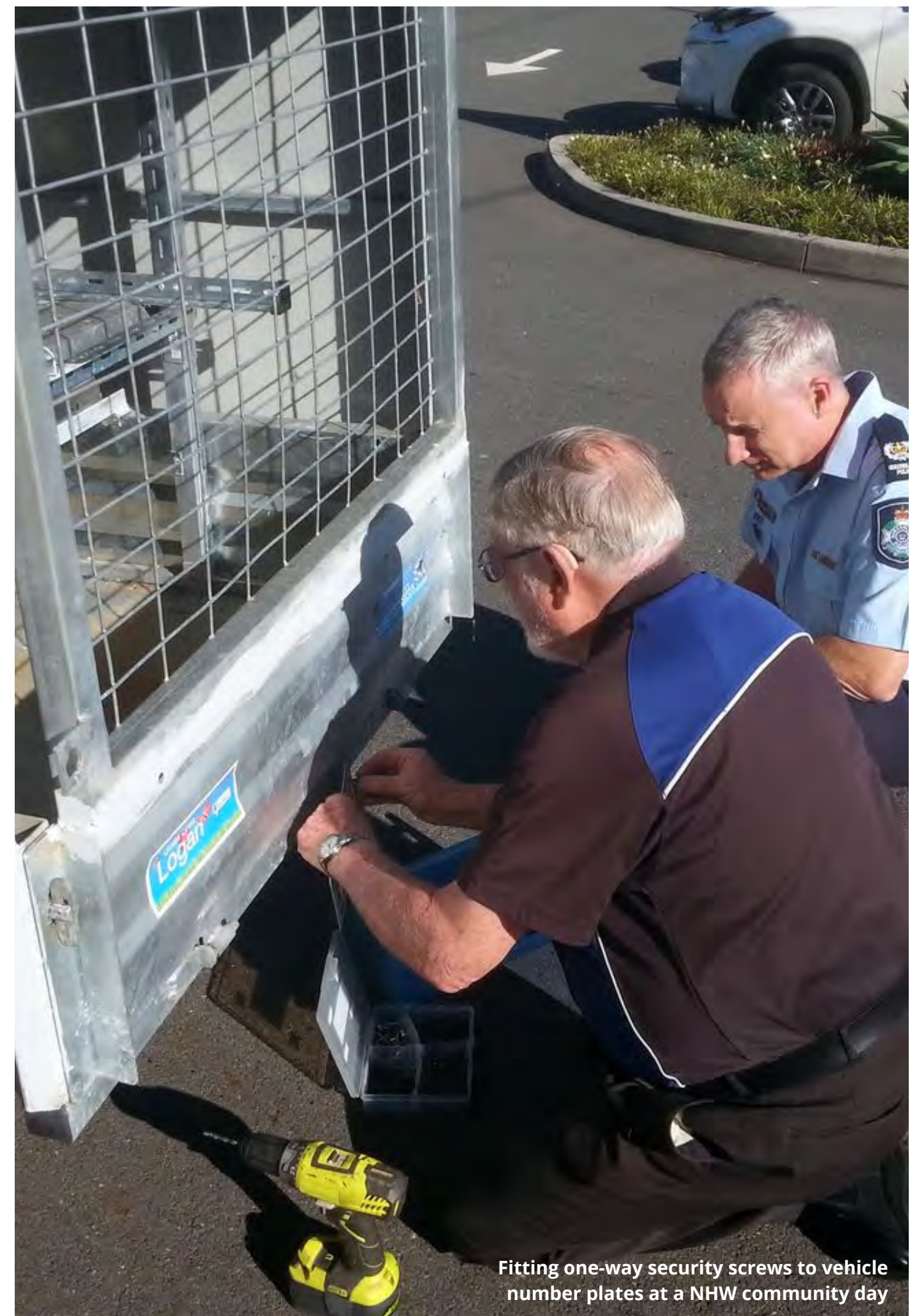
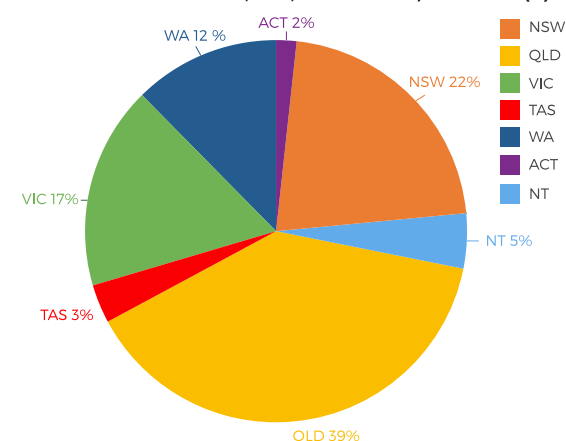
There were two CFP rounds for local NHW groups for projects between \$500 and \$3000 in the 2017/2018 financial year with many grass roots projects funded.

