



NHWA

Official journal of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia
incorporating Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



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INTERNAL DOORS
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SLIDING DOORS
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5 YEAR GUARANTEE

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Cover photo: Stephen Cross, Steve Smith, Samasoni Malaulau, NSNZ CEO Louise Grevel, Zelia Grizzo (nee Horrell), Bryan Ward, Kelsey Ardern, Patrick Tangipo, NSNZ Chair Claire Steer, Brett Callander, and Molimau Lolo at the NSNZ Thrive Conference

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

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FROM THE CEO

MARIA BENNETT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

Hello and welcome to the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) Journal.

I am delighted to share with you many of the projects and initiatives of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Neighbourhood Support NZ (NSNZ), as we work together towards safety and security in our communities.



Clare McGrath retires after 13 years with NHW

Clare McGrath, long serving NHW Board Director of thirteen-plus years, was farewelled at the 2023 NHW ACT AGM. Clare's many years of dedicated service to the NHW Board, including her high-level representation of NHW in the ACT, was acknowledged with much gratitude. Clare has been an integral Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) member across her lifetime. Thank You to Clare for her exemplary service, we wish her well as she continues her work as Vice-President (North) NHW ACT! We are pleased to advise that Laurie Blackall, President of NHW ACT, accepted his nomination to the NHW Board, and joins us as the new ACT representative.



Maria Bennett CEO NHW, Clare McGrath retired NHW Board Director and current Vice President North NHW ACT, Laurie Blackall President NHW ACT/NHW Board Director, and Margaret Pearson NHW Company Secretary



Incoming NHWVA SA President Ben Williams and NHW CEO Maria Bennett

NHW Volunteer Association South Australia

Further changes to the NHW community include new key contacts in South Australia, Police Chief Inspector Andrew Robinson OC, Community Engagement Section, and Kirsty Mudge, State Coordinator, NHW. We also have a new contact with NHW Volunteer Association South Australia (NHWVA SA), President Ben Williams, longstanding member and former Vice President. Previously Phil Tavender was NHWVA SA President, and now holds the position of Vice-President. A big Thank You to Phil for his years of outstanding work as NHWVA SA President!

Target Hardening \$550 Support Offer

NHW's Target Hardening \$550 rebate supports victim of crime households to prevent repeat victimisation. The offer provides reimbursement up to \$550 (including GST) to owner occupiers for approved target hardening measures to be installed to increase household security after a police-reported break and enter incident. **To find out if you are eligible, go to www.nhwa.com.au**

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Month

In March, NHW partnered with Crimsafe for the annual Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Month and 'Crimprovement', dedicated to enhancing home security awareness and fostering safer communities. This collaborative initiative equips homeowners with dedicated tools and resources to assess and increase their home security measures. For more information, see page 9.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

TO PREVENT DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

Not Now, Not Ever. Together.

Domestic Family Violence Prevention Council

Recently I met with Angie Spencer, Director, Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council (DFV Prevention Council) Secretariat, Queensland Premier's Cabinet, and Robert (Bob) Atkinson AO APM (Co-Chair), to discuss the excellent new initiatives and work being done by the DFV Prevention Council, and partnership opportunities for Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups.

The DFV Prevention Council partners with government, business and community stakeholders to champion local community-led action and leadership to create social change through primary prevention education and information.

We all need to step up and do our part in ending domestic and family violence. I encourage you to subscribe to the Prevention Council's newsletter to receive up to date information. To subscribe scan the QR Code.



NHW Project Managers Melissa Roberts and Lizzie McGrory with the NHW 2023 Annual Report

NHW Annual Report

Our Annual Report demonstrates the performance of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia during the 2022-2023 financial year. The report details the achievements, projects and initiatives NHW has delivered, and our continuing commitment to safer communities. For your copy please go to: www.nhwa.com.au/about/annual-reports

Neighbour Day 31 March

Neighbour Day 2024, with the theme of "Create Belonging | Share Belonging", is held on the last Sunday in March. Over recent years Neighbour Day has progressed from being a reminder to connect with elderly neighbours to an ongoing celebration of respectful relationships and strong communities across Australia. NHW is proud to partner in this community space, with local NHW groups once again demonstrating community connection and belonging through the many events held in local communities nation-wide.

2024 Upcoming Events & Dates

Home Security Free Information sessions Toowoomba, Queensland

Tuesday 26 March 2024
Arrive: 5pm for a light dinner and 5:30pm start.

Wednesday 27 March 2024
Arrive: 10am for morning tea and 10:30am start.
Toowoomba Sports Club, Great Western Function Room.
To register go to: www.nhwa.com.au/register

2024 NHW Awards

The NHW Volunteer of the Year Awards and Police Commissioners Awards open for nominations on 1 July 2024. Go to: www.nhwa.com.au/news-media/awards



Secure September 1 - 30 Sept

A month-long campaign to improve home and personal security.

National Secure Your Home Day 28, 29 Sept 2024

An annual event dedicated to checking and improving the security of your home.



Get Online Week 14 - 20 October 2024

Start planning your Get Online Week (GOLW) event to help people improve their digital skills. Register here for updates: www.nhwa.com.au/GOLW

NHW Week 28 Oct - 3 Nov 2024

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Bunnings are partnering again to present the combined Neighbourhood Watch Crime Prevention Week.

To keep up to date with upcoming events and opportunities, go to www.nhwa.com.au/calendar

For more information about any of the above stories, please contact us at: admin@nhwa.com.au

Together we achieve great things.
Neighbourhood Watch - the Power of Many!

Maria Bennett

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

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



Donations to NHW of \$2 or more are tax-deductible.
To donate go to www.nhwa.com.au/donate

PATRON, BOARD DIRECTORS & STAFF



Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM - Patron

Commissioner Kershaw is a career police officer, joining the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in 1988. Throughout his early career, he worked in General Duties and Criminal Investigations as a Detective, and was seconded to the National Crime Authority and the Australian Crime Commission.

In 1999, Commissioner Kershaw worked in Operations and Close Personal Protection in Perth. In 2003, he was promoted to Superintendent, undertaking 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 joined the Northern Territory Police Force (NTPF) as Assistant Commissioner Crime and Specialist Services and Darwin Metropolitan Service. In 2015, he was appointed Commissioner of Police and Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

Commissioner Kershaw was a recipient of the NTPF Outstanding Leadership Medal, and was awarded the Australian Police Medal in the 2016 Australia Day Honours. Commissioner Kershaw was appointed as the AFP's 8th Commissioner on 2 October 2019.

The AFP is a strong supporter of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia with Commissioner Kershaw recently becoming Patron of NHTWA. Under Commissioner Kershaw's leadership the AFP will continue to focus on positive outcomes for communities through the implementation of programs and awareness-raising activities in collaboration with Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.



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 NHTWA. 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 NHTWA 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 NHTWA.



Laurie Blackall - Australian Capital Territory

Following a 22 year career as an Officer in the Royal Australian Navy, Laurie joined the Australian Public Service working in a number of intelligence-related roles, specialising in geospatial intelligence analysis and intelligence capability development. He has extensive project and program management experience and, until recently, was a member of the Australian Institute of Project Management. He is a graduate of the UNSW Graduate School of Management and has a Degree in Resource and Environmental Management (Remote Sensing). Laurie joined the Board of ACT NHTWA as Treasurer in 2018 and has been President since May 2020.



Deputy Commissioner Lesa Gale APM - AFP

Deputy Commissioner Gale's passion for combatting all forms of human exploitation and maintaining community safety has been admirably demonstrated throughout her 35 year career, most notably in her previous role as head of the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation. During her career in the AFP, Deputy 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. Deputy Commissioner Gale holds a Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Management and was awarded the Australian Police Medal in 2019.



Inspector Brent Register - New Zealand

Brent joined Police in 1998, after graduating with a degree in Management from Lincoln University. He has continued tertiary education gaining a Post Grad Diploma in Business Admin. The majority of his career has been spent in operational policing, ranging from frontline Sergeant in both Frontline and Road Policing, Prosecutions, Sub Area Commander in a rural location to Area Commander Wairarapa. In his current role he is responsible for the areas of Alcohol Harm Prevention, Mental Health, Community, Community Inclusion and Crowded Places at a national level.



