



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA



ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited





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**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH
AUSTRALASIA**



OUR VISION:

Safe and resilient communities across Australasia.

OUR MISSION:

Empowering communities to prevent crime.

OUR VALUES:



Community

We value, serve, and connect with all individuals and communities Australasia-wide, who then in turn value, serve and connect with one another



Integrity

We value, serve, and regard all individuals and communities with an insistence upon respect, fairness, and honour in all communications and undertakings



Inclusion

We value, serve, and recognise the strength, resilience, and distinction of inherent and acquired diversity across all individuals and communities



Professionalism

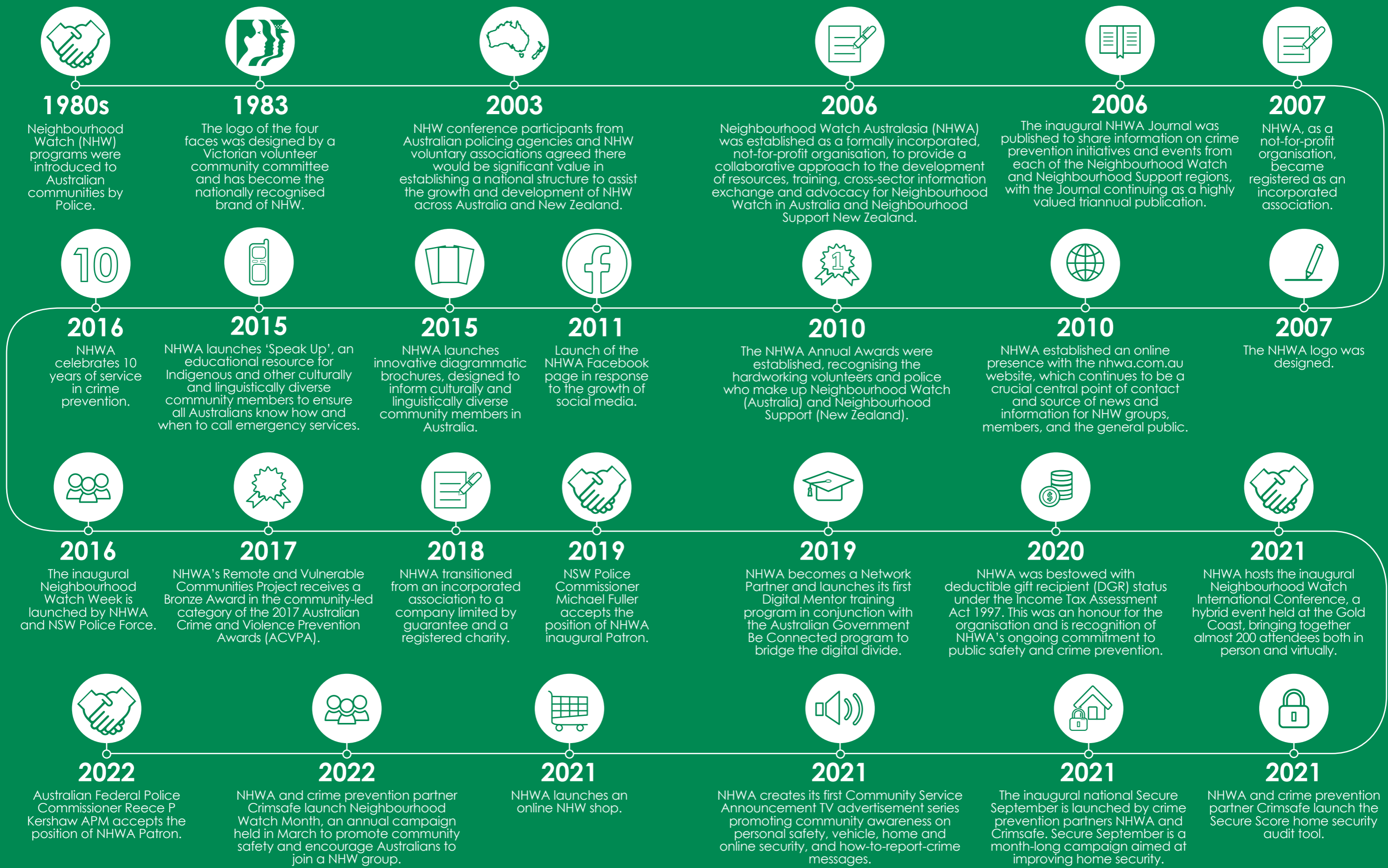
We value, serve, and apply a stringent assurance of accountability and adherence to ensure the highest standards of governance and practice



Safety

We value, serve and work towards ensuring the safety of all and to empower all Australasian communities to be safe, across local and global levels

OUR HISTORY – OUR TIMELINE



Since inception, Neighbourhood Watch strives to be the leading community volunteer crime prevention organisation in Australia.

NHW's primary role in 2022 continues to be to promote the exchange of information, knowledge and resources between NHW communities and Police, and to improve community safety, engagement, connection and social inclusion.



COMMISSIONER'S FOREWORD AS PATRON

Commissioner Reece P Kershaw



Australian Federal Police Commissioner Reece Kershaw joined the AFP in 1988 as a Constable for the ACT region, where he worked in General Duties and Criminal Investigations as a Detective. Commissioner Kershaw was also seconded to the National Crime Authority and the Australian Crime Commission. In 1999, Commissioner Kershaw moved to Perth and worked in Operations and Close Personal Protection before undertaking leadership roles in the investigation of victim-based crime, High Tech Crime Operations and deployments on overseas postings to the Netherlands, East Timor and Solomon Islands. In 2010, Commissioner Kershaw was promoted to Commander, leading Serious and Organised Crime Investigations.

In 2011, Commissioner Kershaw left the AFP to join the Northern Territory Police Force and in 2015, was appointed Commissioner of Police and Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services. Commissioner Kershaw was appointed as the AFP's 8th Commissioner in 2019.

As AFP Commissioner, building a bridge to community has been a significant priority for Commissioner Kershaw. Becoming Patron of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia this year was a natural fit and opportunity to enhance education and prevention regarding Commonwealth crime. As Patron of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Commissioner Kershaw looks forward to helping educate the community on protecting themselves from Commonwealth crime – child exploitation, terrorism, community interference by state actors, cyber fraud or illicit drug trafficking. It is also an opportunity to draw on the AFP's existing partnership with Pacific neighbours and their communities, and to raise awareness of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's brand in our broader region.