We were overwhelmed by the number of applications. For the financial year 2017/2018 a total of \$136,000 was allocated across Australia for projects including: one-way vehicle number plate security screw installation days, 'cuppa with a cop' gatherings, window and door security shields, personal alarms for the elderly, activity books, signage and social media training to name but a few.

SUMMARY OF CFP APPROVED APPLICATIONS 2018



TOTAL SUCCESSFUL 2016, 2017, 2018 BY STATE/TERRITORY (%)



Fitting one-way security screws to vehicle number plates at a NHW community day

2 DIAGRAMMATIC PROGRAM

NHWA has been working in conjunction with multi-cultural teams from Police departments, local governments and migrant settlement organisations from across Australia to create, design and deliver great resources for our culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community members.

People in our CALD communities don't have English as their first language, either spoken or written. This program provides these communities with personal and public safety information and strategies in an easily accessible format of diagrams, illustrations and plain English.

Currently six diagrammatic brochures have been produced and are being distributed.

Their titles and focus are:

1. Protect Yourself - Personal Safety
2. Protect Your Vehicle - Vehicle Safety
3. Protect Your Home - Home Security
4. Behind Closed Doors - Family Violence
5. Be a Good Neighbour - Being a Good Neighbour
6. Be Safe and Secure - Being Safe and Secure

Through this visual learning, the ideals and values of NHW and the Australian principles of keeping yourself, your family and your belongings safe are shared with both people newly arrived in Australia and those who have been residents for longer who will benefit from this information and advice.



3 REMOTE AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

BIDYADANGA – WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The 'My Home is a Safe Home' charter was officially launched in the Bidyadanga community in October 2017. This program has been a huge success. Many residents are seeking to change behaviour and accepted the call to action placing 'My Home is a Safe Home' signage at the front of their homes.

GUNBALANYA – ARNHAM LAND NORTHERN TERRITORY

Working in partnership with elders, schools, community leaders, government departments and existing organisations the NHWA project is to identify community challenges and create appropriate, localised resources.

The focus has been on engaging with remote Indigenous communities in Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory to encourage increased and regular school attendance.

The project theme is 'Children Come to School'. It is a positive message with education as the golden key to opening opportunities for positive future prospects such as:

- Increased self-esteem
- Breaking down antisocial behaviours
- Keeping children, the future adults and community leaders, out of the justice system
- Employment opportunities

NHWA has worked in conjunction with stakeholders to create a new localised resource book to help address truancy and strengthen school attendance. The book and support materials will all be focussed on the same message, getting more children to school more often.

The project is an investment in the future of many young people in the community and the community as a whole, as education is everyone's business.