Acting Superintendent Rob Fleischer - Queensland

After joining the New South Wales Police Service in 1997, Rob moved to the Queensland Police Service in 2002. He has worked in various areas of Policing, including general duties, Drug Unit, Covert and Surveillance Operations Unit, State Intelligence Group and the Security and Counter-Terrorism Group where he was made Operations Leader. Rob is currently an Inspector, Strategy and Performance Officer, in the Commissioner's Office. Since this time Rob has performed various other roles on behalf of the Commissioner, including the Commissioner's Chief of Staff and Ministerial Liaison Officer.



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 NHTWA 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.



Lizzie McGrory - Project Manager & Executive Assistant

Lizzie recently completed her Bachelor of Psychology and Justice (majoring in Criminology and Policing), she is passionate about helping those involved in the justice system, whether it be the treatment of victims or rehabilitation of offenders. She has a strong interest in national security and youth crime, and what can be done to prevent these in our community. Lizzie has a range of experience working in sales and customer service and is excited to be encouraging safer and more connected communities through her role at NHTWA.

Advice for Talking to Your Child about Staying Safe Online

The most important tip for any parent or carer is to start talking to your child about their online activities.

If you're not sure where to start, the Australian Federal Police (AFP)-led Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) has developed advice for how to have these conversations at every stage.

AFP Commander Helen Schneider said parents and carers need to begin to have regular conversations with their children about online safety from early childhood, to help children and young people understand the challenges they may face online and how to get help and support.

“We know about 52 percent of parents and carers talk to their children about online safety, which includes topics like online grooming and inappropriate contact online, but we are aiming to increase this in 2024.”



Playing IT Safe early childhood online safety resource

“The AFP is urging everyone to continue the chat throughout their child’s development and all stages of life to ensure they are protected every step of the way.”

Commander Schneider said the ACCCE had received reports involving young children being able to access social networking, live streaming and instant messaging online.

“We have developed a range of age-appropriate resources through our ThinkUKnow program to help parents and carers navigate these conversations with their children, covering a range of online activities,” Commander Schneider said.

The AFP’s ThinkUKnow education program includes factsheets, presentations, guides, children’s picture book Jack Changes the Game, home learning and family activities.

Conversations guide

Under five years:

It is never too early to start teaching your child about online safety. Have these conversations as early as possible in an age-appropriate way.

- Children in this age group are likely to be playing games and watching videos online.
- Introduce and talk about what the internet is, and how it allows us to connect with other people.
- Supervision online is always recommended for young children. This looks different for every family, but it is important to be aware of what your child is doing online in case they need your help.
- Implement strong privacy settings and consider parental controls on the devices your child uses.

- Encourage your child to go to you if they see anything online that makes them scared or uncomfortable.

Between five and 12 years old:

For this age group, continue building on the foundations of online safety.

- Children in this age group are likely to be using the internet more, playing online games and watching videos. They may also be messaging with friends from school or family.
- Research what apps, websites and games your child is using. Be aware of any that have a chat function that allows them to communicate with other people.
- **If you need to know more about an online game, one tip is to search online for videos of gameplay to get an idea of what it looks like and how it works.**
- Supervision is always recommended, and looks different for different families. Consider what works best for your child and your family circumstances.

- **Have open conversations with your child about what they do online, who they talk to and that if something goes wrong, they can go to you for help.**
- Implement privacy settings and parental controls, but balance this with regular check-ins and encourage critical thinking while online.

13 years and over:

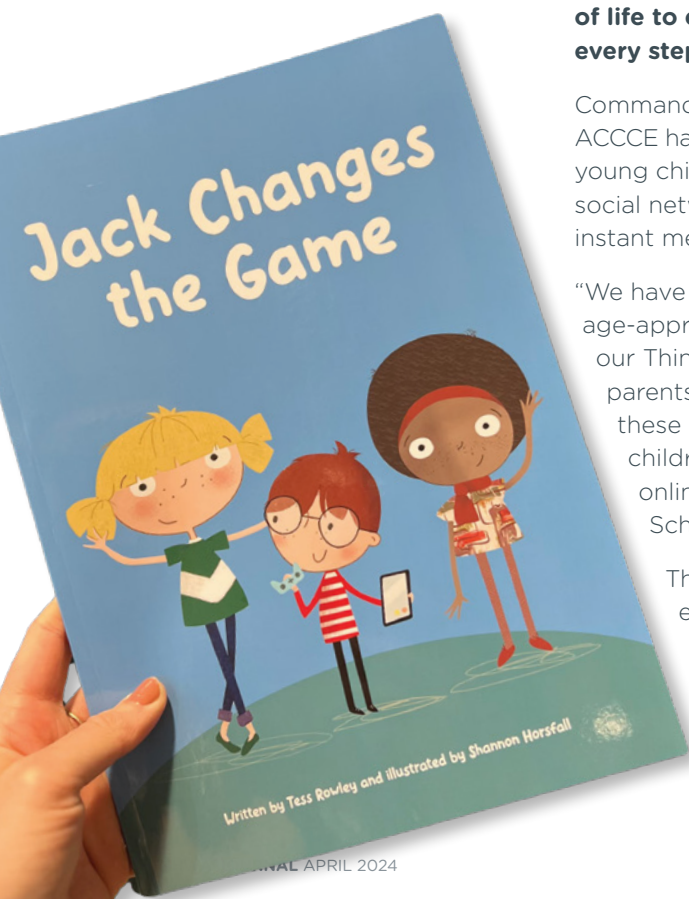
While older children may want to use their devices independently and want more privacy around their relationships and online interactions, it is still important to be engaged in their online activities.

- Young people in this age group are likely to be playing online games, watching videos and using social networking platforms to interact with friends.



ThinkUKnow parent and carer social media starter kit

- **Learn about the features of the apps, games and sites your child uses and the safety challenges so you can talk to them about implementing safety measures to keep them safe online.**
 - Encourage your child to recognise safe or unsafe situations and inappropriate contact. This can empower them to make informed decisions, including when they are in unsupervised environments.
 - Encourage ‘friends only’ or ‘private’ security settings.
 - If your child has public social media accounts, be aware of the privacy challenges and encourage your child to think critically about information sharing.
 - Your level of supervision or oversight may vary across this age group, however you should always stay in touch with what your child is doing online and encourage them to come to you for help and support.
- Playing IT Safe is a great resource to start online safety conversations with children under 5 years www.playingitsafe.org.au
- Advice and resources for parents and carers about how they can help protect children online can be found at www.thinkuknow.org.au
- For more information on the role of the ACCCE and how to report online child sexual exploitation visit www.accce.gov.au



PayID - What is it and how does it work?

Have you heard about PayID, but aren't sure what it is?

PayID lets you make and receive payments by providing your mobile number or email address, instead of your BSB and account number. This article looks at what PayID is, and answers key questions including how it works and how to set it up.

What is PayID?

PayID lets you receive payments by providing your mobile number, email address or ABN instead of your BSB and account number. It's fast and secure and saves you the trouble of having to look up or remember your banking details when you want to get paid.

How does PayID work?

To pay someone using PayID you simply ask for their PayID, which can be their mobile number, email address or ABN if they're a business. You don't need to set up PayID to make payments.

How to set up PayID

Once you've checked whether your bank offers PayID, you need to follow the steps provided in your mobile banking app or internet banking to set up your unique PayID.

For more information on PayID visit: beconnected.esafety.gov.au/articles-and-tips

Upcoming free online presentations

Join a live online presentation to develop your digital skills and keep safer online. Be Connected's free presentations cover a wide range of topics every month.

Here are some of our upcoming sessions:



Australian Government

Be Connected

Every Australian online.

- 9 April: Safer online shopping and banking
- 11 April: Useful tips for using your Android phone
- 16 April: Can you spot a scam?
- 23 April: Apps for smarter travel
- 2 May: Staying safe on Facebook
- 9 May: Helpful apps for your smart device
- 21 May: Protect yourself against scams
- 23 May: How to use smart home technology

Learn more and register your attendance: beconnected.esafety.gov.au/online-safety-presentations

Scan the QR code with your smart phone camera (or QR code reader) to go to the Be Connected website



Strengthening Communities with a Little Home Crimprovement

Crime prevention partners Crimsafe and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) renewed their dedication to enhancing home security awareness and fostering safer communities with their Home Crimprovement campaign.