A particular focus for community awareness and education in the current environment is cybercrime. The AFP has been working closely with state and territory counterparts, as well as the private sector and industry to combat the growing threat of cybercrime, to keep our communities safe. Through the AFP and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia partnership, education materials with simple, yet practical measures, to help arm the community with tools to help protect themselves have been provided.

This partnership is another avenue for the AFP to protect Australians and Australia's way of life, and we look forward to Commissioner Kershaw's continued collaboration with Neighbourhood Watch Australasia as Patron.

Commissioner Reece Kershaw
Australian Federal Police

CEO'S REPORT

Maria Bennett



A warm welcome to all

As the peak body for Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand it is a privilege to report on a further year of service on behalf of our respective communities, in which we have continued to prioritise community safety and connectivity.

During 2021–2022 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) has commenced and delivered a number of significant major projects and initiatives, including:

- Safety For All – a capacity building Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) program developed in partnership with The University of Queensland, volunteers, and police.
- Collaborations with the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) to produce resources and campaigns to protect children from online sexual exploitation.
- A proactive crime prevention partnership with Crimsafe, developing Australia-wide initiatives including Secure Score and Secure September.
- Delivery of the 3rd successful Digital Mentor Training program to assist older Australians.
- Auspice and facilitation of Get Online Week for 31 Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups.
- Production and publication of the triannual NHWA Journal, distributed throughout each State, Territory and New Zealand to share news about crime prevention and community.
- National broadcasting of Community Service Announcements - 5 TV commercials created to promote community awareness of personal safety and security.

In May 2022 NHWA was honoured to welcome our Patron Commissioner Reece Kershaw, Australian Federal Police (AFP). Commissioner Kershaw views his NHWA patronage as an opportunity for the AFP to further forge relationships within communities to facilitate Commonwealth crime education and prevention at local and international levels.

Thank you to the Chair, Company Secretary and Board Directors for their staunch support and excellent governance throughout this year, while continuing to drive the organisation's strategic direction, with additional credit due to our amazing team of Lizzie, Mel and all others.

In 2022–2023 NHWA will continue working with our partners in the fight against crime and to reinforce the resilience of our Australasian community's security, connectedness, and well-being.

Let's take action. Let's take ownership. And number 1: Let's stay safe.

Maria Bennett

Chief Executive Officer

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (NHWA)



CHAIR'S REPORT

Bernie Durkin



Dear Stakeholders and Members

On behalf of the Board, it gives me great pleasure to present our Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (NHWA) Annual Report for the financial year 2021/2022.

Technology has allowed NHWA to continue to work effectively and has enabled Board Meetings to be held on a monthly basis. With a Board of Directors comprising of Australian states, territories, and New Zealand, we owe much to this fantastic technology.

On behalf of the Board I wish to acknowledge the significant contribution of our CEO Maria Bennett and Executive Assistant/Project Manager Lizzie McGrory who ensured the smooth running of our organisation. Maria and Lizzie have been assisted by Melissa Roberts and other key personnel, who as a team have done an outstanding job maintaining the momentum which has enabled us to achieve our targets.

During the year we farewelled from our Board a long-term Director Superintendent Eric Tibbott from New Zealand Police. Eric was a fantastic and enthusiastic contributor to our Board and will be sadly missed. We welcome to the Board Inspector Brent Register from New Zealand Police. Brent brings to the role a wide range of policing experience, and we anticipate that his current position as Manager of Prevention – Community Focus at a national level, will inform and contribute significantly to NHWA's ongoing and future strategies, campaigns, and directives. The Board also farewelled Pat Daley from NSW who was with us for a short time. Thank you, Pat, for your contribution.

In the past 12 months planning has gone into the development of a number of new projects to be delivered as part of our Federal Government funding. As an organisation we look forward to these projects moving from the development to deliverable phase to benefit our Australasian communities.

In conclusion, I wish to thank my fellow Board Directors and our staff for their outstanding efforts throughout this past year, and I look forward to the upcoming year in which we shall continue to work together towards ensuring NHWA's diligent governance, enduring priorities, and continued growth of key areas of focus and resilience.

Best regards

Bernie Durkin

Chair

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (NHWA)



ABOUT US

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia is the peak body of Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand. Neighbourhood Watch Australasia is governed by a Board comprising Neighbourhood Watch representatives and senior Police from member States and Territories of Australia, and New Zealand.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia supports and works in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand to enhance the safety and security of communities. Neighbourhood Watch Australasia shares ideas and disseminates information through community programs that encourage participation in crime prevention for the building of safe, confident and resilient communities.



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Board Directors, staff and member organisation representatives attend the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Annual General Meeting, November 2021, via Zoom

Top row:

Phil Tavender

President
Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers
Association of South Australia Inc.

Maria Bennett

Chief Executive Officer
Neighbourhood Watch
Australasia

Margaret Pearson

Company Secretary
and Board Director
Neighbourhood Watch
Australasia

Bernie Durkin

Chair and Board Director
Neighbourhood Watch
Australasia,
President
Neighbourhood Watch
Western Australia

Middle row:

Clare McGrath

Board Director Neighbourhood
Watch Australasia,
Vice President Neighbourhood
Watch Australian Capital Territory

Lesa Gale

Assistant Commissioner
Australian Federal Police,
Board Director
Neighbourhood Watch
Australasia

Steve Collins

Acting Superintendent
Queensland Police
Service, Board Director
Neighbourhood Watch
Australasia, Neighbourhood
Watch Queensland

Cameron Devey

Chief Inspector
South Australian Police

Bottom row:

Peter Edwards

Board Director Neighbourhood
Watch Australasia,
President
Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania

Eric Tibbott

Superintendent
New Zealand Police,
Board Director Neighbourhood Watch Australasia,
Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



MAJOR PROJECTS

Safety For All – Target Hardening for Australian Communities

In 2021 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) and University of Queensland (UQ) joined forces to develop and deliver the 'Safety For All - Target Hardening for Australian Communities' project.

The underlying principles of 'Safety For All - Target Hardening for Australian Communities' are based upon the philosophies and established protocols of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). These principles include establishing improvements to the built environment, developing natural surveillance opportunities, and ensuring social cohesion, collective efficacy, and community culture.

The objectives of the partnership between NHWA and UQ are to deliver activities that provide CPTED crime prevention and detection strategies to support law enforcement efforts, and to build capacity within Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups and the community.

