

Neighbourhood Watch Week

The inaugural National NHW week was held in October 2016 and is now an annual national event in the first week of October every year. NHTWA developed and provided a suite of NHW Week resources and support information to all Member Policing Agencies and NHW Associations.

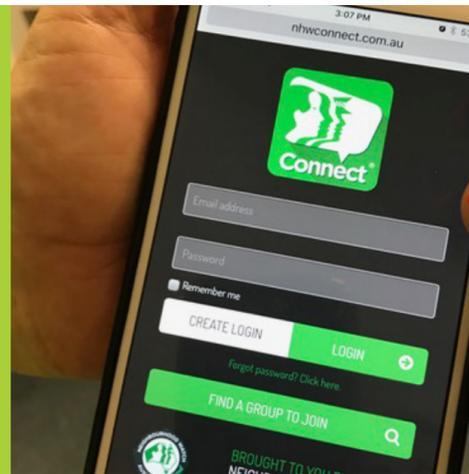


The aims of the NHW Week campaign are to increase:

- Membership to NHW programs.
- Awareness of benefits of participating in a NHW program.
- Awareness of NHTWA, its role and its initiatives.
- Positive engagement between police and community.

NHW Connect online NHW Group

NHTWA is delighted to be able to provide citizens with a tool to make connecting to community even easier. NHWConnect offers an environment for community minded people to create online NHW groups. Groups can be established to promote community safety and crime prevention. It allows timely discussions about ongoing events within a geographical vicinity (streets and suburbs) or through a community of interest i.e. a sports club, school or child care centre.



NHTWA Community and Policing Awards

To successfully acknowledge and promote NHTWA as a value based organisation, celebrating the extraordinary contributions by community individuals, groups and police employees, NHTWA conducts an annual Awards based system. These awards are the only national awards available to acknowledge individual NHW members and police employee contributions to NHW. Nomination is open to every member jurisdiction.



About Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

NHTWA's primary role is to promote relevant, contemporary, intelligence led community safety and crime prevention information and knowledge exchange, between Neighbourhood Watch organisations and Policing jurisdictions. This enables the creation and development of best practice and innovative crime prevention outputs, outcomes and impacts for the wider community.

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.

The Board

At a strategic level, the NHTWA Board is a collaboration of likeminded community and police professionals, involved in similar activities linked through Australasia's largest community based crime prevention program.

It is the organisation of all member Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support programs across Australia and New Zealand, the organisation comprises representation of all member jurisdictions and provides the overarching philosophy collectively determined and driven by it.



Bernie Durkin
President,
WA



Clare McGrath
Vice President,
ACT



Margaret Pearson
Secretary/Treasurer,
ACT



Lee Taylor
Board Member,
Tas



Eric Tibbott
Board Member,
NZ



Jeff Knight
Board Member
AFP



Brad Shepherd
Board Member,
NSW



David Cowan
Board Member,
Vic



Virginia Read
Board Member,
NT



Les Bulluss
Board Member,
QLD



Ingrid Stonhill
Chief Executive
Officer



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

Safe, connected and inclusive communities



An Australian Government Initiative

Annual Report 2016/17



From the CEO

In this financial year, we have celebrated a significant achievement, a decade, 10 years of a collaborative partnership, joined in the belief that collectively we can make a difference in the communities we serve. For 6 of those years, it has been my immense pleasure to serve as the organisation's Chief Executive Officer. Gaining consecutive rounds of Federal Funding has brought significant responsibility to the business management and governance structure of our organisation. The reporting is extensive, and I wish to acknowledge our past and present Board Members for their commitment and contribution. Our National Office is small, but our reach wide and diverse, as we deliver five major and many auxiliary projects across Australia. Our vision to create safe, connected and inclusive communities means we have adapted to new technologies, whilst continuing to support and acknowledge the traditional NHW methods of connecting to our neighbours.

Our projects are currently on track for year one of a two-year funding agreement with the Commonwealth Government. We work to continue to bring new skill sets and fresh ideas to our projects whilst maintaining a level of historical knowledge and continuity.

We look forward to progressing the traditional values and ideals of Neighbourhood Watch in many generations to come.

Ingrid Stanhill

REPORTING SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR

A STEP BY STEP GUIDE

HOW TO REPORT

WHAT TO REPORT

WHO TO REPORT IT TO

REMEMBER IF WHAT YOU SEE IS AN EMERGENCY DIAL 000 (TRIPLE ZERO) IMMEDIATELY AND ASK FOR POLICE

Key Projects

NHWA creates a culture of collaboration between member jurisdictions to boost the confidence of individual members, enabling them to achieve significant outcomes. The culture of collaboration allows similarly identified community and policing issues to be analysed from differing perspectives. Paramount to the success of NHWA is the ability to focus different Neighbourhood Watch/Support approaches to the same problem therefore increasing the likelihood of innovative problem-solving outcomes. It achieving increased efficiency not only through mutual support and the acknowledgement of diversity, but by teamwork and the application of different skill sets.

Community Funding Program

The Community Funding Program is designed to build community capacity by enabling informal social controls, that is enhancing the willingness of community residents to take either direct or indirect action to address community problems (including crime) when they occur. Effective crime reduction requires community coordination and support, to assist law enforcement agencies and the private sector.

Local NHW groups assist police with education and engagement which complements their enforcement efforts. To date, approximately 160 NHW groups throughout Australia have received direct project funds totalling \$310,000 with in excess of 500 groups receiving \$190,000 of support resources.

Community Training Days

NHWA Community Training Days provide opportunities for NHW grassroots members, community engagement officers from police and local councils to be exposed to relevant information to promote increased awareness and knowledge sharing to improve community safety and reduce crime. NHWA Community Training Days are developed to suit the specific needs of each location, therefore also addressing local perceptions of crime and addressing fear of crime. Access to real time information about existing and emerging local crime, gives opportunity for community members to gain perspective, rather than relying on national media. Previous attendees have indicated that the training provided assisted in the understanding of crime in their local communities and largely reduces their 'fear of crime'. To date 13 Community Training Days have been held throughout Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory, New South Wales and the ACT.

Diagrammatic Brochures

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia has identified that engaging Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) and non-English-speaking background people is critical to developing inclusive and sustainable communities. As Australia's migrant population increases, education and awareness around community safety and crime prevention through culturally appropriate communication within these groups is vital to building safe and secure Australian Communities for all.

The NHWA diagrammatic brochures are specifically designed for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community members. Through visual learning the basic ideals and values of Neighbourhood Watch are portrayed to ensure that the Australian principals of keeping yourself, your family and your belongings safe are shared with new migrants.

Repository of Information – Project Library

The partnership between Neighbourhood Watch and policing agencies has evidenced that front line community engagement police officers are facing a multitude of issues. The web based NHWA Project Library is a central repository which holds specific community safety and crime prevention research and project information applicable to a NHW environment.

The purpose is to continue to grow this already significant resource of projects for reference and learnings to enhance the knowledge and capability of community NHW members and community policing officers, who work across community engagement roles.

Vulnerable Communities Project

NHWA seeks to specifically develop capacity and resilience by strengthening police-community engagement within Australian remote and vulnerable communities. Developing localised remote NHW programs including community safety plans, delivers a community led response methodology specific to the individual needs of each community. The project provides a body of knowledge to community and police relating to crime prevention in remote communities. The educational program enhances a positive relationship between police and community while addressing responsibility and reporting.

This project is being developed extensively throughout the Northern Territory and Western Australia.



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