This collaborative initiative built upon the success of the inaugural 'National Secure Your Home Day' held last September, which equipped homeowners with dedicated tools and resources to assess and increase their home security measures.

At the heart of the March campaign was an enticing opportunity for one fortunate homeowner to win a \$5,000 Home Crimprovement package. This package included Crimsafe security screens, Ring security cameras, and other enhancements that promised to significantly improve the winner's home security and instil a greater sense of peace of mind.

For the chance to win, homeowners were directed to the Secure Score tool, a free online resource designed to evaluate the effectiveness of their home security measures.

The \$5k Home Crimprovement upgrade

Crimsafe and NHWA are reviewing responses from thousands of entrants who shared compelling reasons why their families could benefit from a Home Crimprovement upgrade. The winner of the \$5,000 Home Crimprovement prize package will be drawn on 5 April 2024, and published on the Crimsafe website from 8 April 2024.

Following the draw, Crimsafe and NHWA will thoroughly assess the prize winner's home to identify opportunities for enhancing security and improving their Secure Score. The prize package will offer the homeowner the chance to fortify their residence with a tailored security enhancements that



include Crimsafe Security Screens, Ring security cameras, locks, signage, and more, valued up to \$5,000.

Once the Home Crimprovements are installed, the winner can look forward to enjoying an increased sense of security, greater peace of mind and better protection for their home and family.

Keep an eye out for the August edition of the NHWA Journal for more information about the lucky prize winner.

Improving Home Security

The Home Crimprovement campaign saw many homeowners flock to the Secure Score tool to assess their home security and enter the draw for the chance to win. The Secure Score tool not only provided a Secure Score, but it also helped homeowners pinpoint potential vulnerabilities and provided practical tips and advice to implement necessary upgrades to fortify their homes against possible threats.

Data collected during the campaign highlighted that many homes across

the country are vulnerable to break-ins, damage, or theft. Many responses indicated that a home's Secure Score could be increased by adding locks on gates and sheds, securing bins away from the side of the house, and locking away tools and valuables that are otherwise an opportunity for thieves.

To find out your Secure Score, you can visit <https://securescore.crimsafe.com.au>

Partners in crime prevention

Since their partnership in 2021, Crimsafe and NHWA have been on a mission to strengthen neighbourhoods against criminal activities, with initiatives like Secure September and Neighbourhood Watch Month campaigns motivating thousands of homeowners to conduct home security assessments using the free online Secure Score tool.

As they prepare to partner again in September, homeowners can anticipate further opportunities to enhance their home security and contribute to building safer, more resilient communities.

eSafety Sport: Play it safe and fair both on and offline

Sport is an enjoyable and rewarding part of life for millions of Australians. While it mainly happens in person, it's good to remember that it also plays out online.

The eSafety Commissioner, Australia's independent regulator for online safety, has resources to help the sports community – whether you're a volunteer, coach, official, competitor, or fan, eSafety Sport has something to help prevent or manage online abuse.

“With backing from the sports Australians love, we're giving a red card to online abuse in sport,” eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant said.

“Targeted online harassment takes a mental and emotional toll on the very people who make sport happen: our coaches, umpires and players. There are long-established conventions against threats and abuse in the stands when physically attending any sport. These same rules against abuse need to be applied online.

“While we might be disappointed with a particular call or play, that doesn't mean it's acceptable to unleash a torrent of online abuse. On the receiving end of every piece of online vitriol is a person: someone's child, mum, neighbour, friend, uncle or sister. We cannot let our passion for the game blind us to the damaging impact of harmful online words and actions.”

eSafety Sport includes practical information on how to recognise online abuse, how to deal with online abuse, eight ways to stay safe online and promotional resources for clubs to download and show their support. It also includes tailored advice and scenarios for sports administrators, coaches and officials, athletes and competitors and sport parents.



eSafety Commissioner

The package has been co-created with sporting organisations across Australia to help everyone from the grassroots to the elite level recognise and respond to online abuse.

AFL Umpire Nathan Williamson said he hopes eSafety Sport inspires people to be more respectful online.

“Like everyone else involved in sport, we're human and we all have family and friends who care a lot about us. Hurling abuse at us doesn't really achieve anything except make us feel rubbish, and makes our family and friends feel rubbish,” Nathan said.

“These resources have relatable advice for everyone at any level. If you're involved in a local sporting club as a player or official, eSafety Sport will help build your online safety skills to support you, your family and your connections.”

Sport doesn't just happen at the field, on the water, court or at the track – it's online too. Our daily sporting life extends to team

There's no place for online abuse in sport



Play it safe and fair online

Visit [eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport) for online safety tips



apps, video, social media and more. Remember what you say online matters just as much as what you say offline.

Explore eSafety Sport today:
[eSafety.gov.au/sport](https://www.esafety.gov.au/sport)

NHW ACT

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



Over 200 residents attended the NHW Week event at Farrer Adventure Nature Park

Farrer NHW Week a Family Affair

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) in the Canberra suburb of Farrer held an event that brought local residents together during Neighbourhood Watch Week in November.

A free BBQ (with vegan options) along with cake and lucky draw prizes helped to bring the Farrer Adventure Nature Park alive with a large crowd of over 200 attending.

Young and old were treated to an afternoon of live entertainment including saxophonist Patrick Whitty; children's activities such as balloon art by Chloe from Giggly Wiggly and face painting by Blaide Lallemand; and a visit from ACT Policing's 'Constable Kenny Koala'.

'Constable Kenny' is a puppet and has been a visible figure in the ACT for almost 50 years through a program designed to educate children on a range of safety themes, and to turn to police for help and advice. Kenny (through his handler David) even has his own website.

NHW Area Coordinator Paul Way said he was pleased to have support at the event of the Farrer Residents Association, as well as members of the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia team and NHW ACT team.



Constable Kenny and his handler, David, get to meet Farrer NHW Area Coordinator Paul Way and some family members

Paul said, “By building relationships with those who live around us, we create a sense of community and connectedness, and this helps us feel like we are part of something bigger than ourselves.”

“Whether it is organising a neighbour street party or social event, checking on neighbours that you have not seen for a few days, putting bins out for others, sharing a cup of tea, lending a hand with a task, or simply saying hello... small acts of kindness can go a long way in creating a sense of belonging in a neighbourhood and an increased sense of safety,” Paul added.

Inside Crime Stoppers ACT

Neighbourhood Watch ACT area coordinators attending their year-end meeting of 2023 were surprised and pleased to welcome a guest speaker with almost 19 years' experience as a volunteer with Crime Stoppers.

Diana Forrester, Director and former Chair of ACT Region Crime Stoppers and the first woman elected as Chair of Crime Stoppers Australia, held the rapt attention of her audience as she explained the workings of the organisation.

ACT Region Crime Stoppers celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2023.

"We work with police, Neighbourhood Watch, media, government, the private sector and the community to solve, reduce, and prevent crime," Ms Forrester said.

"You decide how much information to share. You can anonymously share what you know at crimestoppers.com.au [crimestoppersact.com.au for ACT specifically] or by phoning 1800 333 000.

Ms Forrester explained, "Crime Stoppers ACT Region receives 15,000 reports annually leading to an average of around 35 arrests."

A lot of crime can be avoided if people take more personal responsibility. One example cited by Ms Forrester was that "1,100 cars were stolen in the ACT in 2022," noting that "a quarter of these were due to keys being left in the vehicle."

Crime Stoppers wants information about any type of crime at any time. Callers can share what they know about unsolved crime and suspicious activity without having to say who they are.

"The smallest piece of information could be the missing piece in the puzzle police need to solve a crime," Ms Forrester said.

For an emergency call triple zero '000', or for police call 131 444.



Diana Forrester and NHW ACT President Laurie Blackall



Crime Stoppers resources

ACT 2023 Spring Seniors Expo

Historians are telling us now that Marie Antoinette never said "Let them eat cake"... but all ACT Seniors Card holders were invited to do just that in celebrating the Council on the Ageing (COTA) ACT's 50th birthday at their Spring Expo at Exhibition Park in Canberra.