The intended outcomes of the project are to create safer more connected and inclusive communities, with local NHW groups having the opportunity to be actively engaged in the development of innovative, localised crime prevention and detection measures, applicable and appropriate to individual communities.

These outcomes will be achieved through encompassing a multi-tiered approach of interlinked activities, which will deliver proactive, tangible crime reduction outcomes, as well as providing early prevention strategies to communities.

Practical approaches will include training NHW members in CPTED principles, who will then connect with victims of burglary in identified locations via Police.



The CPTED trained NHW members will support victims of crime through appropriate Target Hardening prevention crime measures in their home by conducting free Home Security Audits.

The Home Security Audits are designed to assess and evaluate existing home security and make recommendations for improvements via Target Hardening measures, including, for example the installation of locks, security lights, screens and cameras, and foliage reduction.

Through the practical application of CPTED, communities will be encouraged to take greater ownership via a consultative process for the implementation of crime prevention measures, with direct anticipated results being:

- 1. Reducing fear of crime and increasing feelings of safety in the community**
- 2. Building crime prevention capacity within local Neighbourhood Watch groups**
- 3. Creating greater community resilience**

NHW believes that the establishment of CPTED principles in communities will contribute to safer environments, and create greater social interconnectedness and a sense of belonging and proprietorship, with these outcomes becoming self-sustaining, continually evolving and improving once established.

MAJOR PROJECTS



Secure Score – Home Security Audit Tool

To coincide with the launch of Secure September 2021 — a month-long national behaviour change campaign aimed at encouraging Australians to take stock of their home security — Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe 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.

Secure Score enables Australian households to complete a free quiz which analyses current home features and security set up and calculates a security rating out of 100 for their home. Householders can then access a tailored action plan highlighting the recommended steps to be taken to improve their security score to better protect their home.

Crimsafe CEO Jim Sturgess says the Secure Score tool provides 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 place of safe sanctuary, our families, and our communities."

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's CEO, Maria Bennett, advised: "Our crime prevention 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.

"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," said Ms Bennett.

The free [Secure Score](https://www.nhwa.com.au/resources/secure-score/) tool is available at www.nhwa.com.au/resources/secure-score/

Media

Towards the end of 2021, Channel 9's A Current Affair ran a feature story presented by Tracy Grimshaw focusing on home security concerns and associated risks, a particularly timely story as many people prepared to return to workplaces after lengthy periods of working from home throughout the pandemic, coinciding with break and enter crimes having increased 26% since 2020.



A Current Affair spoke with Maria Bennett, Chief Executive Officer of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA), and Jim Sturgess, Managing Director of Crimsafe, about practical steps residents could take to ensure the security of their homes.

Many of the recommendations Maria and Jim made were simple, but often overlooked: provide signs of people being home, for example by leaving shoes by the front door; don't leave windows and back doors open or unlocked, and install deadlocks and security doors; ensure window screens are fortified to keep potential thieves out, not just those pesky mosquitoes and flies; keep foliage trimmed to ensure fewer hiding places for potential burglars, and store wheelie bins where they cannot be used as leverage to reach higher home entry points.

Jim advised that visible signage indicating and advising of security systems, including alarms, dogs, and security cameras, supported by other evidence, such as motion activated security lights, were highly effective deterrents that would usually result in opportunistic thieves making a quick assessment of a home and then moving along to a potentially less secure property.

In September 2021 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe developed and launched [Secure Score](https://www.nhwa.com.au/resources/secure-score/), a home security assessment tool. To find out your home's [Secure Score](https://www.nhwa.com.au/resources/secure-score/) and recommendations for improvements go to: www.nhwa.com.au/resources/secure-score, and for further information on your home's security and risks view the Current Affair segment on the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia website: www.nhwa.com.au/secure-score-home-security-audit-tool-on-a-current-affair

To engage with and follow NHWA:



DIGITAL MENTOR - BE CONNECTED, CAPACITY BUILDER PROGRAM

Delivered: 1 September 2021 – 31 August 2022

In August 2021 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) was proud to once again, for the third year running, be one of the Good Things Foundations Be Connected 3,500 Network Partners across Australia working to close the digital divide, as a recipient of Be Connected's \$50,000 Capacity Builder Grant, Round 7. The Capacity Builder grants fund a "train-the-trainer" program to support and develop new Digital Mentors within our communities, to meet the needs of older Australians seeking to improve their digital skills.

Being NHWA's third year of delivering the Capacity Building program provided NHWA with the opportunity for continuing to build and refine upon the well-received program and process established during the previous two grant rounds. In 2021-2022, in response to the ongoing limitations imposed by COVID-19 regulations, NHWA continued delivery via an online model of Digital Mentor training.

This proved to be an advantage and a strength for our program delivery, as new Digital Mentors were able to attend the training from all States and Territories Australia-wide, from all communities and cultures, across differing time-zones, with over twenty different languages being spoken between the cohort.

The Digital Mentor program runs from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022; by 30 June 2022 NHWA had successfully trained 88 Digital Mentors, with a total of 108 Digital Mentors trained nation-wide by the end of the program.

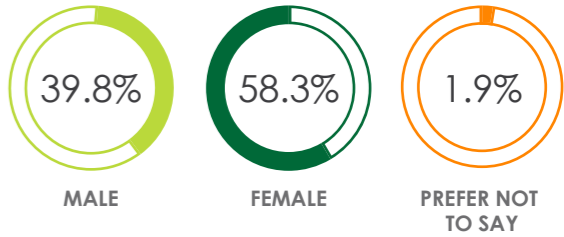
The Digital Mentors ranged in age from 18 to people in their late 60's and early 70's. No matter their age or their background, all the Digital Mentors were motivated by a singular passion and commitment for ensuring that all older persons had the opportunity for digital inclusion and safe online access, a necessity in these times to ensure access to essential services, and for maintaining interconnectedness and closeness to local and global community and family, wherever in the world they may be.