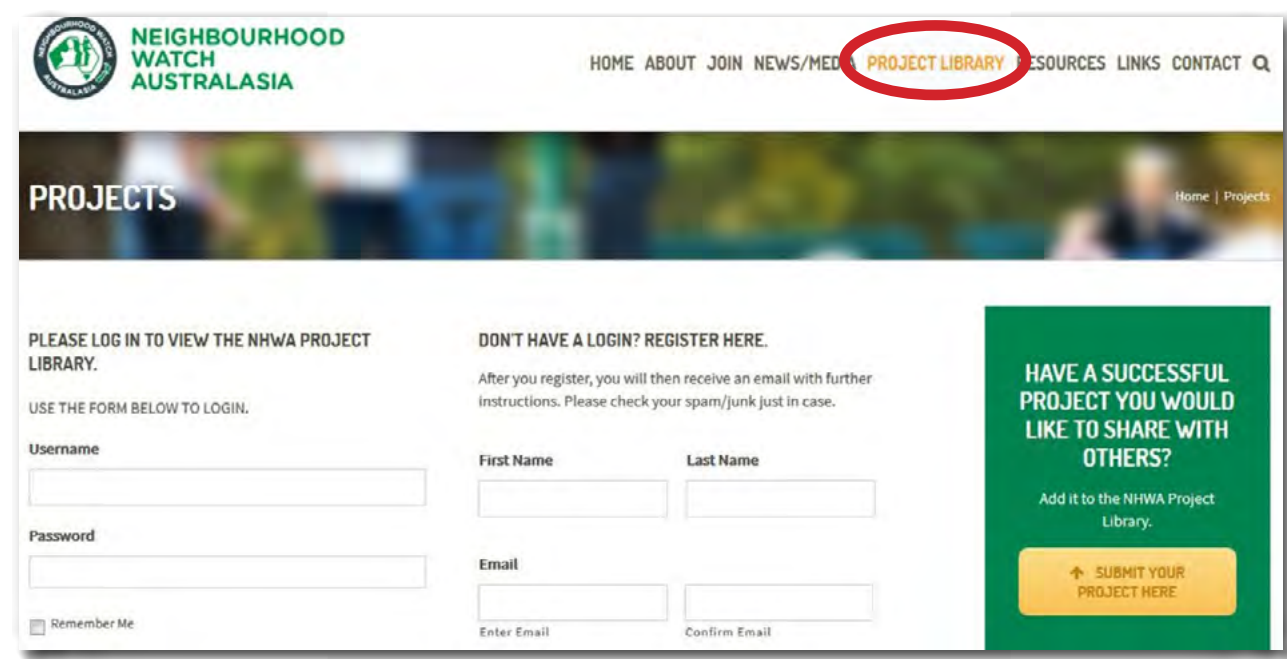
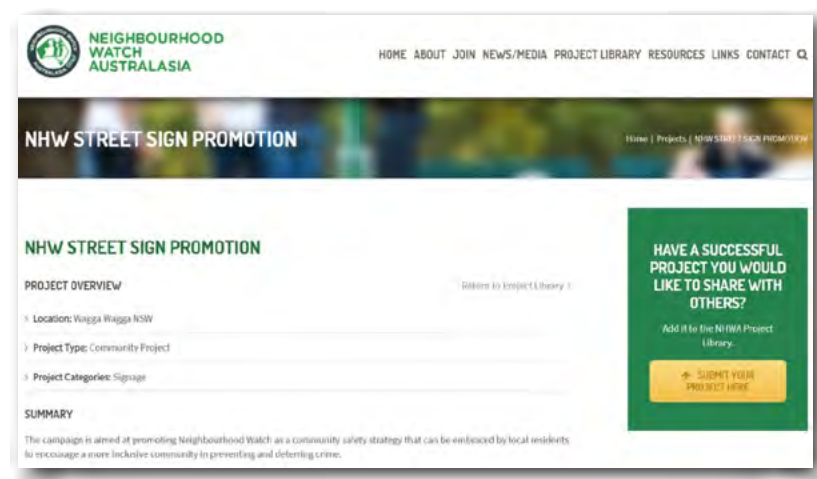


4 REPOSITORY OF INFORMATION

The Repository of Information (ROI) is an online resource providing details of crime prevention projects and ideas that have been implemented across Australasia. It is available to Police, NHW members and crime prevention practitioners.

This ready reference allows users to review projects and evaluate their potential for use in their area. This saves time and effort for NHW groups and builds an invaluable, dynamic resource.

The ROI will continue to grow as new projects are added and existing ones customised for new locations or situations and fine-tuned with further experience.



