



NHWA

Official journal of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia
incorporating Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



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The origin of the
NHW logo



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Donna Adams



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Mildura NHW engage
with local youth

LJH Commercial

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Cover photo: Para Hills NHW Group Celebrate 25th Birthday



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FROM THE CEO

MARIA BENNETT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

Hello Neighbourhood Watch Australasia!

Welcome to the November 2021 edition of the NHPWA Journal.

Australia and New Zealand are currently being impacted adversely by the spread of the C-19 Delta variant, however, it's heartening to see the vaccination rates rising every day, every single vaccinated person is contributing towards keeping our communities safe!



The Children in the Pictures



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHPWA) is proud to be a supporting ally organisation for a newly released Australian feature film, *The Children in the Pictures*, currently screening virtually and, where Covid-safe, in cinemas nation-wide. The film (<https://childreninthepictures.org>) provides insight into Task Force Argos – a team of the world's best detectives going undercover to rescue children from online sexual abuse. From infiltrating global criminal networks, to hunting down the world's worst abusers.

As ally partner, NHPW members have the opportunity to host screenings of *The Children in the Pictures*, either locally or virtually. Hosting a screening of the film is great way to engage with the community regarding how to assist in the prevention of these crimes, promote the missions of our NHPW organisations and connections to this issue, and, most importantly, to assist in raising public awareness of online child sexual abuse. For more information contact us at admin@nhwa.com.au

Please note that The Children in the Pictures is rated MA 15+ for mature audiences and contains sensitive content that may particularly negatively impact some persons.

New Resources on the NHPWA Website

The NHPWA website is a valuable resource for NHPW members, and I recommend making the most of these resources for your local groups in person or online.

- **NHPW TV commercials** – Providing safety messaging for the whole community: www.nhwa.com.au/resources/tvc-messages/



- **Reporting page** – Find out how, when and what to report at: www.nhwa.com.au/reporting/
- **NHPW Training videos** – Training videos developed specifically for the needs of NHPW groups and members: www.nhwa.com.au/resources/training-videos/

The training videos are of significant note, and include valuable and informative material. See more on pages 14 & 15.

Closing the Net Podcast



NHPWA included in recording the latest Closing the Net podcast

Recently I had the opportunity to be involved in the recording of the compelling podcast series *Closing the Net*, produced and released by the AFP-led Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE). This episode, titled *See Say Do*, focusses on what children are seeing and doing online, and offers valuable tips and advice on how to keep kids safe online.

While a difficult subject to broach, the *Closing the Net* series is essential listening for all caregivers responsible for the safety and wellbeing of children, as education is key. The two new episodes of Season 2 – *See Say Do* and *Time to Talk*, breaks down some of the myths about online child sexual exploitation and explains how easily it can happen. **If you haven't yet listened to Closing the Net Season 1 and 2, I recommend you do. Available at www.acce.gov.au/closingthenet**

NHW Kumbia 30th Anniversary



NHWA CEO Maria Bennett with Peter Verbakel of Kumbia NHW

In August I had the privilege of being a guest speaker at NHW Kumbia's 30th Anniversary dinner. Just prior to starting with NHW, four years ago, I attended a NHW conference where I met many amazing NHW people. One of these was Peter Verbakel from Kumbia NHW. I'm very pleased to continue working with this industrious group of dedicated and welcoming people. Congratulations on 30 years of ensuring community safety Kumbia NHW. See more on page 25.

Upcoming Events and Dates

NHWA Awards

The 2021 NHWA Award Nominations Are Now Open!

- The NHWA Malcolm Grant OAM – Volunteer of the Year Award
- The NHWA Police Commissioner's Award

For nomination forms, go to:
www.nhwa.com.au/newsmedia/awards/

The closing date for award nominations is 30 November, so there's still time to nominate your deserving and notable community member! See more on page 16.



NHW Week 8-14 Nov 2021



Combined for the 3rd consecutive year NHW Week and Crime Prevention Week, NHW and Bunnings are working together to provide crime prevention awareness and information to the community.

NHW Week considerably raises public awareness of the benefits of belonging to a local NHW group and encourages participation in NHW programs throughout Australia. See more on page 16.

Neighbour Day 2022



27 March 2022 is Neighbour Day, and NHWA is proud to be one of the Very Neighbourly Organisations supporting this event. <https://neighbourday.org/>

Neighbour Day is Australia's annual celebration of community, encouraging people to connect with their neighbours. Neighbours matter (whether near, far, or online), and knowing your neighbours, and your broader community, has never been more important – it's the time to make creative connections and to stay connected.

Whether through a cuppa, a picnic in the park, or a message of support; Neighbour Day is the perfect opportunity to reach out and connect with your neighbours

Connected people connect communities, and connected communities are safer communities.
It's what Neighbourhood Watch does.

Stay safe, and stay connected, neighbours both near and far, and let's all keep doing our bit to ensure the safety of all!

Together we achieve great things
Neighbourhood Watch – the Power of Many

Maria Bennett

Maria Bennett
Chief Executive Officer
NHW Australasia
maria.bennett@nhwa.com.au

**Let's take action.
Let's take ownership.
Number 1 Let's Stay Safe.**



BOARD DIRECTORS & STAFF



Bernie Durkin – Chairman, 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 Chairman of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.



Margaret Pearson – Company Secretary

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



Clare McGrath – Australian Capital Territory

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 a self-professed sports lover and a one eyed Hawthorn supporter.



Assistant Commissioner Lesa Gale – AFP

Assistant Commissioner Gale's passion for combatting all forms of human exploitation and maintaining community safety has been admirably demonstrated throughout her entire 33 year career and in 2019 was appointed head of AFP Northern Command and the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation. During her career in the AFP, Assistant Commissioner Gale has combined significant leadership expertise across serious and organised crime and national security portfolios, leading the delivery of business outcomes across AFP Commands in Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane. Assistant Commissioner Gale holds a Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Management and was awarded the Australian Police Medal in 2019.



Superintendent Eric Tibbott – New Zealand

Superintendent Tibbott is currently the Director of Community, Partnerships and Prevention for New Zealand Police. His role is to support the Assistant Commissioner and to foster and enable Iwi and community partnerships and prevention outcomes. Eric fosters a whole government approach to prevention by actively supporting and contributing to the inter-agency development of policies and strategies for community based crime prevention.



Acting Superintendent Steve Collins – Queensland

Acting Superintendent Steve Collins is a career police officer with over 37 years with the Queensland Police Service (QPS). Steve's current position is the Commander overseeing the QPS Community Engagement and Internal Support portfolio within the Communication, Culture and Engagement Division. This latest posting is a challenging area focusing on building effective relationships to adopt prevention strategies to address complex social issues associated with crime in our communities.



Peter Edwards BM APM – Tasmania

Peter Edwards is a former Commander in the Tasmanian Police Service. He has extensive experience across diverse policing portfolios within his home State, as well as national and international law enforcement representation. He has served as a Detective, Prosecutor, Intelligence Officer and Head of Training. Peter is currently the President of Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania.



Maria Bennett – Chief Executive Officer

Maria has extensive knowledge, management skills and leadership experience in both the public and private sectors. Prior to joining NHWA Maria had a successful career in corporate sales and marketing roles. Previous management roles have provided experience in coordination of major projects and exposure to the differing legislative and regulatory environments involved as well as an awareness of the unique physical and social challenges each location brings.



Jack Clark – Project Manager & Executive Assistant

Jack is a recent Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice graduate, specialising in youth crime and intervention. He completed his thesis based on the NHWQ survey at the University of Queensland. Jack has come to understand how vital the role of local communities and collective efficacy is in shaping safe and happy homes. He hopes to help in extending NHWA's reach and engagement across all members of the community and put his criminological knowledge to good use by assisting NHW groups across Australasia.

Australian Federal Police Celebrates National Child Protection Week

The AFP was proud to support National Child Protection Week (5-11 September), launching a number of initiatives to raise awareness about online child sexual exploitation.

Led by the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN), this year's theme was 'the bigger picture' in addressing child abuse and neglect:

Every child, in every community, needs a fair go. To treat all of Australia's children fairly, we need to make sure every family and community has what kids need to thrive and be healthy.

Leading up to NCPW, the AFP and the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) launched the 'Stop Child Abuse - Trace an Object' initiative and 'Stop the Stigma' awareness campaign.

Headlining the week was the release of two new 'Closing The Net' podcast episodes following on from the success of the 10-part podcast launched earlier this year.

Narrated by Australian actress and mother, Caroline Craig, the new episodes have been developed for parents and carers and focus on the importance of education and awareness to keep children safe from online exploitation.

Alongside contributions from parents, teachers, and industry experts, the episodes also contain valuable tips and advice from the AFP-led ThinkUKnow Program - Australia's only national law enforcement-led online child safety program that delivers community presentations and online resources to raise awareness of online child sexual exploitation.

Closing The Net is available now on all major podcast platforms.

Aligning with this year's theme, the ThinkUKnow program and the



National Child Protection Week branding



Podcast branding

ACCCE jointly released a factsheet for parents and carers with advice on how to keep children safe from online child sexual exploitation during COVID-19 lockdowns.

Its release coincides with the rising trend being seen by victim identification specialists of 'capping', by which children are being coerced into performing live-streamed sexual acts by online predators who often record and share the videos to sexually extort victims into producing even more graphic content.