LOCATIONS OF DIGITAL MENTORS



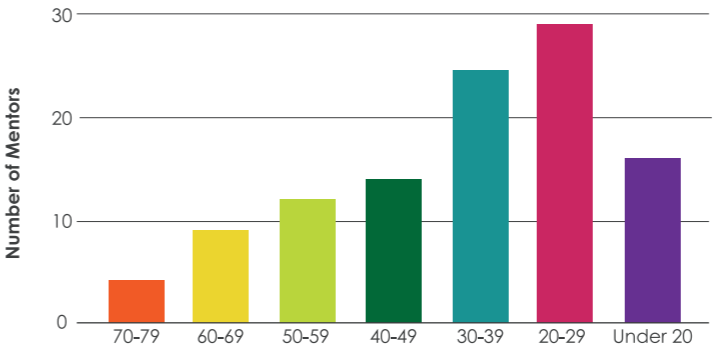
GENDER OF DIGITAL MENTORS



LANGUAGES OF DIGITAL MENTORS

20+ Languages

AGE OF DIGITAL MENTORS



COUNTRY OF BIRTH OF DIGITAL MENTORS





MAJOR PROJECTS

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Television Commercials

Crime prevention messaging series

In 2021, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) created a series of five simple yet effective crime prevention and awareness Television Commercials (TVCs). The purpose of this series is to promote community mindfulness around personal safety and security strategies, highlighting the steps we can all take towards protecting ourselves and our community, with an overarching theme of “Neighbours watching out for one another” and an underlying message to consider joining a local Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Group.

Each of the TVC scenarios is set in an everyday situation, relatable to all Australians — both young and old. The actors cast as the recurring characters were selected to represent everyday Aussies in familiar situations, with many of the same actors appearing across all five TVCs to create the continuity of a sense of familiar community, family, and neighbourhood connections.

The five TVC's cover a range of subjects, including Personal Safety, Vehicle Safety, Online Safety, Home Security, and the need for Reporting — five scenarios most people do not necessarily consider beforehand how best to respond to if and when they may arise. Through the depiction of relatable situations that families and individuals may find themselves in, the series highlights the importance of behaviours, actions, and choices to contribute to creating positive change and outcomes, to ensure safety and wellbeing.

The TVC's were developed to address the following objectives:

- To create safer communities by promoting crime prevention messaging, reporting of suspicious behaviour
- To enhance community safety and security by building greater individual and community resilience and establishing and acknowledging safer behaviours
- To increase feelings and perceptions of personal safety and confidence in public spaces
- And to highlight the benefits of joining Neighbourhood Watch

To date, the TVC's have been aired on multiple national and local television broadcasters and channels over a period of 6 months from December 2021 to May 2022.

The five TVCs are currently viewable on the NHWA website (www.nhwa.com.au/resources/tvc-messages/) and are available to be screened at local Neighbourhood Watch events and activities.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia intends to produce more TVC's in the future to add to their safety messaging portfolio - watch this space!

Broadcasting Locations



Broadcasting Schedule



NEW INITIATIVES

Neighbourhood Watch Month

In March 2022, crime prevention partners Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe came together for Neighbourhood Watch Month, a month-long initiative to empower Australian families to strengthen their home security measures and build safer, secure and more crime-resistant homes, neighbourhoods and communities.

Neighbourhood Watch Month provided a timely reminder for homeowners to take proactive measures to audit their security and better protect their homes and loved ones.

Throughout March, both Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe shared home security tips and personal safety advice via their websites and social media channels, and local radio stations. Homeowners were encouraged to take simple yet effective actions to increase their security, including installing alarms, cameras and sensor lighting, arranging for mailboxes to be checked while away on holidays, and becoming involved with their local Neighbourhood Watch group.

According to the most recent Australian Bureau of Statistics data, 9.4% of households experienced a break-in, an attempted break-in, property theft or malicious damage during 2020-2021.

The Neighbourhood Watch Month campaign also encouraged homeowners to audit their home security with – a free, online home security audit tool, developed by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe in 2021 – that rates the effectiveness of a householders' overall home security. More than 53,000 visitors undertook to test their home's security via the Secure Score tool during NHW Month, demonstrating a strong desire among homeowners to arm themselves with the knowledge they need to better protect their homes and neighbourhoods.

Respondent data received during the campaign revealed that while 88% of households have adequate locks on all external doors, only 35% have a security alarm system in place. However, only 57% of participants indicated that they had sensor lighting installed around exterior doors and windows. Overall, Australia's average Secure Score is only 56 out of 100 – suggesting that many homes are susceptible to break-ins, theft or damage.

The average Secure Score rating provides evidence that much more still needs to be done to increase awareness and improve home security measures to ensure our communities are stronger and safer.

Secure September

In a new crime prevention initiative, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe joined forces to launch [Secure September](#), a month-long national safety behavioural change campaign encouraging Australians to become more security conscious and make improvements to enhance their home security, while promoting a community-minded approach to crime prevention and the benefits of involvement with their local Neighbourhood Watch groups.

To coincide with the launch of [Secure September](#), Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe developed [Secure Score](#), a free home security audit tool that rates the effectiveness of householders' overall home security, based on current home features and security set up.

During the inaugural [Secure September](#) 2021, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Crimsafe provided homeowners helpful tips to increase their security with messaging provided via radio, websites and social media channels, as well as encouraging homeowners to utilise the new [Secure Score](#) tool, and to consider joining their local Neighbourhood Watch group.



EVENTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Get Online Week

18 – 24 October 2021

In 2021 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) auspiced 30 Get Online Week (GOLW) grant applications on behalf of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups nation-wide, as well as receiving funding for its own event, facilitating the delivery of a total of 31 successful Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) GOLW events. These 31 events - receiving a total of \$34,100 in funding - were part of over 1,000 GOLW events held, reaching more than 15,400 people across Australia!

Get Online Week began in the UK in 2007 and was introduced to Australia in 2018 as an initiative to bring digital inclusion to national attention. Get Online Week is funded by Good Things Foundation (facilitated by Be Connected) as part of the continuing digital inclusion campaign to bridge the digital divide.

In 2021 the GOLW theme was ***“Get Online, Get Connected – reflecting the importance of digital skills in enabling people to work, learn and keep in touch with loved ones during the pandemic.”***

Due to the 2021 campaign continuing to be significantly impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and regulations, differing state to state, the way in which individual GOLW events could be delivered was impacted greatly. Nation-wide, NHW community groups more than rose to the occasion: some held in-person events with initiatives such as digital bingo and device use demonstrations, while others used the (super!) powers of technology to communicate with and educate their communities in IT utility and access and effective ways for digital inclusion and connection for all.

Even in the midst of a global pandemic, all of the NHWA GOLW events were incredibly innovative and successful – the spirit of community and human endeavour never ceases to amaze!



Neighbourhood Watch Week and Crime Prevention Week

8 – 14 November 2021

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (Australia and New Zealand) and Bunnings combine forces on crime prevention.