"Come join us for the celebration and eat cake!" proclaimed COTA, "Don't miss the opportunity to embrace the beauty of Spring, connect with your community and enjoy a day filled with excitement and enrichment."

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and ACT Policing shared a booth among the many groups participating at the well-attended Expo.

NHW volunteers manning the booth were kept busy answering queries from the public, handing out safety and security brochures, and fielding questions from people interested in joining their local NHW group.

The police presence alongside NHW was a little confusing for some. When the police team was quite busy, one person approached a NHW volunteer and insisted on reporting a stolen vehicle. They were directed back to the police for reporting.

The organisers of the Expo, COTA, highlighted their 'Strength for Life' program that encompasses many locations across Canberra. It involves numerous wellness and fitness programs tailored for seniors.

Experts from a variety of government and private entities were on hand to offer advice and information on all things 'senior', and COTA challenged visitors to 'unleash' their creativity through the interactive workshops that supplemented the live music and demonstrations throughout the day.

There were even chances for seniors to win attractive prizes, including an APT Cambodia and Vietnam river cruise valued at over \$11,000.



NHW ACT Vice President (North), Clare McGrath, accepted the 'eat cake' challenge!



NHW ACT Vice President (South), Albert Orszaczky, fielding queries from Expo visitors



ACT Policing engaging with the public alongside NHW volunteers

NHW, Bunnings and Crime Stoppers at NHW Crime Prevention Week

The annual Neighbourhood Watch Crime Prevention Week activities in the ACT included an additional community partner in 2023 - Crime Stoppers.

Bunnings Gungahlin Acting Activities Organiser Lilly Eastman and NHW ACT President, Laurie Blackall, coordinated the annual interaction with the general public.

NHW volunteers manned booths at the entrance to two Bunnings Warehouses in Canberra.

At the Gungahlin Bunnings Warehouse NHW volunteers answered questions from members of the public and handed out information brochures on safety and crime prevention.

At an adjoining booth, Canberrans were informed how they can help solve and prevent crime by sharing what they know with Crime Stoppers, either online or anonymously to the Crime Stoppers call centre.



Crime Stoppers' ACT Treasurer Ryan Stevens, Bunnings' Lilly Eastman and NHW ACT Board Secretary Angela Di Pauli



NHW ACT President Laurie Blackall and Membership Secretary Jude Bowman with the team from ACT Policing

Bunnings hosted a 'Christmas Family Night' at their Belconnen Warehouse and Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) ACT and ACT Policing were among the local community groups participating.

NHW ACT President Laurie Blackall and Membership Secretary Jude Bowman shared a NHW and Australian Federal Police (AFP) information booth.

Seasonal music, rows of illuminated booths and a beaming Santa greeted visitors young and old as the festivities got underway amid displays by the Rotary Club, Girl Guides, SES, Hawker Men's Shed, Fire Services, motor bike enthusiasts, bonsai, and many others.

NHW NSW

NEW SOUTH WALES

Aberglasslyn/Rutherford/Telarah NHW Update

Aberglasslyn/Rutherford/Telarah held their combined final Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) meeting of the year at Club Maitland City on 13 December 2023. The monthly meetings provide an opportunity to discuss any issue pertaining to the local three suburbs

of Aberglasslyn, Rutherford and Telarah, along with any information that has been given to the group at the quarterly meetings with police.

At the conclusion of the meeting the group enjoyed a dinner at Club Maitland City.

Club Maitland is a supporter of the Aberglasslyn/Rutherford/Telarah NHW group and provide their rooms for meetings free of charge. Thank you to the volunteers and Club Maitland for supporting the group!



John Meaney, Sandra Elliott (Facebook Admin), Linda Savertsen, Neale Savertsen (Secretary), Jeff Dunn, Henry Meskauskas (President), Tom Price and Bob Elliott (Vice President)

On 18 December 2023 representatives from the various NHW groups in the Maitland area met with a police representative, Constable Alison Stewart (Crime Prevention Officer), to discuss local crime issues and to receive the crime figures for our areas. After the meeting was concluded attendees had lunch at Club Maitland City. It was great to hear first hand from police about the current issues in the area, and what local police have been focusing on.



Senior Constable Alison Stewart (Crime Prevention Officer), Sandra Elliott, Bob Elliott, David Watmore (NSW NHW State Secretary), Cheryl Taylor, Jennifer & Kirsty Gray (Woodberry/Beresfield/Tarro NHW) and Henry Meskauskas

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

NEW ZEALAND

Neighbourhood Support New Zealand's National Conference a Success

Here's an overview of the NSNZ 'THRIVE' Conference that took place in late 2023.



Heidi Quinn from Volunteering New Zealand takes part in a Panel Discussion with Brett Callandar and Anaru Graham from New Zealand Police, and Steve Turek from Fire & Emergency New Zealand, MC'd by Constable Bryan Ward

Every two years, the national network of over 70 Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ) Member Organisations gather together to learn new skills, share ideas, be inspired, celebrate successes, and have some fun at the biennial NSNZ national conference.

Last year's two-day NSNZ 'THRIVE' Conference was full of highlights - people, presentations, break-out workshops, 'speed dating', panel discussions, networking, food, and

magnificent conference goodie bags thanks to many of the generous sponsors. It was the perfect opportunity to network between Districts, broaden perspectives and come together in a specific focus group to speak openly and frankly about not only our achievements, but also some of the challenges we face when pursuing our shared goal of safer communities together.

Keynote speakers - Jehan Casinader, Allie Mooney, Megan Thorn and

Gordon Tietjens - were engaged to inspire and motivate the 100+ attendees, and everyone took away different action items, ideas and highlights from the diverse range of presentations given. A special thanks went out to NSNZ Ambassador Senior Constable Bryan Ward for his high energy, humour and knowledge whilst being the perfect MC for the event.

NSNZ were also thrilled to have a group of passionate delegates from



Networking session in action



Allie Mooney gives an engaging presentation to help delegates relate better with others by seeing things through other people's eyes



Neighbourhood Support Chairperson Claire Steer makes the Opening Address



During the Conference Dinner Gordon Tietjens talks to the group about good leadership, how to create a positive culture, and what it takes to motivate a team

the New Zealand Police, right from the Police National Headquarters (PNHQ) through to grassroots level; as well as a contingent from Neighbourhood Watch Australasia who joined in collaborative conversations with both the New Zealand Police and Neighbourhood Support Coordinators from across New Zealand.

Partners from Fire and Emergency New Zealand, the National Emergency Agency



Krissy Cloutman from Farmstrong (a Kōrero Corner exhibitor), talks to Neighbourhood Support members about wellbeing initiatives they can implement in their communities

and Farmstrong were also in attendance to speak with NSNZ members about the different opportunities for partnership at a local level and discuss how we can work together to better educate and serve the people living in New Zealand neighbourhoods.

The team from Neighbourhood Support New Zealand Head Office want to extend a huge thank you to everyone who attended or supported them in any way!

Conference Awards

As the Conference Dinner came to a close, a moment was taken to issue a few awards and recognitions to the following individuals...

The Power of Positivity Award

Christine Dorsey
Waitaki NHS

Manaaki Street Champion

Kristel Gillespie
North Taranaki NHS

Partnerships Champion

Anaru Graham
New Zealand Police

Best Supporting Act

Mr Brown
Colleen Brown's husband

Best Dressed

Jen Lacy
Whakatane NHS

Steve Nicoll
NZ Police

Lois Scott Muir
Otago NHS

FREE GUIDES

ARE THEY TRIPLE OK?

An R U OK? conversation guide for family and friends of police and emergency services workers and volunteers

Are They Triple OK? Trailer
Are They Triple OK?



ARE THEY TRIPLE OK?

An R U OK? conversation guide for emergency services workers and volunteers

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Scan to learn more

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Safety For Kids 101



Keeping kids safe is something Bryan Ward has been doing for the last twenty years.

Whether it be on the television, on radio as 'Bryan and Bobby', or in person during a visit to a local school or 'kura'.

One of the questions he gets asked time and time again by parents, grandparents, uncles and aunties is: "How do I get my kids to learn about safety?"

There are a few things he has learnt along the way of his journey as a police officer, which can be done to make safety *actually sound* like something kids should be interested in. This will help offset their worries about feeling and being safe.