AFP Executive and the Minister for Home Affairs recognising White Balloon Day



Members from the AFP Online Child Safety Team recording new episodes for Closing the Net podcast series

The factsheet is available at www.thinkuknow.org.au and www.accce.gov.au

At the end of the week, the AFP was also proud to support Bravehearts' White Balloon Day as it celebrated 25 years.

Held every year at the end of National Child Protection Week, White Balloon Day raises awareness about the crime of child sexual assault and encourages Australians to speak up for survivors.

ThinkUKnow Campaign Recognises Program Champions During National Child Protection Week

Throughout National Child Protection Week 2021, the AFP ran a social media campaign profiling State and Territory police ThinkUKnow presenters, highlighting strong partnerships and commitment to keeping children safe online.

The campaign features a ThinkUKnow presenter from each jurisdiction, including a photo and a quote on why they present ThinkUKnow sessions.

The campaign was an opportunity to recognise the work of ThinkUKnow presenters and highlight the broad reach and unique locations ThinkUKnow presentations are delivered.

During 2020-21, the AFP and State and Territory police delivered 2,226 presentations to an estimated 198,680 students, a significant reach made possible by our program partners across Australia.

The ThinkUKnow program delivers presentations throughout schools and organisations to children and young people and parents, carers and teachers, supported by online resources for learning at school or at home.

The program addresses topics including self-generated online child sexual exploitation material, online grooming, image-based abuse, sexual extortion, and importantly encourages help-seeking behaviour.

For more information on the program or to book a presentation, visit www.thinkuknow.org.au



South Australia Police
ThinkUKnow presenter
Senior Constable Murch



Victoria Police ThinkUKnow presenters Leading Senior Constable Hudson and Senior Constable Alexiou



Western Australia Police
ThinkUKnow presenter
Senior Constable Horsley



Northern Territory Police
ThinkUKnow presenter
Senior Constable Bull



Queensland Police
ThinkUKnow presenter
Police Liaison Officer Hong



ACT Police ThinkUKnow
presenter First Constable
Manton



Tasmania Police
ThinkUKnow presenter First
Class Constable Bailey



New South Wales Police
ThinkUKnow presenters
receiving training pre-
Covid restrictions

Stop the Stigma

It's Time to Talk About Child Sexual Exploitation

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) have launched Australia's first ever campaign that urges Australians to open the discussion about child sexual abuse.

The groundbreaking 'Stop the Stigma' campaign is a partnership between the AFP, the ACCCE and leading non-government organisations, and 2021 Australian of the Year Grace Tame. It's designed to break down the public stigma many feel around the topic of child sexual abuse.

The Daniel Morcombe Foundation, Carly Ryan Foundation, Bravehearts, YourTown (Kid's Helpline) and Act for Kids round up the collaboration between the Australian Government and non-government organisations. We were also lucky enough to have other key stakeholders at the launch including Neighbourhood Watch Australasia CEO, Maria Bennett; representatives from Alannah and Madeline Foundation and The University of Queensland.

The campaign features a powerful awareness video which leads viewers to a dedicated space on the ACCCE website, detailing how to report, what to do if someone discloses to you and how to get support. It also highlights the true and brave stories from child sexual abuse survivors, affected parents and carers, a police officer and a psychologist involved in preventing child sexual abuse and supporting survivors.

One of the stories is from Commander Hilda Sirec, Manager of the ACCCE, who says that it is important for people to speak up about this issue.

As part of this campaign we are encouraging people to be brave enough to speak out and as a community be brave enough to listen.

"Law enforcement provides an avenue to report abuse, and we also



Key partners featured in the Stop the Stigma video – from Top Left clockwise: Dr Deirdre Thompson, Jason Murphy, Sonya Ryan, Denise Morcombe, Bruce Morcombe and Grace Tame

work closely with organisations who provide support services for people affected by child sexual abuse. These support services can be found on the ACCCE website.

"The most important thing that parents and carers can do is to start the conversation about online child safety with children from an early age, and to continue talking with them regularly throughout all stages of their lives."

Alarmingly, ACCCE research has shown that 21 per cent of parents and carers say child sexual abuse is too sickening to think about – and more than one in 10 parents would be too embarrassed to talk about it if their child was exploited.

'Stop the Stigma' acknowledges the discomfort of the topic but outlines the importance of open conversation about child sexual abuse.

View the video and find out how you can help Stop the Stigma at accce.gov.au/stopthestigma

To support the initiative, follow the ACCCE on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram



Stop the Stigma QR code to video

New Images Released ‘Stop Child Abuse – Trace an Object’

The Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) continues the fight to solve cases of online child sexual exploitation.

The ‘Stop Child Abuse – Trace an Object’ initiative, was launched by the ACCCE on 3 March 2021. It asks members of the community to identify objects extracted from the backgrounds of sexually explicit materials involving children to help law enforcement identify the victim and offender.

The ACCCE has now released four new images, insisting that more eyes lead to more clues. The new objects; a chest of drawers, a cushion, a logo and a rug can be viewed on the ACCCE website, with our investigators pleading for information on their origin or location.

The new images were released in partnership with Suncorp Stadium who supported the initiative through NRL and Rugby Union finals season by showcasing the objects on the big screens.

Since the launch earlier this year, the dedicated webpage has been viewed more than 53,000 times resulting in over 580 reports sent to our Victim Identification Unit, but the fight is not over.

Commander of the ACCCE, Child Protection and Human Trafficking Hilda Sirec said that the increased exposure allowed much needed awareness and discussion into online child sexual exploitation.

“Protecting our children from harm is everyone’s responsibility and this partnership may provide the ACCCE with critical information that allows us to remove a child from serious harm,” said Commander Sirec.

Thanks to some extremely helpful tips in previous reports, three investigations have narrowed in on



Suncorp Stadium Manager Alan Graham, Julian Simmonds MP, and ACCCE Commander Hilda Sirec launch the new objects at Suncorp Stadium



STOP CHILD ABUSE
TRACE an OBJECT

THE SMALLEST CLUE CAN OFTEN HELP SOLVE A CASE

Do you recognise these objects?



To view the objects and provide information, visit: accce.gov.au/trace

leads and vendors of the specific objects are currently assisting with investigations. In addition to this, even more reports of child sexual abuse unrelated to the images have been submitted to the ACCCE.

Introduced by Europol in 2017, Stop Child Abuse – Trace an Object has already led to 10 children being removed from harm and the arrest of three offenders. Over 26,000 tips have been submitted by the public;

investigators were able to narrow down a country in 105 instances; 12 children, all victims of child sexual abuse have been identified and removed from harm and four offenders have been identified and prosecuted.

To view the images and provide information on an object visit www.accce.gov.au/trace

To support the initiative, follow the ACCCE on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

Online Safety Education For All Ages

The eSafety Commissioner, the first government agency solely committed to safeguarding Australians at risk from online harms, provides a comprehensive suite of education material, offering valuable support for the very youngest child to the most senior adult.

Parents are often keen to put in place safeguards to protect children, such as controls and filters, that limit exposure to inappropriate content or contact. eSafety's Taming the Technology web content provides links to information about how to use parental controls and other tools that help maximise online safety at home.

As no parental control or filter is 100% effective, eSafety provides information about how parents can teach their children to control their own online experiences, including how and where to report any issues they encounter. eSafety's webinars provide parents and carers with options to learn more, as do resources including videos about cyberbullying and online drama, parental controls and online sexual harassment.

The eSafety Guide is a useful tool found on the eSafety website which features information about some of the most popular games, apps and social media used by older children, teens and adults. The guide provides information on how to protect privacy via in-app and game settings. It also contains information on community guidelines and where and how to report inappropriate content on social media such as Snapchat, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and more.

eSafety believes it's never too young to start the chat about online safety and to this end, an online safety picture book titled *Swoosh and Glide and Rule No. 5*, was published earlier this year. The book is available to download or for order, while the catchy song, *My Family Rules* is also on the website.



In terms of older Australians, we know that 50% are willing to upgrade their online skills with the right resources. Be Connected – a joint initiative between the Department of Social Services, eSafety and the Good Things Foundation – has been developed to provide older Australians with the skills and knowledge to safely and confidently make the most of the web.

The Be Connected website is a one-stop shop with more than 150 online courses made up of over 500 engaging learning activities

and it's all free. Managed by eSafety, the site provides free information, learning modules and webinars designed to empower the safe use of the internet and digital technology.

eSafety is always adding new resources and research, so encourage your community to sign up for relevant information and updates by visiting www.esafety.gov.au/about-us/subscribe.

To access the range of eSafety resources and webinars, visit: www.esafety.gov.au.



‘Secure Score’ Home Security Audit Tool

In a new crime prevention initiative, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe joined forces to launch Secure September – a month-long national behaviour change campaign aimed to encourage Australians to take stock of their home security.

To coincide with the launch, the organisations have developed Secure Score, a home security audit tool that rates the effectiveness of householders’ overall home security, based on current home features and security set up.

Australian households can complete the new free Secure Score quiz (it takes just a few minutes!) to uncover a security rating out of 100 for your home, and then access a tailored action plan highlighting the steps that can be taken to improve the score to better protect your home.

Crimsafe CEO Jim Sturgess says this an opportunity for Australian families to take control of their home security at a time when our homes are more valued and important than ever.

“If there’s anything these last two years have taught us, it’s that our homes and the lives we lead inside

them are the most valuable things we have. It’s not just about a score. It’s about our home, our families, and our communities. That’s why I encourage all households across the country to check your Secure Score and do whatever you can to raise it to protect what’s important.”

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia CEO Maria Bennett says the crime protection partnership with Crimsafe and the introduction of Secure Score will help arm Australians with the knowledge they need to better protect their homes and neighbourhoods.