In November 2021 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Bunnings partnered once again in the fight against crime to present the combined Neighbourhood Watch Week and Bunnings Crime Prevention Week.

Neighbourhood Watch Week has an enduring and well-respected tradition of being a successful week-long occasion showcasing Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support NZ groups and crime prevention initiatives to the community, with hundreds of Neighbourhood Watch members and volunteers simultaneously conducting events in their local communities across Australia and New Zealand.

Neighbourhood Watch Week activities included:

- BBQ/Fundraisers
- One-way number plate theft prevention security screw installations
- Tool engraving and UV property marking
- Home security information
- Crime prevention information

Neighbourhood Watch Week is a dedicated time to raise public awareness of Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support NZ and the benefits of belonging to a local group.

EVENTS AND PUBLICATIONS



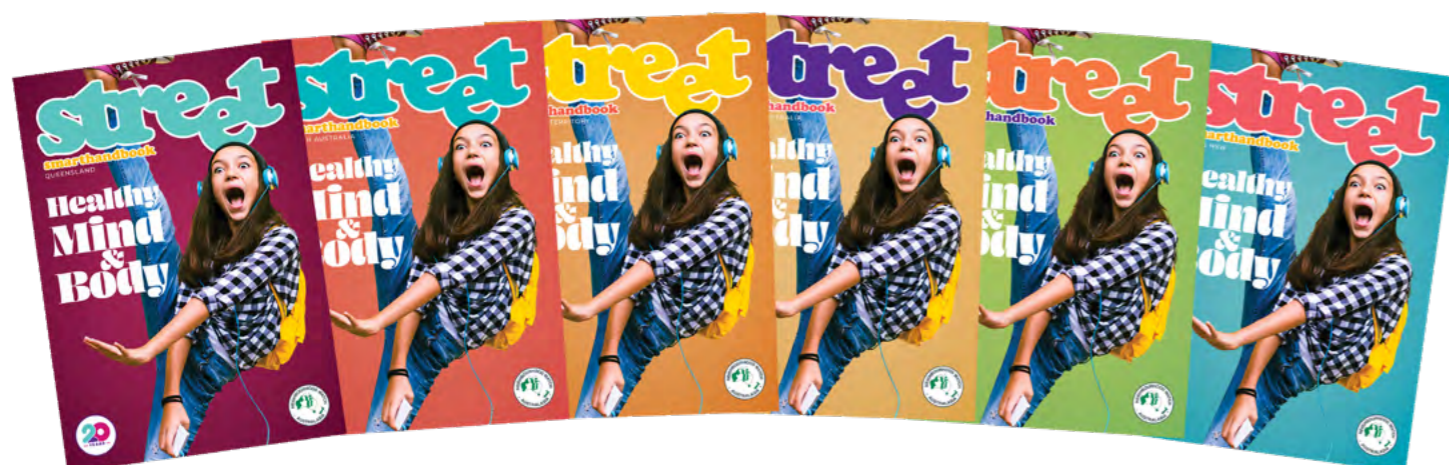
Streetsmart Handbooks

Streetsmart Handbooks – the essential guide into adulthood, are celebrating their 20th year anniversary. Commencing publication in 2002, this accessible, comprehensive, state-specific resource is delivered to teenagers at secondary schools, providing practical and useful information on topics relevant to them as they transition into adult life.

Topics covered are comprehensive and contemporary, including subjects such as cyber bullying, depression, social behaviour in the community, the dangers of drugs and alcohol, healthy respect and safety, and much more. The Handbooks also provide teenagers and their families with details of places and organisations to contact in instances when they may need assistance or information.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's partnership with Streetsmart Handbooks promotes Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's goal of creating safe, connected, and inclusive communities, where people feel empowered, informed, and engaged with one another and with Police.

For more information go to: www.nhwa.com.au/resources/flyers-booklets/streetsmart-handbooks



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Journals

The official Journal of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) incorporating Neighbourhood Support New Zealand.

The NHWA Journal is an informative and up-to-date resource, published and distributed across Australia and New Zealand three times a year. The Journal reports on recent and upcoming Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand events, occasions, news, and opportunities at national, state, and local levels.

The NHWA Journal also relays the stories of individual Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support NZ communities and the people who power these organisations, as well as articles from our stakeholders and partners.

Over 10,000 copies of the NHWA Journal are printed and distributed free of charge to Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support NZ members, groups, and policing organisations, as well as via an extensive email database.

Copies of the NHWA Journal are also available via paid subscription for hard copies, or free for electronic copies to all members of the public at www.nhwa.com.au/news-media/journal





NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH
AUSTRALASIA

BERNIE DURKIN
Chair, Western Australia

Bernie is the Executive Manager for the Community Engagement Division of the WA Police. This role encompasses the position of WA State Director for NHW. Bernie is currently the Chair of NHWA.



BERNIE DURKIN

MARGARET PEARSON
Company Secretary

Throughout her career, Margaret has made a significant contribution to the voluntary sector, including President of NHW ACT for 8 years. Margaret is currently the Company Secretary of NHWA.



MARGARET PEARSON

CLARE MCGRATH
Australian Capital Territory

Clare is currently the Vice-President and Board Member of ACT NHW. Clare has been an active member of NHW since 1985.



CLARE MCGRATH

PETER EDWARDS BM
Tasmania

Peter Edwards is a former Commander in the Tasmanian Police Service. He has served as a Detective, Prosecutor, Intelligence Officer and Head of Training. Peter is now President of NHW Tasmania.



PETER EDWARDS



STEVE COLLINS

STEVE COLLINS
Queensland

Acting Superintendent Steve Collins is a career police officer, with over 37 years with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and is currently Commander overseeing the QPS Community Engagement and Internal Support portfolio – Communication, Culture and Engagement Division.



MARIA BENNETT

MARIA BENNETT
Chief Executive Officer

Maria has extensive knowledge, management skills and leadership experience in the public and private sectors in Australia, NZ and Asia, including working with many prominent charities/not for profit organisations.



LIZZIE MCGRORY

LIZZIE MCGRORY
Executive Assistant/Project Manager

Lizzie has recently completed her Bachelor of Psychology and Justice, majoring in Criminology and Policing. Lizzie is passionate about helping those involved in the justice system.



LESA GALE

LESA GALE
Australian Federal Police

During her career with the Australian Federal Police (AFP), Assistant Commissioner Lesa Gale has worked across serious and organised crime and national security portfolios, and in 2019 was appointed head of AFP Northern Command and the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation.