Some of the best ways to strike an interest with kids (and not just for safety) is to make the learning fun. Make sure you explain what it is you (and they) are doing, to keep them safe. The filming of Bryan and Bobby was a lightbulb moment for Bryan, highlighting how often adults don't give the kids THE WHY when asked to do something.

For example, it is staggering the number of kids that Bryan talks to, who when asked, "Why do we hold hands in the carpark, or crossing the road with Mum or Dad?" answer with; "Because you will get into trouble if you don't", or "So you don't get killed", or "So you don't get growled at by Dad."

Try a simple trick - engage and explain THE WHY for kids about safety.

For example, when talking to Bryan's 5 year-old about the importance of holding hands when crossing the road, he does the following;

- Explained to him that it was like holding the hand of a giant, who could see and hear further than he could and that 'the giant' would keep him safe if anything dangerous was seen.
- Explained he could help the giant, by finding the safest place to cross and then checking the road in both directions three times to make sure the way was clear and it was safe to cross. Using our eyes and ears to listen for traffic, helps keep us and the giant safe too.

- Demonstrated as we walked across the road, that we don't run or skip and keep looking and listening in both directions for traffic, to make sure it was still safe.

Safety should be just like anything else we learn in life. It should have the elements of fun, discovery and empowerment otherwise it becomes nothing but a tedious chore or a command that we follow.

As William M. Jeffers, former Union Pacific Railroad President once stated, "Safety applies with equal force to the individual, to the family, to the employer, to the state, the nation and to international affairs. Safety, in its widest sense, concerns the happiness, contentment and freedom of all."

To find out more and Bryan and Bobby, and kids-friendly safety messages, visit: <https://bryanandbobby.co.nz/>

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NHW QLD

QUEENSLAND



The children loved catching up with Santa



Frosty the Snowman made an appearance in Daisy Hill



Local Councillor Mindy Russell, S/C Rob Crowley, and Jenny in the Christmas spirit!

Daisy Hill NHW Christmas BBQ

Daisy Hill Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) held their annual Christmas BBQ on 10 December 2023. There were around 110 people who attended, to join in the Christmas festivities.

It was great to see familiar faces and some new faces at the party. Thank you to Senior Constable Rob Crowley for chatting with many residents, it makes such a difference and people really appreciated the opportunity to chat with an officer. Rob also brought the Police Beat van, and the kids loved having a look through it!

Logan City Councillor Mindy Russell attended and had a chat to residents, helped with the funding and drawing the raffle. Frosty the Snowman was a hit, as were the Christmas goody bags distributed by Santa with Councillor Russell's help.

Minister Mick de Brenni joined the celebrations with his family, spent time with residents, and donated to the raffle.



Jill Devaus, Councillor Mindy Russell, and State Member for Springwood Mick De Brenni MP with Santa

Credit to the cooks James and Cliff, to Irene for the delicious sausage rolls, to Jenny for looking after the raffle, to the people who came early and helped set up, the people who stayed late and helped pack things up - you know who you are!

The brand new BBQ was put to the test, this was purchased with grant funding from the Federal Government. Daisy Hill NHW

applied for the funding, and the grant was auspiced through Neighbourhood Watch Australasia. For over 20 years Daisy Hill NHW had been using a member's personal BBQ, so this was definitely a big step up.

Thank you to everyone who attended and ensured the event was a success, I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas!

NHW Taking the Online World to the Magpies

Mackay Northern Beaches Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) held a number of Be Connected events in 2023 with the Get Online Week event in October at the Magpies Sporting Club.

Magpies has the perfect demographic for Be Connected sessions, and the Public Relations department was on board to encourage their members to participate.

Morning and afternoon sessions were held with 15 participants overall, and members advised they would be interested in future events. We are always fortunate to have a number of mentors helping out at our events including two officers from the Crime Prevention Unit who advise on cyber security. Other events were held in the council community halls and areas south of Mackay. Participants are of various online skill levels from zero to reasonably comfortable, and all report learning something new and appreciate having the online courses available at home.



Members of the Crime Prevention Unit of the Mackay Police, Sgt Nigel Dalton and Snr Constable Steve Smith, with Digital Mentor Kevin Hutchinson sharing tips on online safety

Kumbia NHW Celebrates NHW Week

To mark the collaboration between Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Bunnings with NHW Crime Prevention Week in November 2023, Kumbia NHW again held a display at Bunnings Kingaroy, handing out brochures and giveaways to a significant number of interested customers.

The local Bunnings staff supported the display being set up at the entrance to the store, giving us ideal opportunities to engage with shoppers coming and going.

A wide range of topics was discussed and valuable information given to folks of all ages, which resulted in a very positive outing for our small group.



Representatives from Kumbia NHW with Bunnings staff: Morris Winter (Area Coordinator), Cheryl Cudby, Kamari Gaedtke, Tanya Buckle (Activities Organiser), Taylor Beresford, Peter Verbakel (Volunteer in Policing, Kingaroy)

Mackay NHW Community Christmas Party

On a balmy summer's eve in early December, Mackay Northern Beaches Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) held their third Community Christmas party with funding from the Mackay Regional Council.

A free barbeque with water and soft drinks was provided, with music from the Rebel Uke band that had everyone singing along. The community was well represented with local and state government members, local police officers, families and 'NHWatchers', who also double as volunteers.

The highlight of the evening is always the arrival of Santa on his motorised esky, he hands out lollies to the kids who follow him around like the pied piper. Santa also doubles as the chef with his elves as helpers. The band and Santa are already booked for 2024!



Santa (Mal Zammit) had a lot of fun with the motorised esky, with his wife Doreen



Officer in Charge Senior Sergeant Mitch Benson, his wife Kirby and family

Gold Coast Safer Suburbs Awards

The City of Gold Coast held their Safer Suburbs Awards ceremony on 11 October. These prestigious awards are held every two years at the HOTA precinct in Surfers Paradise.

John Kiss of Mudgeeraba Creek 7 Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) was nominated and shortlisted for this award, due to the tireless work he did in organising the extremely successful NHW Community Day at Hinterland Regional Park at the end of August last year.

John brought members of the community together to meet their local NHW group, their local Councillor (who was giving away free trees), police, paramedics, community groups, and more. There were several food vans, in addition to a jumping castle, petting zoo,



Courtney Mulder, Mudgeeraba Creek 7 NHW Area Coordinator John, Rob Ormsby, and Councillor Glenn Tozer

and pony rides for the kids. Annette Moon and Robert Ormsby were also given certificates for their hard work in organising this event. As always, we are very grateful for the work John and the Mudgeeraba NHW do in the Division 9 community.



Wondai NHW Week

Fred Law, Police Liason Officer Roneece Cupitt, Senior Constable Sue Stevens, Wondai NHW Area Coordinator Darren Buckley, Estelle and Haroldkley

Wondai Town and Rural Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) celebrated NHW Week in November at Wondai RSL.

Wondai NHW held a Coffee with a Cop, with a number of police officers from Wondai, Cherbourg and Murgon attending to talk with residents from the Wondai community. It was a very successful event, and we are looking forward to having more Coffee with a Cop and community events in 2024.

Wondai Time Capsule

On 14 September 2023 the Wondai community celebrated 120 years since the first train arrived in Wondai.

To honour the milestone the organising committee decided to set up a time capsule, which will be kept inside a sandstone plinth.

Wondai Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) placed a Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) Journal in the Time Capsule, which included an article about Wondai NHW, and NHW sign to put on a fence or letterbox.

The Time Capsule will be opened on Sunday 14 September 2053. We hope those opening the Time Capsule in the future will enjoy the NHW goodies!