“We have been keeping Australian communities safe for over 40 years as the country’s leading volunteer community inclusion and crime prevention organisation. We’re about protecting our communities and listening to them too,” said Ms Bennett.



“With our local community insights and connections, combined with Crimsafe’s home security expertise, we’re aiming to make a real impact through increasing education around home security and ultimately reducing crime in local neighbourhoods.”

The free Secure Score tool is available now at www.nhwa.com.au/resources/secure-score/

The Origin of the Neighbourhood Watch Logo

Around 1978 a newspaper article was published in a Frankston newspaper stating that they were looking to establishing a crime prevention/awareness program to help combat the crime in Frankston and the surrounding suburbs.

The area for the trial would be the bayside suburb of Seaford, bordering on the city of Frankston.. A meeting was held at the community hall which was attended by police representatives, council members and an amazing turnout of the locals. The public were getting very concerned by the increase in smash and grabs, house invasions, car thefts, drugs, vandalism, graffiti and rapes.

At the meeting I asked, why, out of all the surrounding suburbs of Frankston was my suburb of Seaford selected. It was explained that after studies of the above crimes that happened in schools, local factories, homes, bushlands, shops and businesses, they needed all the above to fit in a concentrated 5-kilometre square area. Thus, Seaford was chosen.

Everyone at the meeting were very much in favour of the program. The name was to be “Neighbourhood Watch”, however, first they needed a logo designed to get press releases, stationary and advertising material out as soon as possible. Being a graphic designer I put my hand up to design the logo. A small local print shop put their hand up to do the stationary, bumper stickers and other forms of printed promotional material. The local newspapers would also run free advertorials. I was given a week to come up with a logo.

At the time, I was working as a graphic designer for a large publishing company doing magazine



layouts for *New Idea*, *TV Week*, *Home Beautiful*, advertisements and promotional material. In those days, we didn't have computers so everything was created by hand. I could work on the logo during the spare time I had.

I decided the logo had to be stylised, compact, one colour, and could be reduced in size for business cards, stickers and small ads without losing detail or filling in. It also had to have a person's head and a head depicting authority, such as a police officer. I believe the logo had to be kept to a confined area of a square or circle. After a few days (and nights) I came up with

the concept that the logo would be 3 sides of faces representing the public and the fourth representing a police officer/security guard. They had to face to the right, representing looking out and looking forward. Facing left to me gave an image of looking back and looking away. I chose a green, PMS 384 (by memory) to represent the foliage of the suburbs. The type face I chose was 'Eras' as it was slightly italic which symbolised positiveness/moving forward.

Choosing one colour only was also important – if a few colours were used this would cause issues for colour continuity, colour registration, printing, advertising and signage



Rod Lane creator of the NHW Logo and Award of Appreciation

costs (the 'KISS' principle – keep it simple, stupid).

At the presentation of my logo to the committee, I presented a full explanation with a fact sheet for colour and typeface chosen. The logo was accepted overwhelming. The only change was to add the chequered band to the peaked hat at the end to represent a police officer, as it was a combined venture between the police and the public. I was in full agreement and made the changes. I presented two packages containing the final artwork, colour requirements (for both printing and paint colour) and typeface.

- Print colour – PMS Green – 100% cyan, 100% yellow.
- Paint colour – Heritage Green.
- Typeface/Font – Eras bold – aligned left on two lines.

Fortunately, over the past 40-ish years the logo hasn't been altered, but unfortunately the type face and its positioning has had many variations.

When I handed over the artwork all those years ago, I believe no one expected the program to be so overwhelmingly accepted. Many thought it might go as far as Melbourne, but after a number of morning TV appearances the

program quickly spread to all of Victoria and in a couple of years it was accepted nationwide.

Because I was working full time, leaving for work very early and getting home late and with time restraints I wasn't able to be more actively involved in the day to day operation of the program. Any quality control or overseeing was out of my hands and at the mercy of others. Naturally there was no financial involvement for the logo, as it was my contribution to this wonderful program. I wish the program continued success to help combat the fight against crime.



Training Videos Available for NHW Members

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) was the recipient of grant funding to produce a series of informative and beneficial training videos for Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) members.

Topics covered in these empowering training videos are wide-ranging, with the selection of subjects chosen to be produced having been identified through a survey of over 800 experienced NHW members. Titles include:

1. *How to Report*
2. *Recognising Suspicious Activity*
3. *4 Steps to Growing Participation in Your NHW Group*
4. *Setting Up an Events Calendar*
5. *Strategic Planning – Creating a Roadmap*
6. *Facebook 101 Training Series – 9 modules*
7. *Introduction to Winning Grants*
8. *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)*
9. *Neighbourhood Watch: Does it Work?*
10. *Building Collective Efficacy: The Role of Neighbourhood Watch*

NHWA was fortunate to draw upon the expertise of highly regarded professionals from our community to assist in the production of these training videos.



How to Report, by **Assistant Commissioner Lesa Gale, Australian Federal Police**, addresses how, when, and where to report a crime, what to include when you report a crime or suspicious behaviour, and how to report anonymously.



In ***Recognising Suspicious Activity*** **Acting Inspector Mick Ackery** from the **Queensland Police Service** discusses what to do when you witness suspicious behaviour, how to give a good description, provides examples of suspicious behaviour, and outlines where to report and when. All too often the answers to these questions are not sought until the unfortunate situation arises that the information is needed.



For assistance with leadership development **Belinda Moore** from **Strategic Membership Solutions**, speaker, author, researcher, consultant, and facilitator specialising in strategic and membership challenges experienced by associations provides comprehensive information. In three short training videos Belinda walks the viewer through

4 Steps to Growing participation in Your NHW Group the effective steps and process required for overcoming membership challenges, **Setting Up an Events Calendar** improving performance and outcomes for volunteers when participating in NHW groups, and **Strategic Planning - Creating a Roadmap** examines how NHW entities can make positive impacts on community.



Facebook 101 is a Facebook training series delivered over 9 modules, created and presented by social media guru and personality **Michelle McGuire** from **Bossy Girl Media**. From creating a profile or group, to setting up a business page, to planning your Facebook posts and more, this easy-to-follow series will benefit individuals, groups, and business owners.



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is presented by **John Goldsworthy**, Director and Board Member of the **International CPTED Association**. John has a passion and extensive real-world experience in all aspects of crime prevention and community safety. After a career of over 40 years in the Queensland Police Service (QPS), Australia, including over 10 years in the Crime Prevention Unit, John now designs and facilitates CPTED workshops for Government, Urban Design, Planning and allied professionals in the Asia - Pacific Region.



Last but not least are two of NHWA's personal favourites, **Neighbourhood Watch: Does it Work?** (in short: Yes, it does!) and **Building Collective Efficacy: The Role of Neighbourhood Watch**. These excellent training videos are presented by **Professor Lorraine Mazerolle**, **Professor of Criminology in the School of Social Science at The University of Queensland** and a Chief Investigator with the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course (LCC). These videos are essential viewing for all NHW entities and for individuals considering becoming involved with their NHW communities.



The wonderful **Introduction to Winning Grants** is presented by **Strategic Grants**, a provider of all things grants in Australia and New Zealand, supporting hundreds of non-profits and charities of all sizes to establish sustainable, cost-effective grant-seeking strategies. Topics covered include all aspects of grant funding, from planning and acquisition through to acquittal.

To access these informative free training resources please visit the NHWA website: www.nhwa.com.au/resources/training-videos/

NHWA Awards Open NOW!

2021 NHWA Award Nominations Are Now Open!

The Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) annual awards recognise the great work and commitment of our Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Neighbourhood Support Volunteers and Police across Australia and New Zealand. This year more than ever we are seeking award nominations to acknowledge the outstanding individuals in your community for their work and dedication in making your neighbourhood a safer, connected, and more inclusive place to live.

The closing date for award nominations is 30 November, so there's still time to nominate your deserving and notable community member!

To access the nomination forms, go to: www.nhwa.com.au/newsmedia/awards/

Awards to nominate for are:

NHWA 2021 Malcolm Grant OAM - Volunteer of the Year Award

- Nominate an outstanding NHW Volunteer community member

This award is named after Malcolm Grant OAM, a gentleman known for his immense contribution to the Neighbourhood Watch movement and is awarded in recognition of the outstanding contribution of an individual who demonstrates continual support to NHW.



NHWA 2021 Police Commissioner's Award

- Nominate a Police employee who has made a significant contribution to NHW

Each year this award is presented to a police officer or employee who has worked with NHW to empower people and communities through the development of strong and effective partnerships that promotes safer communities, engagement, and social inclusion.



NHW Week 8-14 Nov 2021

The annual Neighbourhood Watch Week, to be held 8-14 November 2021, is one of our most significant calendar events, considerably raising public awareness of the benefits of belonging to a local Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group and encouraging participation in NHW programs throughout Australia. In the words of Helen Keller: "Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much".

Neighbourhood Watch is wholly dependent on community participation with everyone working together to build safer, more confident, and interconnected communities to actively reduce fear of crime and increase feelings of safety in the community. These outcomes are achieved through communities working in partnership with local police to raise awareness

and provide education in effective ways to prevent crime, reduce social isolation and to increase the safety, security, and quality of life for everyone in the community.

While community connections are generally thought of as being made locally, there are also many ways for community connections to be established online. For situations when it is not possible to connect with others to work towards safety and crime prevention in person, the new NHW online community enables

people to be involved in NHW, wherever they are and whenever they want to be.