BRENT REGISTER

BRENT REGISTER
New Zealand

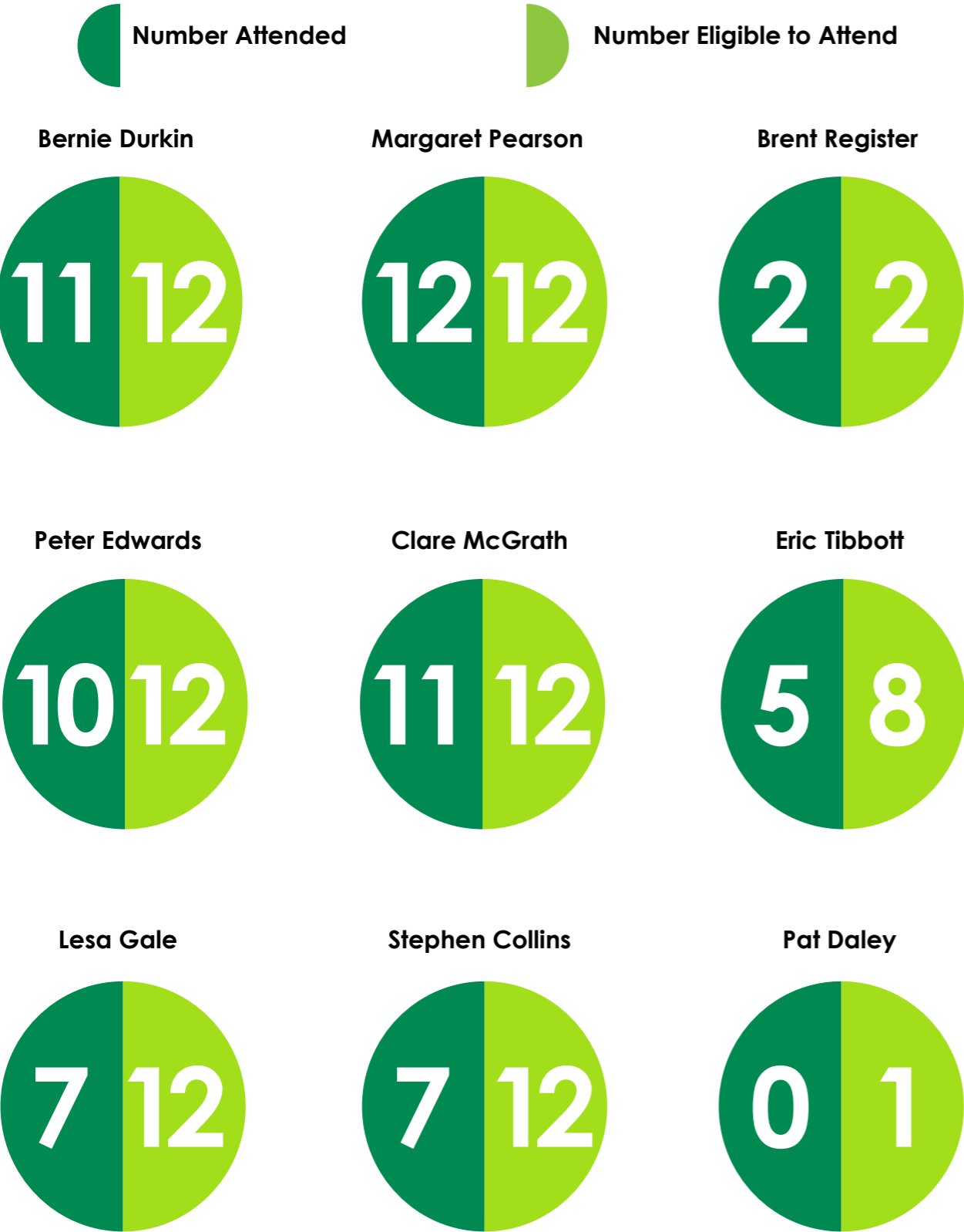
Inspector Brent Register, Manager of Prevention – Community Focus, is responsible for the areas of Alcohol Harm Prevention, Mental Health, Community, Community Inclusion and Crowded Places at a national level.

RETIRED BOARD DIRECTORS

Cr Pat Daley OAM, Appointed Director – concluded August 2021
Superintendent Eric Tibbott NZ – concluded March 2022

MEETINGS OF BOARD DIRECTORS

During the financial year, twelve Board meetings were held. Attendances by each Board member during the year were as follows:



DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited
For the year ended 30 June 2022

In the Directors' opinion:

The attached financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;

- comply with Australian Accounting Standards applicable to the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited; and
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30th June 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 with a Resolution of Directors.

Director: Bernie Durkin
Sign date: 25/10/2022



Director: Margaret Pearson
Sign date: 25/10/2022



FINANCIAL REPORT

Margaret Pearson



It is pleasing to report that the finances of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (NHW) have improved considerably during the period under review, namely the 2021–2022 fiscal year. With a strong financial position being consistently recorded across the budgetary year the surplus for the organisation increased to \$373,000. This securely positions NHWA to undertake further programs and initiatives in the future and provides financial resources and stability in an uncertain funding environment.

Grants:

- A three-year funding agreement with the Australian Federal Government began in October 2021 for \$1.074 million.
- A Be Connected Capacity Builder Digital Mentoring Grant of \$50,000, which is being used for the training of 100 additional Digital Mentors.
- 31 individual Get Online Week (GOLW) Grants for a total of \$34,100. These were successfully applied for and auspiced by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia for Neighbourhood Watch GOLW events held nation-wide by Neighbourhood Watch groups in October 2021.

Partnership:

- In 2021-2022 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia entered into a multi-year crime prevention partnership with Crimsafe.

To maintain this positive financial position into the 2022-2023 fiscal year and ongoing, the CEO, Maria Bennett, continues to explore other significant and sustainable sources of income for Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and individual Neighbourhood Watch state and community groups, including further grant, partnership and donation opportunities.

Without Maria's untiring efforts the organisation would not now be as financially viable as it is. Her drive and enthusiasm for the work of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia is greatly appreciated and we thank her and our many supporters for their contributions to the organisation over the last twelve months.