Cr Scott Henschen, Nicole Arrowsmith (Qld Rail), Willow Palmer, Acting Mayor Gavin Jones, Cr Kathy Duff and Noel Selway remove the Queensland flag to officially unveil the sandstone plinth



The NHW Queensland letterbox sign added to the time capsule



The plaque on top of the plinth that contains the time capsule



Acting Executive Director Simon Kelly, Senior Constable Stephen Smith, Anne Cobcroft, Sergeant Beau McNamara, Senior Sergeant Glen De Lai, Senior Sergeant Kain Brown, Mark Regazzoli, Sergeant John Cook, Alma Haaijer, Marie Kinne, Richard Cobb, Senior Constable Michael McDonald, Sharon Hamilton, Tony Bryant and Acting Commissioner Tracy Linford



2023 NHWQ Police Officer of the Year, State Award Winner – Senior Sergeant Glen De Lai, Far Northern District, with Acting Executive Director Simon Kelly and Acting Commissioner Tracy Linford



2023 NHWQ Community Member of the Year, State Award Winner – Mark Regazzoli, Townsville District with Acting Executive Director Simon Kelly and Acting Commissioner Tracy Linford

Strengthening Community Partnerships:

2023 Neighbourhood Watch Queensland State Conference

The pivotal role of community engagement in crime prevention and volunteer recognition was underscored at the recent Neighbourhood Watch Queensland (NHWQ) State Conference held on 28 October 2023, at Royal On The Park, Brisbane.

The event, characterised by strategic deliberations, served as a platform to celebrate the contributions of NHWQ volunteers and Queensland Police Service (QPS) personnel, while fostering an informed discourse on crime prevention strategies.

Under the theme “Strengthening Community Partnerships”, the conference convened 137 delegates who were apprised of the multifaceted approach to mitigating harm, trauma, and crime within local neighbourhoods. The proceedings were designed to equip attendees with actionable insights on collaborating with the QPS to fortify community ties and minimise negative societal impacts.

Central to the conference’s agenda was the imperative of community-centric initiatives in cultivating a culture of harm minimisation and prevention. By facilitating connections and meaningful engagement with our NHWQ members, the conference aimed to empower attendees to spearhead proactive measures that uphold the safety and well-being of neighbourhoods.

Throughout the event, presenters revealed practical strategies for nurturing robust community partnerships that serve as a safeguard against criminal activities. These engagements not only

disseminated valuable knowledge but also motivated collective efforts towards fostering safer, more resilient communities.

In essence, the conference served as a catalyst for nurturing collaborative frameworks that underscore the united relationship between community engagement, crime prevention, and volunteer recognition. By harnessing the collective expertise and commitment of stakeholders, we can forge a path towards safer, more cohesive neighbourhoods where the contributions of our NHWQ volunteers are duly acknowledged and celebrated.

2023 State Award Winners:

Mark Regazzoli
NHWQ Community Member of the Year

Senior Sergeant Glen De Lai
NHWQ Police Officer of the Year

2023 District Award Winners - Community Members

Sharon Hamilton
Logan

Tony Bryant
Sunshine Coast

Barbara Riddel
Mackay

Mark Regazzoli
Townsville

Alma Haaijer
Darling Downs

Marie Kinne - Awarded posthumously
South Brisbane

Jan McSweeney
Capricornia

Richard Cobb
Moreton

Anne Cobcroft
Gold Coast

2023 District Award Winners - NHWQ Police Officers

Senior Sergeant Glen De Ai
Far North

Senior Sergeant Kain Brown
Capricornia

Sergeant John Cook
Darling Downs

Sergeant Beau McNamara
Gold Coast

Sergeant Jodie Murray
North Brisbane

Senior Constable Stephen Smith
Mackay

Senior Constable Rob Martin
Wide Bay Burnett

Senior Constable Terence Poole
Sunshine Coast

Senior Constable Mike McDonald
Logan

Oakey Neighbourhood Watch Community Impact

Oakey Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) continues to make a positive impact in Oakey and the wider Toowoomba Region. From the group's demonstrated efforts both the communities of Highfields and Pittsworth are now contemplating starting their own NHW groups. WINNING!

In 2023 we managed to proactively engage with our diverse community, which is our main goal; 'connect with everybody, everywhere'.

We attended our agricultural show, Under 8's Day, 'Connect with Community' day with a focus on Australia's first nations, 'Cuppa with a Cop', Ladies Breakfast at the Oakey Anglican Church, and have created a Facebook page, distributed translated culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) resources to relevant groups and organisations, engaged with Oakey State High School and finally attended the Oakey Santa Fair. We have had great support from our local media outlets to help share property and personal safety tips.

Oakey's crime rate peaked in 2020/2021 yet has been dropping significantly over the past two years. Local police testify this is due to the collaborative efforts of NHW, PCYC youth connect, Queensland Police and residents being more diligent and safety conscious.

What a great success for our NHW group, what a great result for our community.



Toowoomba Regional Council Councillors Megan Ohara Sullivan and Kerry Shine, with Seymour the Owl



Oakey NHW Area Coordinator Ellisa delivering Streetsmart Handbooks to the Oakey State High School for the Year 11 & 12 cohort



Seymour the Owl and members Olive and Ann Marie enjoying Oakey Santa Fair 2023



The awesome Oakey NHW members having fun and sharing safety information with the community at Oakey Santa Fair



Area Coordinator Ellisa and Oakey NHW members manning the NHW stall

Riverview NHW Receives Ipswich City Council Community Group of the Year Award at Australia Day Awards

The Riverview Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Committee is again and deservedly so, being recognised for their achievements in their local community and across Ipswich.



Deputy Mayor Russell Milligan, Police Liaison Officer Senior Constable Lynda Whincup, Member Jocelyne Harris, Sandra Smrecnik, Area Coordinator Amanda Draheim, Katherine Smith and Mayor Theresa Harding at the Australia Day Award presentation



Area Coordinator Amanda Draheim with Australia Day Citizen of the Year Award

The group received this year's Ipswich City Council Australia Day Award's 'Community Group of the Year Award', and in addition to this Area Coordinator Amanda Draheim also received the Citizen of the Year Award at the ceremony on the 17 January at the Ipswich City Council.

The Riverview Committee celebrated 35 years of service last year (the 2nd NHW area to commence in QLD) and was acknowledged for their service and commitment to the Riverview Community in November 2023 at an Ipswich District Lapel Badge Awards Ceremony.

This NHW area certainly leads by example when it comes to the NHW program, with their tireless community **engagement, support and education**. The Committee facilitate community events such as Muscle in Maculata - annually



35 years acknowledgement and presentation of a NHW banner from QPS Crime Prevention Programs Unit and NHW State Office, Mayor Teresa Harding, Councillor Andrew Fechner, Riverview NHW Area Coordinator Amanda Draheim, Ipswich District Support Services Inspector Garth Price, and Councillor Marnie Doyle

attracting over 100 cars, Wednesday Cuppa and Chat group at the Riverview Community Centre, Cyber Safety initiatives and assistance, Neighbour Day activities, Movie Nights, up-to-date and comprehensive social media, and

regular newsletters being hand delivered by a team of volunteers plus lots more.

A huge congratulations to this hard working and energetic Committee lead by Amanda. Thank you all!

Bundy enjoys NHW Week at Bunnings!

November saw Bundaberg & District Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups participate once again in showcasing NHW to the community.

NHW Crime Prevention Week saw Volunteers in Policing (ViPs) and NHW members assisting with the running of the Coffee with a Cop stand at Bunnings. The morning was quite successful as customers had the opportunity to take various crime prevention pamphlets and discuss a variety of topics with police.

The highlight was our annual sausage sizzle held on a very hot humid Saturday. Thankfully, our usual group of volunteers happily helped out again, as without them we could not hold these events.

Even though we were extremely busy everyone managed to enjoy themselves and have a bit of fun during the quieter times!

What would a sausage sizzle be without a visit from PD Cluedo. Young and old alike enjoyed photo opportunities with him. We even had a couple of dogs stop and have a growling session at him. You had to be there to appreciate the humour these dogs presented.

Thank you to all who attended and helped at the event.



Morning crew at sausage sizzle - Tim Sayre, Wilma Van der Heide, Lester Rogers and Anita Ellery (Peter not in photo)



Afternoon crew at sausage sizzle - Gordon Whitby, Ross McNamara, Wendy Byrne, Maurie Wilson, Mary Waugh, Gary Turner, David Dempster and Art McCloskey



PD Cluedo with Wendy Byrne



Rhonda Sutton, Ian Zunker and Lester Rogers helping out at the Coffee with a Cop stand

Coomera 10 Willow Vale NHW Christmas Party



Volunteer Allen Crompton receives a Certificate of Appreciation from Michael Crandon MP for the many years service to our NHW Group



Area Coordinator Anne welcoming our community to the Christmas Party - Police Liaison Officer watching on

The 2023 Christmas Party for the Willow Vale Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) community was a great success with many locals, visitors and children attending.