If you haven't already, please consider joining your local NHW branch, or the new Neighbourhood Watch online community, as "... *together, we can do so much*".

To learn more please visit:
<https://www.nhwa.com.au/news-media/nhw-week/>

Or contact admin@nhwa.com.au or go to: www.nhwa.com.au



ACT Award Winning Neighbours May and Laurence

With so many acts of kindness to consider under trying times, the members of the selection panel for the NHW ACT Good Neighbour Award really had their work cut out for them before declaring May and Laurence Kain of Hackett, the 2021 Award winners.



May gets a hug from daughter Lily, as Laurence displays the NHW Award for the Kain family

The Good Neighbour Award is presented annually by ACT Neighbourhood Watch in recognition of an outstanding contribution by an individual or family who has made a positive difference to their neighbourhood by regularly demonstrating the qualities and ideals of an exemplary neighbour over an extended period. The panel agreed that all nominees this year were deserving and noted the respect and care that was reflected in the preparation of the nominations.

May and Laurence are busy with successful careers, family, and studies. However, they always look for ways

they can support the spirit of their neighbourhood and community.

In nominating May and Laurence, their neighbour Lorna Lucas wrote, "There are many great neighbours in the Hackett community but there is one family in particular that goes above and beyond with their contributions to fostering community spirit and giving back generously to the local community."

Lorna's nomination continued: "May and Laurence demonstrate their leadership in generosity, integrity, and care for the community, always helping out whoever needs assistance. Whether it is fostering community spirit through organising



NHW ACT president Laurie Blackall with the trophy for the Kain family

the annual neighbourhood Christmas street party, Halloween or barbeque get together. May and Laurence contribute their time, support and generosity. They continue to be inclusive and friendly, fostering a local community that looks out for each other and enjoys the benefits of living locally."

President of NHW ACT, Mr Laurie Blackall, said that he and the NHW ACT Board "Congratulate May and Laurence on their award. Congratulations also to all the nominees for their nomination and for their outstanding commitment to their neighbourhoods and the support they provide in their communities."

Neighbourhood Network Program

“Neighbours helping neighbours” vital link launched!

As the song goes, ‘We are all in this together, together’, we are reminded that as a community group Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) was established to ensure residents within the community could feel safe and have a collective voice. While we work towards crime prevention with the Police in our own areas, we must still be there for each other. After all, we are the Community.

COVID-19 is teaching us that we can work together through the hard lockdowns and the associated safety measures that have been put in place via the expert guidance of our Government and Health Advisors.

With this in mind, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) Board member Cr. Pat Daley OAM and NSW resident in the Sydney Northern Beaches, was prompted to action with an idea – a Neighbourhood Network program. Pat helped to set up the original NHW program in NSW back in the 1980s, so it was fitting for him to approach NHW within his home state when he realised there was a vital missing link.

Due to COVID-19, the vulnerable, especially seniors, were potentially disconnected from the rest of the community, partly because they lacked necessary technology skills, and partly because they were grieving this disconnect. Pat contacted the NHWA and NHW NSW Boards with a call to action.

Within the week NHWA Board members and NHW NSW volunteers had provided various resources to help tackle this missing link. A ‘Grief and COVID-19 – Mourning



Christine Clarke Area Coordinator Kings Langley, pops a Neighbour Card into a neighbour's letterbox

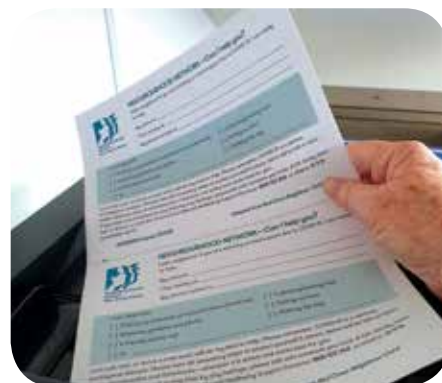
what we are Missing’ Fact Sheet and a ‘COVID-19 Check-in Card’ Fact Sheet were created, detailing an alternative to the use of a smart phone.

The idea of a ‘Neighbour Card’ quickly became reality, to enable ‘neighbours helping neighbours’. Christine Clarke, Area Coordinator Kings Langley and Vice President of NHW NSW, recorded a special version of her uplifting song ‘We are all in this together, together’.

All of these resources were uploaded to a new NHW NSW webpage, at NHWNSW.org.au/COVID/. Since then, volunteers have been busy sharing them – maybe you could too?



Christine with guitar singing ‘We are all in this together, together’



The Fact Sheets and Neighbour Card are easy to print at home

As NHW residents we all stand together putting aside creed, race, gender, politics and socio-economic backgrounds, to look out for one another.

When out walking for exercise, it doesn't take much to say “Hi!” by way of a personal note or offer assistance by popping a ‘Neighbour Card’ in letterboxes along the way. It's about taking care to do the right thing.

Neighbourhood Network program is a Neighbourhood Watch Australasia lead initiative and everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate and share the resources, for more information go to: www.nhwa.com.au/news-media/covid-19/

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

NEW ZEALAND

What's New with Neighbourhood Support New Zealand

The latest highlights from our National Office, members and supporters.

In August, NSNZ took part in the Rural Stakeholders Committee meeting at Police National Headquarters to see how we can better support our farmers and more isolated neighbours.

Thanks to NZ Police, Apiculture NZ, Ministry for Primary Industries, Rural Women NZ, Federated Farmers, FMG and Community Patrols of NZ for taking part with us, including a special visit from NZ Police Deputy Commissioner: Iwi & Communities, Wally Haumaha.



Participants at the Rural Stakeholders Committee meeting



Horowhenua Neighbourhood Support District Coordinator, Deborah Campbell, was on hand to pass along information about Neighbourhood Support to event attendees

Creating inclusive communities is at the heart of what we do.

In July, Horowhenua Neighbourhood Support had the joy of attending events hosted by their local Rainbow community and Council, a first for the area. The weekend featured a ball including attendance by Hugo Grrrl a well-known drag king from Wellington, as well as a brunch and panel discussion to provide a safe space to connect with others and share experiences.



21 Holiday

Crime Prevention Tips

for 2021

1 BUYING ONLINE

If shopping online, always try to use trusted websites with https in the website name/url, (the 's' indicates a security certificate e.g. <https://www.nhwa.com.au>). Use secure methods of payment, rather than personal credit cards. Avoid saving credit card information on websites. Keep receipts and transaction statements safe in case there is a delivery failure or the parcel gets lost in the rushed December shipping.

2 PET SAFETY

If you're going away for Christmas and can't bring your loveable pets along, ask a trusted neighbour or friend to come and give food and water to your pet. If left alone in the December heat, a pet may become dehydrated if not given water regularly.

3 FIRE SAFETY

Don't leave lit candles unattended and ensure that power boards near the Christmas tree have surge protection to avoid electrical accidents that could start fires.

4 CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

If you're going on a big Christmas shopping spree, avoid leaving your shopping unattended, or expensive looking presents visible from your car windows.

5 FAKE DELIVERY MESSAGES

You may get fake text or email messages claiming you have a parcel for pick-up or delivery. They can look very real and appear to be from legitimate organisations. Do not click on any links. Put messages you are unsure of into the 'Junk' folder first, then check the senders email address.

6 HOLIDAY SAFETY

If you are travelling to see family this holiday season, consider letting your neighbours know when you will be back, and how they can contact you if there is an emergency.

7 HOME SECURITY

If you have Christmas light cords running through a window or door, try to ensure that they can be securely locked at night, as this can be a weak spot that makes it easy to enter a home.

8 WEATHER WARNINGS

Check the weather before setting off for trips. An unexpected summer storm can be dangerous to drive through on a busy highway or off-road if you are not prepared. Dry weather can also be a risk for scrub fires that can close off roads and impede your trip.

9 REDIRECT MAIL


If you are going on holidays, arrange for your mail to be redirected or collected by a trusted neighbour or friend. Mail can contain your personal identification or financial information which thieves might use.

10 HOME COOKING

A Christmas roast or BBQ can be a holiday highlight, but don't leave it unattended. Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries. The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.

11 GIFT BOX DISPOSAL

Avoid leaving big bulky gift boxes outside in your recycling bin after Christmas. Thieves can see what new presents you've received and might prioritise your home as a target. Break boxes down or cut them up.





12 HIDING SPOTS

Don't leave spare house keys on a door ledge, under a pot plant, doormat, or in a fake rock. Thieves know where to look. Leaving spare keys with a trusted neighbour is a safer option.

13 NO MOBILE PHONES WHEN DRIVING

Many people at Christmas will want to send you Happy Holiday messages and calls, and this can be a dangerous distraction while driving. Set your phone to 'Do not disturb' when going on road trips, for everyone's safety.

14 CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

When selecting house or Christmas Tree decorations, be sure to choose ones that are flame resistant, flame retardant, and won't shatter if broken.

15 CASH VS CARD

Avoid shopping with large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with a credit or debit card to avoid losing cash or becoming a target for criminals.

16 AWAY FROM HOME

If going away from home, make efforts to trick would-be burglars into thinking you are still home. This can include things like leaving lights on a timer, leaving a TV on, or asking a neighbour to park their car in your driveway.

17 SAFE PACKAGE DELIVERY

If you're expecting a parcel, be careful in its delivery. To avoid porch and front-door thieves, request signature confirmation, hold your parcel at a post office, or have a trusted neighbour hold on to it for you.