5 COMMUNITY SAFETY TRAINING DAYS

Community Safety Training Days have been held in Darwin, Sydney, Canberra, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast. The final two sessions were held in Alice Springs and Townsville in June 2018.

Community Safety Training Days provide NHW members with relevant information on localised community safety and crime prevention initiatives.

Some of the topics covered were:

- Drugs in communities
- Youth crime
- Online and cyber crime
- Crime prevention through environmental design
- Local government and Police initiatives

Presentations by experts in each field provided a rare chance for people to gain a perspective on the problems being faced across Australia and learn steps that help them to overcome the many and varied challenges.

These training days are offered free of charge to members of all jurisdictions and have been greatly appreciated for their practical advice as well as the reassurance that they can be involved and contribute to safer, happier communities.



PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

STREETSMART HANDBOOK

Since 2002, the Streetsmart Handbooks have been delivered to teenagers at secondary schools. They provide friendly positive approaches for youth on important topics relevant to them as they transition into adult life.

Topics include cyber bullying, depression, social behaviour in the community, dangers of drugs, alcohol and much more. They also give teenagers and their families details of places and organisations to contact whenever they need assistance.

NHWA's partnership with the Streetsmart Handbooks promote the NHWA goal of creating a safe, connected and inclusive community, where people feel empowered, informed and engaged with one another and with Police.



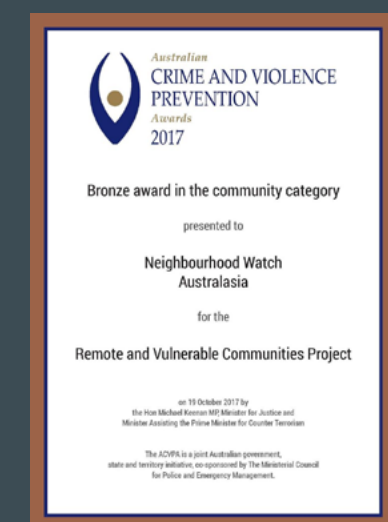
NHWA Journal is printed and distributed across Australia and New Zealand 3 times a year



NHWA Police Commissioner's Award 2017 recipient Senior Constable Amanda Dohrman



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



NHWA received a Bronze Award for the Remote and Vulnerable Communities Project

TREASURER'S REPORT

In April 2016 the then Minister for Justice, the Hon. Michael Keenan MP, announced a commitment to provide \$1,305,500 under Round Two of the Safer Streets Programme to fund five projects to 30 June 2018.



MARGARET PEARSON

The projects were:

1. Community Funding Program which allocates funds to local NHW groups for appropriate crime prevention projects.
2. Diagrammatic Program, a series of illustrated brochures relating to safety and security issues.
3. Remote and Vulnerable Communities, the development of resources for Indigenous communities.
4. Repository of Information, an online resource which provides information and guidance on how various community challenges have been met.
5. Community Safety Training Days providing information and education to improve community safety.

The final payment of \$220,000 was made by the Commonwealth Government in mid May 2018.

June 2018 was to be the end of our current Federal Proceeds of Crime funding however this funding was extended to September 2018 to enable the completion of two of our key funded projects. These are the Remote and Vulnerable Communities project and our Diagrammatic Program.

As the Treasurer of NHTA, I believe that as an organisation we are entering a very exciting period in our transition from an incorporated not for profit organisation into a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG). There are many challenges ahead but also many new and exciting opportunities.

This change in structure has brought about many developments including a new constitution. Although moving to a new constitution was a required part of the process, both the Board and management team were keen to maintain the philosophy and ethos that has always been the cornerstone of NHTA.

NHTA in its new organisational structure as a CLG will be pursuing additional avenues for funding to ensure its continued operation into the future.