The event was well supported by Federal, State and Local Members who had some fun drawing our raffle prizes. Many thanks to Bert van Manen MP, Michael Crandon MP and Deputy Mayor Councillor Donna Gates who always make the effort to come to meetings and support us.

Our NHW group also has a close association with the Police Liaison Officers who love to join us at events during the year and in particular at Christmas.



Doris and Sue on 'sign in' duties and selling raffle tickets

Congratulations to those awarded a Certificate of Appreciation:

- Ulla Schelin
- Les Ferris
- Deb Tant
- Allen Crompton
- Tony Herbetko
- Rob Worley
- Joy & Trevor Dahl
- Doris Liedmann



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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Robyn Keeping Community Connected

Robyn Williams' volunteer career in Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) started with a desire to get to know her neighbours.

The Klemzig area coordinator, who won NHW South Australia's Volunteer of the Year for 2023, had moved to the area in recent years, but didn't know a lot of faces. That changed after she attended Klemzig NHW's first meeting in 1995. In the years since, Robyn has discovered that community connection is the key to a safe community.

"I know Neighbourhood Watch is about crime prevention initiatives, and I believe the best way to achieve this is by being connected," she said.

Robyn attended Klemzig's first NHW meeting so had a role in building the group from the ground up, which included raising funds for the group. Her first task was to ask for donations from the local community; a job she didn't relish and one that volunteers are no longer expected to undertake. "We went from house to house asking for \$2 donations," she said. "We didn't have much to say because we didn't have a clear direction at the start." Fortunately, NHW had a particularly high profile at that time, so most residents were receptive to Robyn's cold calls.

A few years into her time as a volunteer, Robyn says "I got a finger pointed at me to be secretary". As part of this role, she worked closely with Klemzig Primary School on ways to raise money for both



Klemzig Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator Robyn Williams

the school and the NHW group, which she described as a "symbiotic relationship". Robyn spent countless hours at the school, assisting with the running of major fundraising events such as the annual fun day, complete with hayrides, stalls and games.

Highlights of Robyn's time with Klemzig NHW have included working with young people on a youth focused NHW publication, setting up a women's focus group to look at how NHW could attract and retain women, and seeing how diverse the group's volunteers are becoming.

Robyn has been area coordinator since 2005, despite relocating to Woomera for two-and-a-half years and living out of the area while building a new home. She says the success of the group, which has had stable membership numbers for decades, apart from a drop off during the COVID-19 pandemic, has been its continued profile in the community. Robyn and the other volunteers are always out and about, making connections.

"We've always been community based and community focused," she said. "With a good community base, a program like Neighbourhood Watch is always going to work."



Persistence pays off for Award-Winning NHW Group

Klemzig Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) scooped the pool at South Australia's 2023 NHW Awards, taking home five awards.

Klemzig NHW members and recipients of 2023 SA NHW Awards; Sergeant Annette Gilbert, Robyn Williams, Jenny Moller, Pam Coretti and Sheina Seifert

The group, based in the Adelaide inner north-eastern suburb of Klemzig, has had a constant presence in the community since its inception in 1995. Its members believe this constancy has been integral to the group's success.

According to group secretary Jenny Moller, the timing of the group's creation was also crucial. In the 1990s, community members were frustrated that the suburb had become a major target for graffiti and petty crimes. The compact neighbourhood was becoming run down, with a number of old South Australian Housing Trust residences that hadn't been maintained, and its location along the River Torrens made it an easy target for graffiti taggers. "It was really horrendous," Jenny said.

A community meeting to discuss the ongoing issues attracted

around 400 residents and resulted in the creation of Klemzig NHW. One hundred residents signed up as volunteers to the NHW group within days; an indication of how committed the community was to cleaning up its act.

Jenny says the group has had a stable cohort of volunteers since that time, with numbers only dwindling slightly in recent years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of the first tasks the group tackled was the graffiti issue. It partnered with the City of Port Adelaide Enfield to provide a graffiti removal service in exchange for the equipment and tools needed for the task, including a vehicle and trailer along with insurance, registration and regular servicing. In the early days, around 20 volunteers cleaned up graffiti four days a week. Now only a small group of volunteers is needed

to ensure that tagging and other defacement is gone within 24 hours of being reported.

"From the onset, people could see the NHW group was doing something really positive," Jenny said.

Klemzig NHW has always had a philosophy of giving to the community, even when it comes to their four public meetings each year, which feature presentations from interesting speakers and can attract between 50 and 100 community members. Speakers over the years have ranged from a wildlife ecologist, to local historians, an astrologist and paramedics. A presentation on real estate in Klemzig attracted many young people wanting to know about house values in the area. "If we gear the presentation topics to young people, they will show up," Jenny said.

The meetings are also a great opportunity for residents to hear

from Sergeant Annette Gilbert who has been Klemzig NHW's Local Police Coordinator for 20 years and knows the area intimately. She brings crime statistics to life, shares crime prevention advice and can talk one-on-one with residents about specific problems.

The marketing for the quarterly meetings is simple, but very effective – promotion in the Klemzig NHW newsletter three weeks prior to the event. Jenny said the newsletter was an effective tool because it was a high quality product with attention and care given to its editing and design. "The number of phone calls we receive show us how much people do read it," Jenny said. "The newsletter passes on useful, relevant information for people to use in their daily lives."

To maintain awareness of the organisation, Klemzig NHW provides free useful items to local residents.

Over the years the group has distributed branded merchandise including lanyards, ball point pens, magnetic shopping lists, keyring lights and radio frequency identification (RFID) sleeves, which protect credit cards from being read. Items are enclosed in an envelope with information about how to use the item, particularly in relation to household security, and the NHW program.

Klemzig NHW likes to look after and give back to its volunteers. Those who deliver newsletters are given a suitable shoulder bag to help manage the load. Interested volunteers have also been funded to complete the St Johns Ambulance First Aid Certificate.

NHW Klemzig understands that there are localised community safety issues that sometimes need localised solutions. To meet this need, it holds street corner

meetings with topics specific to a particular area.

Despite the impressive number of projects Klemzig NHW has taken on and sustained over the years, the group recognises that, at its heart NHW is about helping to create community connectedness. "We encourage neighbours to support one another," Jenny said.

Klemzig NHW award winners

Volunteer of the Year Award
Area Coordinator Robyn Williams

President's Award 2023
Secretary Jenny Moller

Award of Merit
Pamela Coretti

Award of Merit
Sheina Seifert

Award of Merit
Local Police Coordinator
Sergeant Annette Gilbert

Relaunching Happy Valley Neighbourhood Watch

In the latter quarter of 2023 during the school holidays, 4 or 5 children made some bad choices. This included tyre slashing/damaging 10 cars, break-ins, vandalism, attempted break-ins, attempted arson at the Happy Valley childcare centre, the small Happy Valley Shopping Centre and a nearby small coffee shop.

In some other suburbs across Australia this may not be so unusual, but Happy Valley is a suburb where crime is so low, it is hard to measure. Therefore, the residents were shocked and very vocal on social media and neighbour to neighbour discussions.

A meeting was arranged at the office of Nat Cook MP, that was attended by Nat Cook MP, Erin Thompson MP, officers from South Australia Police (SAPOL), staff from the Child Care Centre, the Coffee shop owner, David McNabb (Happy Valley & Aberfoyle Park NHW Area 491 Area Coordinator) and other interested support people. SAPOL informed attendees that suspects had been identified and interviewed with further enquiries expected to produce results soon.

It was suggested that the crimes were occurring in a previously closed NHW area and reopening it may help the communication between SAPOL and residents. When Happy Valley NHW was originally launched more than 20 years ago, the suburb was divided into three NHW areas; one coordinated by Jim Phillips, one coordinated by David McNabb, and the third section closed more than 10 years ago. Many attending thought relaunching the closed NHW group would be helpful to retain the peaceful atmosphere of the suburb.

Mat Curnow, Area Coordinator Flagstaff Hill NHW Area 453, would be managing the relaunch with

Thank you to those who provided help to relaunch NHW in the Happy Valley area!

assistance from Sergeant Sophie Hodge and Senior Constable Matthew Robinson of Southern District Community Engagement Section SAPOL.