18 SUSPEND YOUR NEWSPAPERS

If you are away from home for several weeks, cancel or suspend any newspapers or other subscriptions. Several old papers stuffed in the mailbox or on the front porch are a sign for burglars that a home may be unattended. Alternatively, ask a neighbour to remove them along with your regular mail.

19 SOCIAL MEDIA POSTING

Avoid posting information about gifts from Santa on social media, or that you are going to be away. Thieves can stalk social media and find which targets have the best loot worth taking.

20 CONTACT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

If you live in a Neighbourhood Watch or Neighbourhood Support NZ area, or are a member of a local group, tell your local area coordinator that you will be away, and for how long.

21 REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Don't hesitate if you see something suspicious. For an emergency (police, fire or ambulance) or a crime in progress, call **000 (Australia)** or **111 (New Zealand)**. If it is after the event or you are unsure, for police assistance phone **131 444 (Australia)** or **105 (New Zealand)**.





Tess Casey – CEO NSNZ, Sergeant Ian Osland from NZ who volunteers with the WeConnect project, Masterton Neighbourhood Support + WeConnect Coordinator – Cathy Cameron, NSNZ Board Chair – Louise Grevel

We did it! Neighbourhood Supporters from around the country came together in Wellington on 28 and 29 June for our 2021 National Conference, GROW – a chance to learn, discuss and think about where we have been and where we are heading. A huge thank you to our amazing staff, volunteers, participants, speakers, special guests, partners, and generous sponsors for making it all possible.

This year's event was certainly one to remember. During GROW we had to navigate our way through a changing COVID-19 alert level, severe weather warnings and other last-minute hurdles to deliver our conference programme. Nonetheless, we had such a great time seeing familiar faces, meeting new ones, being inspired, learning together, and sharing lots of aroha and laughs over two days while safely following Level 2 guidelines.

Some of the highlights from the event included listening to keynotes Fahrid Ahmed – Christchurch Mosque attack survivor and community leader, Matt Brown – *She Is Not Your Rehab* founder and advocate for ending family harm, David Downs – business innovator and inspiring cancer survivor, and our National Awards Night + Dinner at the end of Day 1.



Keynote Matt Brown speaks to GROW participants

Congratulations to our Overall Award Winner, Masterton Neighbourhood Support for their amazing WeConnect project which pairs newly arrived immigrants and those from culturally diverse backgrounds with

a local buddy who assists them to better integrate into the community and adjust to life in NZ. To read more about our awards including a full overview of our winners, visit: www.neighbourhoodsupport.co.nz/news



Smiles all around for the winning team!

Cromwell Neighbourhood Support hosted a Quiz Night to celebrate National Volunteers Week – Te Wiki Tūao ā-Motu. The event aimed to recognise volunteers in the community and give them a chance to connect with others.

“We tend to hibernate in the evenings, especially during winter, so we thought we would invite people to a fun social event that they too could invite their friends, neighbours or work colleagues to” said Karen Palmer, Cromwell’s Coordinator.

Eleven teams participated in the Quiz held at the Cromwell Bowling Club. Competition was rife and there was only one and a half points separating the top three teams!

“It was great to see so many people from different organisations – People were able to chat, network and make connections.”



What are 3 things that currently give you joy?

Here’s 5 things to focus on right now from our friends over at the Mental Health Foundation of NZ.

1. Focus on the simple things that give you joy

Take time to reflect on the things that helped get you through the last time you were in lockdown, and make time to do more of these.

2. Have a check-in buddy

Whether it’s someone in your whare (house) or on FaceTime, finding time for kōrero (conversation) is a proven pick-me-up. Who could you reach out to?

3. Keep up the routines where you can

Having a little bit of structure and normality in your day can help lower stress levels and give you a greater sense of control. Little things like sharing a meal with those in your bubble (or over FaceTime!) can really make a difference.

4. Take a break from the news and social media

When we spend lots of time on social media or news sites scrolling for the latest updates, we can forget to do the things that actually make us feel good. Taking a break helps our brains reset.

5. It’s all right to feel a range of emotions

Going into lockdown or navigating changing alert levels and rules is a big thing, and it brings all sorts of different emotions to the surface, including frustration, worry and gratitude. However, whatever you are feeling know that you’re not alone – we’re all going through this together.



Coordinator Wendy Booth from Neighbourhood Support Hamilton enjoyed chatting with residents and offering free advice, including how to join Neighbourhood Support

Keeping our communities safe is a team effort.

Neighbourhood Support Hamilton have been teaming up with Waikato District Police to help man their new mobile community bus which provides free information and advice to local residents.



Mark Ellwood of NHW Palm Cove presenting a donation to Constable Jessie Geary, with Project Booyah Girls

Palm Cove NHW Extends a Hand to Project Booyah

It was an extremely welcome visit when Area Coordinator Mr Mark Ellwood from Palm Cove Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Group stopped in to visit the new cohort of Project Booyah participants.

Project Booyah is a Queensland Police Youth Mentoring Program that utilises adventure-based learning, leadership skills, resilience training and family inclusive principles to help young people aged 14-17 years make better life choices.

Mark was pleased to present a donation on behalf of Palm Cove NHW Group with money raised from their quiz nights and

community events over the years.

Project Coordinator Constable Jessie Geary was thrilled to accept the generous donation.

"Mark and Palm Cove Neighbourhood Watch have observed the wonderful achievements of our Project Booyah girls and we thank them kindly for their donations over the years," said Constable Jesse Geary.

"Our project has been successful in assisting participants with gaining employment and returning back to education.

"This donation will assist greatly with funding the next two graduating cohorts and really couldn't have come at a better time. We are so appreciative of the support from Mark and Palm Cove NHW."



Four of the original five members, Bernie Carroll, John Barbeler, Morris Winter and Kevin Black with NHWA CEO Maria Bennett

Kumbia Neighbourhood Watch Rural Celebrates 30 Years of Operation

Saturday 14 August was a special night for Kumbia Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) with members and residents providing a delicious hotpot dinner to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the group, exactly 30 years to the day since it began. The celebratory evening was held at the Kumbia Memorial Hall.

Despite COVID-19 restrictions preventing several guests from attending, more than 50 locals and visitors enjoyed the evenings activities.

The formalities for the evening were aptly overseen by Area Coordinator Morris Winter, who was in attendance at the very first Kumbia NHW meeting 30 years ago.

We were encouraged and privileged to have with us on the night the CEO of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, Maria Bennett as well as our outgoing QPS District Crime Prevention Coordinator Senior Constable Dan O'Hara,

who both addressed the gathering. The attendees on the night consisted of five original members who've continued to support Kumbia NHW since its inception in 1991; and several Queensland Police Service officers.

As a reminder of this 30 year milestone, a commemorative booklet and tumbler glasses were made available, along with other NHW promotional items.

Our thanks go to all those who helped by setting up the hall, providing meals, assisting on the night, those who travelled from other areas, and everyone who ensured our 30th was a night to remember.

Kumbia NHW is active in the community, regularly running activities including 'Turning the Screws on Crime' secure number plate days, taking part in the combined NHW Week/Bunnings Crime Prevention Week and the Community Under 8s Fun Day.



Snr Const Dan O'Hara, Emily Armstrong and Dave Thomas cutting the anniversary cake



Bistro Manager Anna talking to Doug, Dale and Mary



Lucky Door Prize winners



Some of the volunteers who are responsible for delivering over 3000 Newsletters every 3 months

NHW Lunch at The Club – Robina

When COVID-19 arrived last year, Robina Waters and Robina Woods Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) had to find a new home for their quarterly meetings.

The May 2020 meeting was abandoned, as the original venue Robina State School Community Hall, was put off limits to protect the school population. Fortunately, the group was able to meet at Club Robina (formally Robina Bowls Club) starting with the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in August last year.

The group has been made welcome there for a full year since that time, including for this year's AGM. Meetings are semi-formal in that reports are given by the Committee, Queensland Police and Gold Coast City Councillor, Hermann Vorster,

and attendees are encouraged to ask questions and discuss local issues. Each meeting has a Guest Speaker to speak on relevant topics. These have included mental health, safety in the home, home security, the G-Link Tram, Commonwealth Games, NBN installation and scam awareness.

A new initiative was suggested at this year's AGM to get members together more often in a social setting, with the express purpose of having everyone feel more comfortable with each other, in order to promote a better sense of Community and to give folks an

opportunity to raise safety issues in a casual setting. Attendees approved the suggestion and the first "NHW Lunch at the Club" was held in September, with 30 members enjoying a delicious meal from Johnny's Delight Bistro. This is a first for NHW on the Gold Coast and perhaps for NHW Queensland.

From comments made by those who attended, it was a great success. Future lunches are to be held on the second Thursday of each month. The numbers attending are expected to grow, now that the event is open to everyone in the local community.

DB helps out DB again

On Saturday 28 August 2021, Dinmore Bushrats Soccer Club had their last big home games day for the season and needed help for the morning.

Dinmore Bushrats (DB) was having a big home games day and contacted Riverview Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) for assistance to help with canteen duties for the morning. Unfortunately, most of the NHW team were unavailable due to the short notice.

Duchense Broad (DB), who has been helping the club for a few years volunteered to help. She is well known to most of the club, particularly by the parents and children from the local school. Riverview NHW provides physical and financial support to assist struggling families to have a child play for the club.

Duchense is currently a member of the Bushrats and holds a committee role, however, will be retiring after this school term. The skills she developed over many years, with work and community groups, come in handy helping out at the club, including engaging with the kids.