Best regards

Margaret Pearson
Secretary / Treasurer

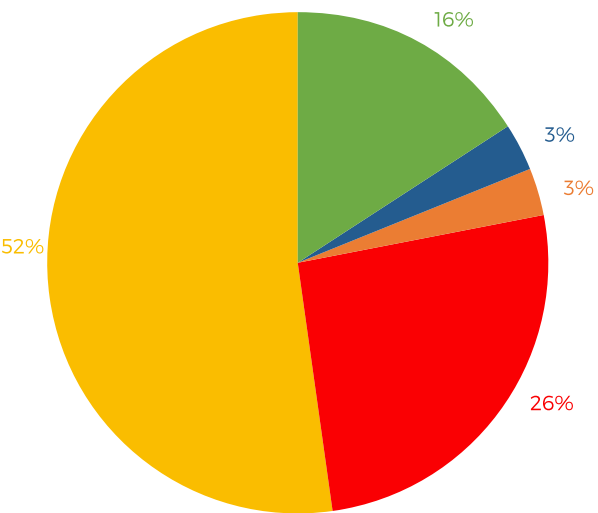
FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Incorporated

FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

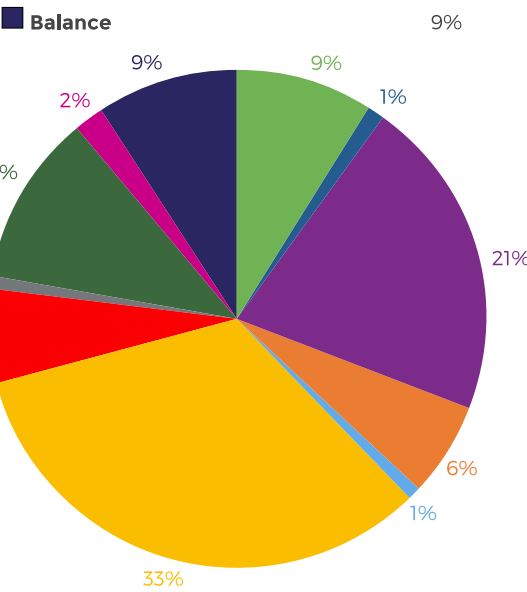
PROJECTS

- Community Funding Program
- Diagrammatic Program
- Remote and Vulnerable Communities
- Repository of Information
- Community Safety Training Days



EXPENSES

- Total Administration Costs 9%
- Annual General Meeting Costs 1%
- Community Funding Project 21%
- Community Safety Training Days 6%
- Diagrammatic Program 1%
- Employment Expenses 33%
- Executive Meetings 6%
- Governance and Training 1%
- Remote and Vulnerable Communities 11%
- Repository of Information 2%
- Total Expenses 91%**



Balance Sheet			
Assets	2018	2017	Variance
Current Assets			
Cash on Hand	\$344,745	\$522,795	-34%
GST	-	\$3,592	
Accounts Receivable	\$13,750	-	
Total Assets	\$358,495	\$526,388	-32%
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
GST	\$8,746	-	
Accounts Payable	\$20,410	\$53,234	-62%
Employee Entitlements	\$12,085	\$8,996	34%
Income Received in Advance	\$21,557	\$225,403	-90%
Total Liabilities	\$62,798	\$287,632	-78%
Net Assets	\$295,697	\$238,755	24%
Equity			
Retained Earnings	\$295,697	\$238,755	24%
Total Equity	\$295,697	\$238,755	24%

Cash on Hand is committed to projects to be completed next financial year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & PARTNERSHIPS



Neighbourhood Watch Queensland



Neighbourhood Watch New South Wales



Neighbourhood Watch Australian Capital Territory



Neighbourhood Watch Victoria



Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania



Neighbourhood Watch Western Australia



Neighbourhood Watch Northern Territory



Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS

To all the many thousands of Volunteers and Members of Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support in NZ, we sincerely thank you.



An Australian Government Initiative

GRANTS AND FUNDING

NHWA acknowledges with gratitude the funding provided by the Federal Government.



ThinkUKnow is a partnership between the Australian Federal Police, Commonwealth Bank, Microsoft and Datacom and delivered in partnership with all State and Territory police and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia. The cyber safety presentations sensitively cover a range of topics including sexting, cyber bullying, online child exploitation, online privacy, and importantly what to do when something goes wrong. Presentations are aimed at parents, carers and teachers and young people from Kindergarten to Grade 12.



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

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