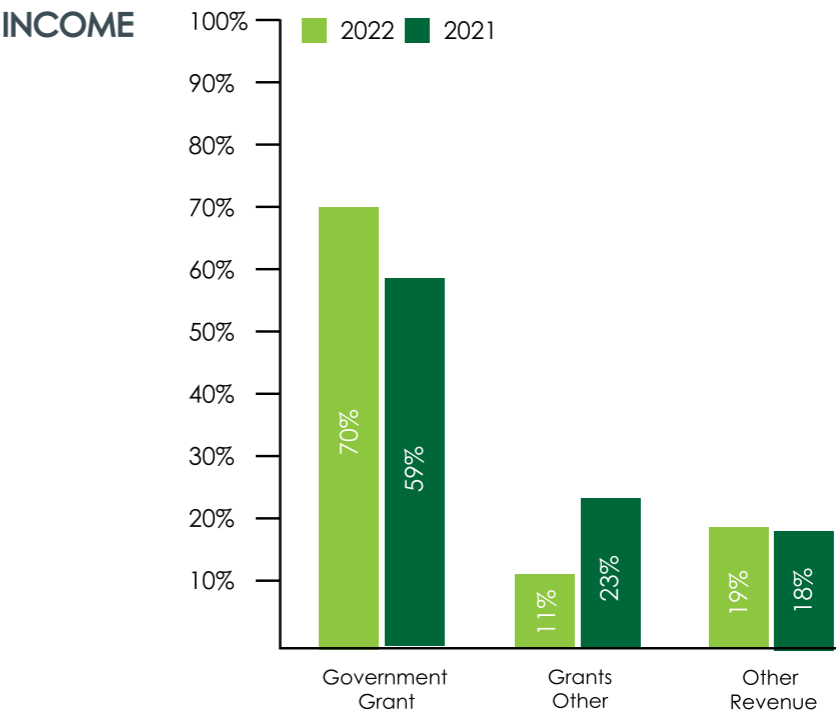
Margaret Pearson
Chair - Finance, Audit and Risk Committee
Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (NHW)

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

BALANCE SHEET as at 30 June 2022

	2022	2021	Variance
Assets			
Bank Accounts	\$598,562	\$163,209	\$435,353
Accounts Receivable	-	\$14,575	(\$14,575)
Total Current Assets	\$598,562	\$177,784	\$420,778
Total Assets	\$598,562	\$177,784	\$420,778
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$688	\$13,586	(\$12,898)
Employee Liabilities	\$52,009	\$40,287	\$11,722
GST	\$19,748	(\$37,847)	(\$18,099)
Accrued Expenses	-	\$9,500	(\$9,500)
Total Current Liabilities	\$72,445	\$25,526	\$46,919
Total Liabilities	\$72,445	\$25,526	\$46,919
Net Assets	\$526,117	\$114,411	\$430,278
Equity			
Current Year Earnings	\$373,859	\$99,711	\$274,148
Retained Earnings	\$152,258	\$52,548	\$99,710
Total Equity	\$526,117	\$152,259	\$373,858

Surplus of \$373K is committed to projects to be completed next financial year.



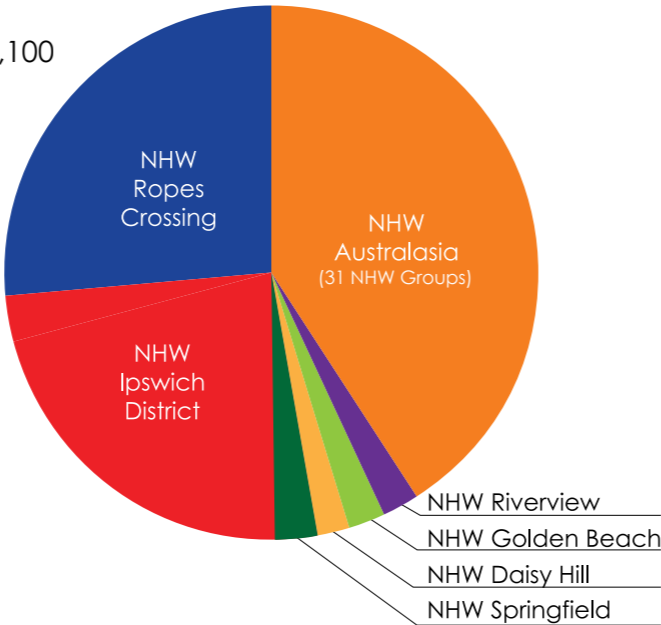
GRANTS AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Over \$83,000 in grants sourced for Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups community projects

During the 2022 financial year, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia assisted 46 Neighbourhood Watch groups with sourcing over \$83,000 in funding for their local community events and projects.

Summary of Auspiced Community Grants:

- 1. NHW Australasia – 31 NHW Groups QLD, TAS, WA \$34,100
- 2. NHW Riverview, QLD \$2,000
- 3. NHW Golden Beach, QLD \$1,930
- 4. NHW Daisy Hill, QLD \$1,430
- 5. NHW Ipswich District, QLD \$19,823
- 6. NHW Springfield, QLD \$2,200
- 7. NHW Ropes Crossing, NSW \$22,000



Organiser: Neighbourhood Watch Australasia
Recipients: 31 Neighbourhood Watch groups QLD, TAS, WA
Project: Get Online Week 2021
Grant: \$34,100

31 NHW groups held a range of effective and enjoyable activities during Get Online Week, including morning and afternoon teas, hands on digital training sessions, video conferences, and online information sessions about how to find and utilise resources on websites. All the activities focused on the importance of getting online, improving digital skills, and having a bit of fun along the way.

Status: **COMPLETED**



Recipient: Neighbourhood Watch Riverview, QLD
Project: Muscle in Maculata
Grant: \$2,000

Riverview Neighbourhood Watch invited the community to join in the fun at the Muscle in Maculata. 100+ unique and rare cars were on display. The event created a sense of community and pride for attendees, who enjoyed being able to engage with services in a fun environment. The successful event was initially created to address an issue with hooning at Riverview.

Status: **COMPLETED**



Recipient: Neighbourhood Watch Golden Beach, QLD
Project: 30 Years of Golden Beach Neighbourhood Watch
Grant: \$1,930

Golden Beach Neighbourhood Watch is planning a free community event to celebrate 30 years of operation, with all residents invited to a Picnic in the Park style event.

Status: **IN PROGRESS**

Recipient: Neighbourhood Watch Daisy Hill, QLD
Project: New Marquee
Grant: \$1,430

Daisy Hill Neighbourhood Watch held a community BBQ for local residents to celebrate 22 years of the group supporting police and community. The new marquee purchased with the Volunteer Grant funding looked great! Information was handed out about NHW, focusing on crime prevention strategies and promoting community awareness and the benefits of getting to know your neighbours.