Dinmore Bushrats has been around for over one hundred years and has been revived over several years with Scott Morrison, Manager of the Dinmore Bushrats Soccer Club, and his team. The club provides a sporting opportunity for local young people.



Duchense Broad of NHW Riverside, cooking for the DB team

Neighbourhood Watch Mackay

NHW Mackay has been quite active over the last few months with their regular 'Cuppa and a Chat' being held monthly at a local beachfront park. Officers from the local police station and Crime Prevention unit attend, providing updates on what is happening in the area and an opportunity for the residents to ask questions or pass on information. Local Council officers also regularly join to discuss developments in the area.



Celebrating NHW SA's History Through Photographs

On World Photography Day (19 August 2021) Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) SA decided to dig through the archives to see what they could find that helped bring their fascinating history to life.

Here's what they found...

1985 - The Beginning

Flinders Park 001, NHW SA's first group, was officially launched as a pilot at a meeting in the Church of Christ Hall on 1 May 1985.



Flinders Park 001, NHW SA's first group

Two weeks later, on 15 May 1985, the area held its first official meeting at the same venue and elected Mr. Bob McAuley as the inaugural Area Coordinator.

It wasn't long after the launch of the pilot group that community pressure grew with hundreds wanting to expand the NHW program into other suburbs and towns. Senior figures were keen to run the pilot with Flinders Park for at least a year, to ensure the best possible chance of success.

1986

Although the pilot was yet to be completed, in anticipation that its success would encourage a



A map that appeared in *The Advertiser* showing the planning for new areas

state-wide NHW program, the SA community was busy setting up potential groups and areas. A map appeared in a special lift-out in *The Advertiser* on 28 April 1986 which shows the planning for new areas.

Also appearing in *The Advertiser*, on 28 April 1986, was a NHW article by Chris Milne about Flinders Park 001.



Chris Milne about Flinders Park 001 from *The Advertiser*.

The article outlines some interesting facts arising from the pilot that were instrumental in the final decision. The following excerpt says it all:

"The bare statistics are compelling. House break-ins in the area have slumped dramatically, down 30% on the previous 12 months. In two months during the pilot period (which officially ends this week), no break-ins were reported and during the summer school holidays when such crime can escalate, only one break-in was reported."

Flinders Park 001 set a solid foundation and example for the future of the program and on 5 May 1986, within days of completion of the pilot, Salisbury North 002 was launched and NHW was fully underway in South Australia.

JUNE/JULY '95

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS



CONGRATULATIONS!! NHW IS 10 YEARS OLD

Speech by Deputy Commissioner Mr Pat Hurley for the 10th birthday celebration of Flinders Park Neighbourhood Watch Area 001

"I am sure you are all only too well aware that the Neighbourhood Watch movement had its origins in South Australia here in Flinders Park. I am delighted to join you tonight as we celebrate the tenth year of the programme in Flinders Park and I congratulate all who have been involved in this continuing commitment towards reduced crime and a safer community lifestyle.

Since May 1986 another 473 such programmes have been established. These are mainly in the form of Neighbourhood Watch but also include Rural and Business Watch. All three follow the original principles and have created an effective means by which police and the community can work together to minimise the incidence of preventable crime. The success of the "Watch" philosophy is evidenced by the adoption of its principles by councils, schools, hospitals and the Taxi Association to name a few.

SAPOL is committed to Neighbourhood Watch. Responsibility for the maintenance of the programme was devolved to divisional level in November, with the aim of creating

greater opportunities for local police involvement in their communities. We are also in the midst of expanding the programme with a desired aim to establish another 200 areas by the end of 1996. Meanwhile, we continue to receive new requests for establishing more areas.

No matter how it evolves in the future, Neighbourhood Watch will remain SAPOL's flagship of Community Policing.

Throughout Australia and the world, organisations with an interest in or responsibility for Neighbourhood Watch are currently in the process of re-examining the programme. SAPOL is no exception. We recognise that the demands of changing economic circumstances and social attitudes create a need to constantly re-evaluate and improve our community programmes.

In the not too distant future an evaluation of Neighbourhood Watch, which includes Rural and Business Watch, will commence. In broad terms its objectives will be designed to achieve an improvement in the quality and relevance of the programme. SAPOL's commitment to the programme, irrespective of any administrative changes which may occur, remains unflagging.

Tonight, however, we are celebrating a decade of a positive community spirit in Flinders Park Area 001. The area pioneered a programme which united the police and community in an effort to minimise the incidence of preventable crime. Ten years on we congratulate the people of Flinders Park for their continued commitment. I take this opportunity to offer my personal thanks to all those who have worked so unselfishly for the benefit of the entire community."



L-R: James McKinnis, Deputy Commissioner Pat Hurley, Majora Ashford, Sgt Trevor Kitchell, Alan Williams and RUC Officer Wally Simpson

OUR 600TH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH LAUNCHED IN KEITH

The 600th Neighbourhood Watch in SA was launched in the charming town of Keith.

SENIOR SERGEANT DAVID WARDROP
WatchSA State Co-ordinator

Front L-R: Principal Sue Lewis, Councillor Russell Davis, Janet Allen and Richard Vickery, Senior Sergeant David Wardrop, Back L-R: CEO of Tattara District Council Rob Harkness.



On July 4, 2007, on a wet and blustery afternoon, I travelled to Keith to meet Senior Sergeant Trevor Beames and address a group of concerned locals about crime and Neighbourhood Watch.

I hadn't seen Trevor since we worked together in Whyalla back in the early '80's and it was good to catch up. He's been the 'local police officer for 21 years and this community is a vast contrast to the heady days of Whyalla at its peak.

Keith is a peaceful setting on the highway to Melbourne and travellers passing through would find it difficult to believe that there would be any crime to upset the residents, but upset they are. Before going any further, I have to put this into perspective - it's still a beautiful little town, people aren't fearful of walking the streets and there isn't a crime wave by any stretch of the imagination. However, the townsfolk have experienced several recent incidents of vandalism with the local Area

School being one target. Nor have they been immune to the current scourge of our society - the hood driver. Like most communities, they have said "We are not going to tolerate this."

After I had made my presentation to the group that met at the local hall, we heard words of encouragement from Richard Vickery and Rob Harkness of the Tattara Council, and some good news from Sue Lewis, the Principal of the school, about some of her programs. What followed was a candid discussion about the town's issues and some strategies to address them. I stressed the importance of taking a full problem solving approach to these issues and issues which seemed insurmountable began to look quite solvable.

At the end of the meeting, I proposed a motion to launch a Neighbourhood Watch in the town of Keith. After a resounding 'yes' vote, it was my honour to welcome the town of Keith as South Australia's 600th Neighbourhood Watch Area.

1995

The program was growing from strength to strength and hit 10 years in 1995!



The Murray Bridge Area 288 entry to the 1998 Murray Bridge Christmas Pageant

1998

The 1998 Murray Bridge Christmas Pageant saw an entry from Murray Bridge Area 288. The float consisted of a small house which showcased home security issues. Towed behind the community policing car, the float was a head turner. Deputy Koala was part of the action, handing out literature to the waiting crowd.

Senior Constable Dallas Daniels and Watchers Michael Swansson, Michael Thorne, Brian Hall and Dick Menz worked hard producing the incredible float.



NHW mascot Wally the Watchdog

2001-2003

Wally the Watchdog was a mascot adopted by NHW between 2001 and 2003. The character was used to deliver traffic safety messages to school age children. Those of you who were at the 2000 NHW State Conference at the Festival Theatre might remember Wally's famous introduction when Senior Constable Ashley Slater,

in the suit for the first time, missed the steps and fell off of the stage in front of the whole audience! (We can confirm that no dogs or Senior Constables were harmed).

2007

On 4 July 2007 the 600th Neighbourhood Watch group launched in Keith!

Present day

The NHW SA continues to evolve and grow. With a new and full complement of NHW staff working in SA Police and a proactive board in place, there are some exciting times ahead for the program in SA. The staff and board continue to look at new and unique ways to ensure the program continues to thrive.

Unfortunately, the impact of COVID-19 has disrupted some groups as they haven't been able to meet face to face. However, this has led to some fantastic adaptations with groups now meeting online.



Le Goldthorpe and Kathy Harrison cutting the cake – both served for 25 years

Para Hills NHW Group Celebrate 25th Birthday

On 23 August, Para Hills Neighbourhood Watch SA group (Area 441) came together with the wider community to celebrate their 25th anniversary.

The event was held at the Para Hills Community Club, adhering to COVID-19 regulations and protocols, attendees gathered for a very special occasion with speeches from VIP guests and delicious food.

The enthusiastic Para Hills group started in April 1996 under the leadership of a dedicated band of local residents. Motivated by an attack on a local elderly man, the group came together, determined to support and connect the Para Hills community.

In 2000, four local residents arranged an organising committee to take over the running of the group, with the four of them alternating in the leadership role. This model is still being followed to this day, some 20 years later!

The committee meet six times a year to plan their community meetings and arrange a variety of exciting guest speakers for their six monthly public meetings.

Two of their members have been involved for the entire 25 years –

Le Goldthorpe and Kathy Harrison – and they were presented with certificates by SAPOL's Assistant Commissioner Scott Duval as part of yesterday's celebrations, in recognition of their commitment and contributions.

Community Engagement Sergeant of Northern District, Deborah Luetkens spoke very highly of the group and the impact it has on the community.

Sergeant Luetkens said "They always portray SA Police

and the Neighbourhood Watch in an extremely positive light and to say they are enthusiastic is an understatement.