Status: **COMPLETED**





Recipients:

Neighbourhood Watch Ipswich District, QLD - 10 Neighbourhood Watch groups

Project: Road Safety Cinema Advertisement

Grant: \$19,823

In response to the rise in fatal traffic incidents, NHW Ipswich District, in partnership with emergency services, QPS Ipswich District Crime Prevention, and service providers, developed a cinema advertisement focusing on the Fatal Five. The cinema ad named 'There's nothing more we can do! But you can' is a local educational community awareness initiative targeting all community members aged from 16 to 75+. The ad demonstrates that emergency services and community service providers working in the road safety space have done all they can, so now it's up to all road users to take responsibility! The cinema ad was screened during Road Safety Week 2021.

Status: **COMPLETED**



Recipient:
Neighbourhood Watch
Springfield, QLD

Project: Anti-Theft Number Plate
Screws

Grant: \$2,000

Grant funds were used to purchase one-way security screws to prevent number plate theft and associated crime.

Status: **COMPLETED**



Recipient:

Neighbourhood Watch Ropes Crossing, NSW

Project: The Ropes Crossing

Neighbourhood Watch Programme

Grant: \$22,000

Ropes Crossing Neighbourhood Watch was a successful recipient of the NSW Government 'My Community Projects Grant'. The group received a total of \$22,000 to fund their various projects, which included equipment, brochures, newsletters, wheelie bin signs, reporting, security patrols and outdoor equipment to inform and ensure community safety.

Status: **COMPLETED**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE)

In 2021 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) was pleased to be presented with the opportunity to become a Strategic Partner with the Australian Federal Police's (AFP) [Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation \(ACCCE\)](#), through the implementation of a Letter of Exchange (LOE) between the two parties.

The Strategic Partnership recognises the global and borderless nature of online child exploitation, and through the Letter of Exchange both the ACCCE and NHWA have committed to collaborate to develop a strategic and effective partnership "to draw upon collective expertise, knowledge and skillsets to counter online child exploitation," underpinned by the ACCCE's five pillars: [Prepare, Prevent, Protect, Pursue and Promote](#).

The purpose of the strategic partnership between the ACCCE and NHWA includes the development of a range of activities designed to achieve key deliverables for the ACCCE to facilitate an integrated and united approach to disrupt and prevent child exploitation at both local and global levels.

Stakeholder engagement is delivered in the form of:

- Attendance and support at key activities;
- Joint promotion of activities between the ACCCE and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia;
- Advice and feedback on ongoing activities, new projects, trends, and prevention initiatives within the child protection workspace;
- Attendance and participation at working groups and stakeholder events;
- Support as appropriate to the Attorney-General's Department and the Attorney-General's functions and announcements;
- Updating on events for the ACCCE online calendar; and
- Opportunities for both parties to present/speak at forums as required.

Led by the dedicated and incredible leadership provided by [Commander Hilda Sirec](#) and [Assistant Commissioner Lesa Gale](#) (a valued [Board Director of NHWA](#)), the personnel and partners of the ACCCE work tirelessly to [Stop the Stigma](#) and "to rid the world of abusers and allow kids to be kids."

ThinkUKnow Program

Since 2013 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) has had the opportunity to play a significant part in the development and delivery of the [ThinkUKnow Program](#), a partnership between the Australian Federal Police's Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE), Commonwealth Bank, Microsoft, and Datacom, that is currently delivered in partnership with all State and Territory Police, and via Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.

[ThinkUKnow](#) is an evidence-based education program and Australian national law enforcement led online child safety program that delivers community presentations and online learning resources with a focus on preventing online child sexual exploitation.

The ThinkUKnow program is pro-technology and addresses topics including self-generated online child sexual exploitation material, online grooming, image-based abuse, sexual extortion, and importantly encourages help seeking behaviour. The program assists parents, carers and teachers to get a better understanding of the types of things that children and young people SEE, SAY and DO online.

In-person [ThinkUKnow](#) parent, carer and teacher presentations and engagements can be booked for any organisation, community group, sporting club or other group, and are available year-round. ThinkUKnow Australia student presentations can be organised for schools, and youth organisations will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Presentations are aimed at parents, carers and teachers and young people from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

All ThinkUKnow Australia presentations are delivered free of charge by trained volunteers from law enforcement and industry. Neighbourhood Watch volunteers are encouraged to become trained in the ThinkUKnow program delivery as engaged influencers in young peoples' lives, to raise awareness and deliver education about preventing online child sexual exploitation.

To learn more visit www.thinkuknow.org.au and for resources for educators, parents and carers are go to www.thinkuknow.org.au/resources-tab.



THANK YOU

Volunteers and Members

To the many thousands of Volunteers and Members of Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support in New Zealand, we sincerely Thank You.

Without you — each and every one — Neighbourhood Watch Australasia would not be able to achieve all that we strive for as we serve on behalf of our Australasian communities.

“The community are our eyes and ears. It is in everyone’s interests to keep their communities safe, we especially owe this to our children and older Australians.”
NHWA Patron Commissioner Reece P Kershaw



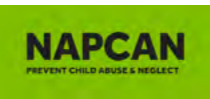
Neighbourhood Watch Australasia acknowledges with gratitude the funding provided by the Federal Government.



Australian Government

Partner Organisations

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia acknowledges and thanks our partner organisations for your ongoing support in establishing safer communities. Without you, the great strides taken in securing, connecting and empowering our Australasian communities would not be possible.



We acknowledge the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to Elders past and present.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH, NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT AND POLICE JURISDICTIONS

***"The Police are the Public and the Public are the Police."
Sir Robert Peel, 1829***

Sir Robert Peel is regarded as the father of modern policing, and this quote is as relevant today as it was nearly 200 years ago. This philosophy epitomises the essential and intrinsic collaboration that exists between the community and police, as both parties work together to reduce crime and build safer communities.

The future of effective crime prevention lies within the continuation of the evolution of strong partnerships between communities and police, as we join forces to achieve common goals and create safer, inclusive, interconnected, and more resilient communities.



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia acknowledges all Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Support and Police jurisdictions throughout Australia and New Zealand.





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Donations to Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited of \$2 or more are tax-deductible.
To donate go to:
www.nhwa.com.au/donate