“During recent times, whilst they had to postpone meetings due to COVID-19 restrictions, their newsletters continued and so did their positive attitude and willingness to help. They are very supportive and even offer door to door transport to meetings for those that may otherwise be unable to get to them.

“Their genuine compassion makes the group an invaluable asset to the program and the community. This reflects the passionate committee who continue to strive to make Para Hills a safer place to live, work, shop and visit”.

The group has strong connections with local partners including Para Hills Primary School. They hold a yearly meeting with the school in efforts to develop community relationships while building awareness of the Neighbourhood Watch amongst students. The group provide all students with a gift bag and finish the meeting with a celebratory afternoon tea.

They also provide the school with a \$50 voucher which is presented to a year 7 student as part of a Citizenship Award at their graduating ceremony.

Sergeant Luetkens explains why they are so passionate about this venture and said

“They are a very active group and are heavily involved in the community, especially with the Para Hills Primary School. They take great pride in this partnership as it brings together students and older community members while also promoting the many benefits of the Neighbourhood Watch program to a fresh cohort of young community members. It’s a great initiative!”.

Find out more about NHW SA on www.police.sa.gov.au/nhw/



Barbara Newbery receiving her 20 years of service Certificate and Badge from Assistant Commissioner Scott Duval



Constable Sonia Conaghty and Neil Conaghty



Maureen McNamara who has served 11 years with her daughter Natushka May

Tips to Help Prevent Bike Theft

Bikes can provide you with a great way to get from A to B. More affordable than a car or motorbike, they're also great for the environment and your physical fitness, however, along with these benefits there is also potential interest from thieves.

NHW SA met with Senior Constable Sophie Hodge from Southern District, to hear her advice about bike theft. Sophie works in the Community Engagement Section and has over 20 years experience in policing.

She provided some good insights into bike theft along with top tips that you should consider for your bike security.

Let's get straight to it, what are your top tips to help reduce the chance of thieves stealing a bike?

The top three tips are really simple but can make a big difference:

- Lock your bike to a secure object with a strong lock, I'd suggest a D-lock.
- Do not ever leave your bike unattended and unlocked, even for a very short amount of time.
- Secure your bike either in a locked shed or inside the house when at home.

How do thieves typically steal bikes? Are there any commonalities?

Bikes that are left unlocked are a target, no matter how long they've been left unattended – it could be only seconds. Unlocked bikes are a really attractive proposition for thieves. There's no hard work involved, they simply walk up and take it.

Once thieves take a bike, they may look to sell it to make money. If you are ever buying a second-hand bike, ask for the serial number and check it online through searches and forums.

What time of day do they usually steal bikes?

There's no common theme with this, bikes are being stolen at all times of the day and at night. The best thing



you can do when you're out and about in the day is to ensure you lock your bike with strong locks and at night, bring your bike indoors with you or in a secured shed.

Do security signs near parked bikes deter thieves?

Unfortunately, this does not seem to be a deterrent for thieves; bikes are being stolen from shopping centres and railway stations that have signs. You should remain vigilant and alert to possible bike theft in these locations and remember my top tips – never leave a bike unlocked and use a strong lock. Even areas that have CCTV have had bikes stolen from them, it's sometimes easier for us to work out who the criminal is in these instances.

Does anything make thieves think twice when they're considering stealing a bike?

Making your bike appear hard to steal is the best thing you can do. Thieves usually don't want to spend too much time trying to take a bike, the more time they're taking, the more risk there is of being spotted by someone, so make it look hard!

You can do this by using two strong locks, a D-lock that secures the frame and one of the wheels to a secure object and then also a heavy-duty chain that secures the other wheel to the first lock.

Are there any tips for people that can help them if their bike does get stolen?

Report it as soon as possible! Take a look at how you should report incidents in SA by going to: www.police.sa.gov.au/services-and-events/make-a-report-to-the-police.

Engraving, recording serial numbers, bike passports and photographs of the bike are all good ideas to assist with recovery and insurance claims if the bike is stolen. Some people also use GPS tracking devices on their bikes to assist in recovery if their bike is stolen and a range of different devices are available. You can also register, report, and recover stolen bikes on the internet through various forum sites. just have a quick search for them through your chosen online search engine.

Are there any other tips we haven't spoken about yet?

We've also heard occasional reports of people going back to their locked bikes, finding a flat tyre and leaving their bike to collect later, only to come back and find the bike gone. If you return to your bike and it has a flat tyre don't leave it. A thief could have done it to give them some extra time to take your bike.

For more security hints and tips go to: www.police.sa.gov.au/nhw/home/safe-living.

NHW TAS

TASMANIA



Tasmanian NHW President Peter Edwards (second from right) with NHW Riverside Newsletter Deliverers

The times, they are a changing!

There is a modern-day saying that: *“The only constant is change”* and this is particularly true of Neighbourhood Watch in Tasmania.

Although our purpose and principles have not changed in 35 years, there are new ways of doing our business and keeping the brand meaningful and effective. Riverside Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is a good example of how we can change with the times while still supporting the security, safety, and wellbeing of our communities.

A common catalyst for how a Watch group gets started is through a community concern relating to crime, anti-social behaviour or something similar. Likewise, as neighbourhoods mature, the desire to attend regular NHW meetings can wane – perhaps more prevalent in the winter months in Tasmania! This is understandable, and particularly so in an era where our communications systems and entertainment options are faster and more numerous than they were when NHW made its first foray into the suburbs in 1986.

Riverside is a Launceston residential satellite on the banks of the Tamar



Mrs Joan North presented with flowers from Senior Constable Annabel Shegog

River in Northern Tasmania. In 2020 the Watch executive realised many of these changes were coming into play, and they came up with a plan so that they could personally move on from the management rigours, whilst at the same time ensuring their community would still reap the benefits of being a

member of NHW. With the support of the West Tamar Council and Tasmania Police, Jacqui Green was chosen to be the new Coordinator who would set up and manage a new Riverside NHW Facebook page.

The main benefit of using social media is that crime awareness messaging can be shared far quicker than any earlier system. Although there is still a place for hard copy newsletters, social media is also an effective way to spread information about, and call for assistance with, running community events with a NHW theme. The transition to the new arrangements came to fruition at the final meeting of the current Riverside NHW committee in October. Members of the executive and long-standing newsletter deliverers were recognised with a recently struck lapel badge, and flowers for our stalwart secretary, Joan North.

Check out the new Riverside arrangements at <https://www.facebook.com/RiversideNHWtas/>

Donna Adams

As the inaugural sponsor of Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania and a member organisation of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, Tasmania Police is proud to share the highlights of its most senior female police officer. When Donna Adams started as a Constable with Tasmania Police in 1987, it is unlikely that she had any idea as to where her career would take her and the opportunities that it would offer.

In July of this year the people of Tasmania celebrated Donna's promotion to the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police – the first woman ever to reach that position in the 104 years since women were first recruited into the Tasmania Police service. This is a significant first for Tasmania and Tasmania Police. In Tasmania, unlike other jurisdictions, there is only one Deputy Commissioner who is second in charge of a police service approaching 2,000 sworn and civilian members. The person who holds that rank has the authority to carry out all the tasks and responsibilities that befall the Commissioner of Police.

Since becoming a police officer, Donna has worked her way through every rank to reach this esteemed position. Along the way she gained experience and a reputation as an intuitive and dogged investigator, and an exceptional administrator. Very quickly Donna demonstrated a passion for policing, a talent for negotiating and collaborating and a desire to be the best she could possibly be. Throughout her journey, Donna has also made time to complete a Master's Degree in Policing and a Graduate Certificate in Applied Management, whilst always continually being a role model and mentor for other women and men in the service.

It would be fair to say that Donna's career to date continues to be one of regular firsts. In 2003 she was only the fifth woman ever to achieve a commissioned officer rank when she was promoted to the position of Inspector. Thereafter Donna was the first woman to be a Commander, an Assistant Commissioner and then



in 2006 Deputy Secretary for the whole of the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management. Like many Australian police leaders in recent times who have stepped out of their comfort zone on their path to executive leadership, Donna took on the challenge as Deputy Secretary of the Department for three years to drive change and improve collaboration across the emergency services in Tasmania.

There is no doubt that Donna's leadership potential was identified early in her career, and this was later recognised within the broader national environment in 2014 when she received the Tasmanian Telstra Businesswoman of the year Award. This award particularly recognised her efforts to lead Tasmania Police as the first in the nation to roll out mobile devices for front line officers.

Once again, her ability was quickly recognised and utilised within the greater public sector to take on other leadership roles which included a secondment to the Department of Premier and Cabinet to lead negotiations for significant enterprise

bargaining agreements. Shortly after this Donna was seconded to the Health Department to be the Emergency Operations Commander for the COVID-19 emergency response.

On her career journey Deputy Commissioner Adams has been awarded the Commissioner's Commendation for her work after the 1996 Port Arthur tragedy, the Australian Police Medal for Distinguished Service and recognition from the Australasian Council of Women in Policing as an outstanding investigator. In 2019 she was entered into the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women for service to the community, police, emergency services and defence. As the Deputy Commissioner Donna now has direct responsibility for the operational performance of the organisation, the delivery of annual business priorities as well as discipline and professional standards.

Donna is a standout role model for women in policing, and she consistently champions the personal development of others, regardless of their gender or whether they are sworn or civilian members of the service. If she is asked, her advice for success in policing can be condensed to three principles:

- **Be open and willing to engage in lifelong learning. *Because every day is a school day.***
- **Develop operational credibility. *Be the best you can be.***
- **Know your business. *There is no substitute for hard work.***

Good advice for whatever your profession or industry! Congratulations Deputy Commissioner Donna Adams.

Bush Watch – a Good Neighbour in the Country

We are very fortunate in Tasmania to have Bush Watch as part of the Neighbourhood Watch family. Neighbourhood Watch is very much about communities looking out for each other and neighbours taking the trouble to know what fits in their community and notice things that are out of place or need fixing. It is no different in the country and this article salutes the efforts of the Bush Watch members of Westerway and the Upper Derwent Valley for their efforts in restoring a local war memorial that had been neglected and fallen into disrepair.

The Upper Derwent Valley is known to be one of the highest bush fire prone areas in Australia and the work of the local Bush Watch members is largely focussed on projects to reduce this risk, particularly during the summer months. However, it was in 2020 that the plight of the forgotten and lonely war memorial in a paddock in the hamlet of Fentonbury came to their attention. Initial research identified



The memorial before in 2020

that the memorial commemorated the lives of three local men that were lost in the Great War of 1914 – 1918. Further research revealed that the land on which the memorial stood was on its own title of Crown Land.

With some passion, the plight of the memorial was taken to the Central Highlands Council, a result of which saw the structure and its surrounds restored to correctly provide the homage and respect that those fallen soldiers deserved. At 6am on Anzac



The memorial after in 2021

Day 2021 the first service in living memory was held at the Fentonbury War Memorial. 22 people attended the short but meaningful service where three wreaths were laid to remember the sacrifice from so long ago.

The Neighbourhood Watch message in this story is how, when we look around our neighbourhoods, we can find projects that if we simply take the lead, we can play an influential role in building community pride and connectedness.

Arise Sir Roxley!

Neighbourhood Watch has been continuously active in Tasmania since 1986. Over the 35 years of operations many groups have been formed in numerous far-flung areas of the state. The picturesque town of Wynyard on the north-west coast, kissing the shores of Bass Strait, is one such area. Local businessman, Roxley Snare, has been a stalwart member of this community and for over 20 years as the Coordinator of the Central Wynyard Neighbourhood Watch (NHW). Business acumen and a passion for his local community have been the attributes that Roxley has used as the leader of their local NHW.

In 2020 Wynyard participated in the Get Online Week activities coordinated by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia for a number of groups across the country. Being entrepreneurial, Roxley was able to use some of the grant funds to



Roxley Snare (centre) with Wynyard NHW members during their Get Online Week activities

host a morning tea for his Watch to celebrate their 25 years of continuous service to the Wynyard community. The event was attended by local police officers, the Deputy Mayor, Dr Mary Duniam, and the President of NHW Tasmania, Peter Edwards. A highlight of the event was the cutting of the cake by inaugural members Crosby Grieve and Janine Cranny.

However, the true highlight for Roxley, Wynyard, and the whole of

Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania was the announcement in June 2021 for the Queen's Birthday Australian Honours Awards, that Roxley was to receive the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to the community of Wynyard.

Congratulations Roxley! We are very proud that you have received this recognition for your generous service to NHW and your community. We think it is as good as a Knighthood!

Mildura NHW Engage with local youth

In these difficult times Mildura Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has continued to focus their efforts in the area of local youth. Continuing to engage young people through the Junior Neighbourhood Watch program, fitting visits between lockdowns.



Helen shows how to be an effective witness

The schools have been fantastic, allowing us to visit under the guidelines deemed necessary. They have informed us that the kids get so excited when they know we are coming, that if we can't get in they are really let down.

This term the focus has been on 'How to be an effective Witness'.

This session involves giving students information about what to look for, followed by a scenario where the kids have to write clues in relation to the description of the offender and then draw a picture from that description.

The other leading program is the Koori Cubs program. This was



Deondre enjoying the Koori Cubs program

obviously affected by restrictions, however, it has continued in one way or another during the term.

The Koori Cubs program provides the kids an outlet during difficult times and something to look forward to every week. It also gives the kids someone to talk to, which is proving invaluable for their mental health.

CPTED Cocooning Project

In 2019 the City of Armadale conducted a Social Priorities Survey that identified community safety as a priority amongst residents.

The City of Armadale set up a strategy to **promote Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**. CPTED is a means to empower the local community to build a vibrant community through participation in crime prevention. CPTED encourages community members to first improve the safety of their own homes and secondly take ownership of public places.

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Armadale and the NHW Western Australia office is working closely with the City of Armadale and local Police to facilitate canvassing of the local area for security audits, provision of crime prevention literature and resources. Home audits will be provided on request by residents and recommendations to the residents will be made based on CPTED principles.

As an ongoing resource the City of Armadale is developing online CPTED resources for use by residents and businesses to continue the project past the initial 12 months. Positive engagement with the community is also important, with a series of meet and greet events planned to promote neighbourhood participation in a connected community, social cohesion and a positive community culture.

The City of Armadale, NHW Armadale and WA Police Force hope to achieve the following project outcomes:



NHW engaging with home owners



Mounted Police meeting the locals

- Promote a sustainable community-based crime prevention initiative
- Increased perception of home safety

- Increased public awareness of crime prevention through CPTED
- Increased public awareness of:
 - How to reduce victimisation
 - The role of the police
 - When and how to report crime
- Neighbourhood Watch (all of the community can participate in Neighbourhood Watch and our Volunteers play a vital role in community crime prevention coordination)
- Increased community understanding that community safety is everyone's responsibility



Our live audience enjoying the event with friends and family

Preventing Domestic Violence Event

As part of the Neighbourhood Watch Chinese Group's ongoing crime prevention efforts, NHWCG organised an event in the Main Hall in the City of Melville to help combat the scourge of domestic violence in the community.

This event was the first NHWCG event to be live streamed over social media, reaching an audience of over 6000 and distributed many times through WeChat and Facebook.

The event featured speakers from the WA Police, Crime Stoppers, The Department of Home Affairs, The Department of Communities and The Honourable Member for Bateman, all sharing insights on how to help prevent domestic violence and how to report it anonymously. There were also many amateur cultural performances from members of the Chinese speaking community, including mask swapping, dancing, and singing.

1 in 4 Australian women have experienced domestic violence. This is an alarming but sadly accurate statistic that is typically even higher in non-English speaking communities due to several factors such as, language/cultural barriers, lack of trust in the police and judicial system, cultural/social pressures and immigration visa concerns. This event was designed to inform every woman about what their rights are in this terrible situation, that they are not alone in their suffering and that there is always a way out.

The Department of Home Affairs shared some vital information about the rights of domestic violence victims who have a Partner Visa.

It was surprising for many to hear that in this instance victims would not have their visa revoked if they decided to leave the relationship. This information alone could potentially save someone's life as there are still many women who feel trapped in that situation and don't want to leave for fear they will be deported.

Lisa Li is a strong advocate for preventing domestic violence and has received the White Ribbon training along with several of the volunteers at the Neighbourhood Watch Chinese Group. Lisa has helped over 40 families find support after they experienced domestic violence issues.



NHWCG volunteers



A/Sergeant Jess Gunnis, telling a heartfelt story about a domestic abuse survivor



Ms. Tarryn Harmer, Community Liaison Officer, WA Community Engagement Division, Department of Home Affairs making a speech about domestic violence victims' visa rights



Superintendent Dominic Wood, WA Police Community Engagement Division Making a speech



CEO Crime Stoppers WA Dr Vince Hughes, Superintendent Dominic Wood, WA Police Community Engagement Division, and Chair NHW WA Burnie Durkin



Acting NHW WA State Coordinator Mr. Mathieu Uchino, Ms. Lisa Li, President of the NHWCG Australia, and Chairman of NHW, Mr. Bernie Durkin

NHWCGs New Legal Support for the Vulnerable in the Community

It has been a long-term goal for Lisa Li, President of the Neighbourhood Watch Chinese Group, to establish a legal team that could support those vulnerable within the Chinese speaking community.

In May 2021, Lisa realised this goal by partnering with certified legal expert Wee Chong Tay, NHWCG's legal support manager Gavin Ying, and the Curtin Tax Clinic. Our team can now provide legal and tax support services for vulnerable members of the Chinese speaking community.

There are many people from non-English speaking backgrounds who are unable to or are unaware of how to access legal/tax information and services in Australia. This unfairly disadvantages people who are not from the mainstream community and results in unnecessary costs and legal issues for those who are already facing significant social and economic challenges.

The main aims of the legal support team are as follows:

- Deliver legal information and knowledge to the community
- Protect and help those experiencing domestic violence issues in the community
- Helping vulnerable people by providing specialised legal support for a variety of issues ranging from tax to immigration
- Distribute informative videos and materials through our social media network

The Neighbourhood Watch Chinese Group is proud to be helping the community by promoting ongoing crime prevention efforts, which also includes advocating a greater knowledge of the Australian legal system. This is a very important step for our community to be able to gain access to legal support and understanding.



President of Neighbourhood Watch Chinese Group, Lisa Li and Legal expert Wee Chong Tay



Chairman NHW WA Mr. Bernie Durkin with the NHWCG legal support team



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A woman with blonde hair, wearing a black tactical vest over a dark shirt. The vest has a yellow name tag that reads "AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE" and a police badge hanging from a chain. She is looking directly at the camera with a serious expression.

ARE THEY TRIPLE OK?

We're always there to help.

Let's make sure we help each other and ask R U OK?

ruok.org.au/triple-ok

RUOK?TM

A conversation could change a life.