A petition was submitted to SAPOL with around 50 signatures asking for a Happy Valley NHW to be launched.

George Holroyd, Treasurer of Southern Districts NHW, confirmed the Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association (NHWVA) SA would provide \$250 seed money once the group had elected officers and assured reimbursement for venue hire for the first meeting of residents.

A letter was organised by Mat Curnow about the relaunch of the group to distribute to local residents and encourage them to attend the upcoming meeting. Sergeant Sophie Hodge printed of 2,500 copies of the letter.

Thank you to the volunteers who distributed the letters; Happy Valley & O'Halloran Hill NHW Area Coordinator James Phillips, Ken Storr, Chris Nogaj, Chris Abinett, Valentine Bope Mafwata and Debra Phillips. Area Coordinator Aberfoyle Park & Happy Valley NHW 491 David McNabb and Area Coordinator of Reynella NHW Area 48 Dianne Harvey also offered their volunteers to help. More than

80 percent of the Happy Valley suburb received the letters.

The inaugural meeting was held 29 November at the Byards Road Community Hall. Sergeant Sophie Hodge and Senior Constable Matthew from SAPOL were in attendance to answer questions. The meeting was well attended by 32 residents, plus NHW officials and local government representatives. Following a comprehensive information session, more than two thirds indicated they were keen to start the group and then accepted NHW Volunteer application forms. This was a great outcome for Happy Valley area.

The next meeting is waiting for the approval of the application forms of those who attended to be processed.

Thank you to those who provided help to relaunch NHW in the Happy Valley area! Special mention to George Holroyd for his extra effort to organise the meeting.

There are two NHW heroes who should be thanked for their efforts to achieve this; Mat Curnow for his excellent management of the relaunch, and Sergeant Sophie Hodge, for getting the SAPOL approvals and resources.

Thank you Mat and Sophie!

Marino and Kingston Park NHW 2023 AGM

Thank you to all those who attended the 2023 Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Annual General Meeting (AGM) and community meeting at Kingston House on 8 October.

Area Coordinator Darren Bailhache described the event as a great opportunity to bring SA Police (SAPOL), the RSPCA and the community together through Neighbourhood Watch.

The AGM had the largest ever recorded attendance for the local Neighbourhood Watch Area 266 community meetings, breaking the record going back two decades.

The team of volunteers at Kingston House provided Devonshire tea and conducted a fantastic service for the community meeting.

Here's a recap of the key points:

1. Guest Speakers:

SAPOL and RSPCA provided valuable insights on cybercrime prevention and law enforcement; and rescue, respectively. Their presentations were well-received and contributed to the high attendance numbers.

2. Volunteers:

The volunteers at Kingston House, who provided Devonshire Tea and excellent service, played a significant role in the success of the event.

3. Acknowledgment of Contributions:

Fran Southern, a former secretary and committee member, served for over 12 years, while Tim Hoopmann, the committee treasurer, played a pivotal role in saving the group and ensuring its growth. Both were recognised for their loyalty, dedication, and service to the community with the 10-year Certificate of Service from SAPOL.



Guest speakers Senior Constable Matthew Robinson and members from the RSPCA, with Area Coordinator Darren Bailhache



Senior Constable Matthew Robinson presenting the 10 year Certificate of Service to Treasurer Tim Hoopmann



Area Coordinator Darren Bailhache presenting the NHW Community Certificate of Appreciation to Krystyna Ciesiolkiewicz

4. Sponsorship:

Splashout Art Studios has been a dedicated sponsor of the NHW crime prevention program for 14 consecutive years. Their commitment was acknowledged with the 2023 NHW Community Certificate of Appreciation.

5. Election of 2023-2024 Committee:

The AGM concluded with the election of the NHW

Committee for the next twelve months, consisting of Area Coordinator Darren Bailhache, Secretary Marilyn Ravell, Treasurer Tim Hoopmann, Property Officer Gavin Breese, and committee member Peter Hall.

The NHW Committee looks forward to the continued support and participation of the community in future events and meetings.

NHW TAS

TASMANIA

Dolphin Sands Where You Want To Be!

Tasmania is the island state of Australia (the true gem in the crown), which is literally awash with pristine beaches that can be found a short distance from virtually anywhere in the state. Nowhere more so than on the east coast, where beautiful white sand with hundreds of safe fishing and swimming spots pepper the region. This is where you will find Dolphin Sands, a unique sandy peninsular on the northern boundary of Great Oyster Bay which is protected to the west by the Tasmanian mainland and to the east by the Freycinet Peninsular.

The residents of Dolphin Sands are proud and protective of what they have, and their discrete Community Association has for some years been partnered with Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) to improve their connectedness, safety, and security. Such a beautiful area is popular for visitors, and the locals are happy to share their habitat with those who respect the people, fauna, and flora that have made this location their home.

It was from this perspective that Dolphin Sands NHW approached the Tasmanian State Board for a grant to match their contribution on a dollar-for-dollar basis, to assist them replace their *Welcome to Dolphin Sands* sign at the gateway to their settlement. The process of planning, consulting, and engaging has resulted in a sign that says Welcome, as well as alerting the visitors to bushfire safety, and guidance about shore bird habitat and responsible dog walking.

Welcome to Dolphin Sands
We would like everyone to enjoy the wonderful natural beauty of the Nine Mile Beach peninsula

Sensitive bird habitat
The mouths of the Meredith river and Swan River (areas 1 and 2 on the map) are bird habitats. In these areas, dogs must be on a lead and stay on the wet sand.

Dog exercise area
Dogs are welcome as long as they are 'under effective control'. Nine Mile Beach is an off-lead dog exercise area, with the exception of the river mouths.

No vehicles are permitted on Nine Mile Beach.
Please take your rubbish with you.

You are entering an extreme fire danger area.
Do not light fires on or near sand dunes.
For more information go to www.fire.tas.gov.au

SCAN for more
0800 678 788
dsc@tas.gov.au

Land of the Paradareme (Oyster Bay nation)

This is a popular holiday location, and as such, security is another important issue for the residents of the area. Accordingly, the NHW logo appears, not only on the *Welcome* sign, but also on strategically placed street signs throughout the peninsular as a repeat message that this is a community that cares for each other, and its members take an active interest in their own, and their neighbours, properties.

The erection of the new sign reflects the pride of the locals and the sense of community they enjoy.



Robyn Moore, Steve Barrett and Brenton Wheare with the new 'Welcome to Dolphin Sands' sign

Scone Time in Perth, Tasmania!

There are always benefits when Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups start up and attract new members who bring with them a range of skills, experiences and ideas. NHW in Tasmania continues to enjoy a resurgence in interest and membership.

We have now locked in models of delivery which are additional to the traditional area committee arrangements. One of these new models is to partner with an already existing community group, so that both organisations benefit twice as much from the increased breadth of contributors.

In July of 2023 the Perth Progress Association formally joined NHW, and local lady, Jo Saunderson, put her hand up to be the coordinator for the area. Without too much delay, Jo had acquired new NHW signs to be strategically placed in the township, and with the support of the local council, these were erected in quick time.

As it transpired, Perth NHW was gaining momentum early in the 2023/24 financial year as we started our annual planning to support Get Online Week that occurs each October. Jo was keen to facilitate an event for older community members to improve their knowledge with modern technologies and their confidence being online. To make the event even more attractive, Jo delivered the presentation with her favourite community initiative - *Scone Time*.

As Jo tells the story, *Scone Time* has been credited to an idea from a 96-year-old woman in Scotland who was feeling lonely and isolated after the passing of her partner. Rather than do nothing, this lady showed some grit and decided to hold morning teas to connect with her community. Apparently, Martin Duncan from the Sunshine Coast in Queensland saw an article about this



Homemade scones with real Tasmanian fresh jam and cream!

woman and ran with the idea in the Cooroy Hall where he served scones with tea and coffee to connect his community. A simple initiative that Jo now regularly champions in Perth.

NHW is a genuine volunteer organisation that works to help reduce crime and improve social connections within their communities. Initiatives such as Get Online Week events and Scone Time are simple and effective mechanisms for community members to connect, be informed and reassured about their safety and security in their neighbourhood.

And if you want to hear more good news, readers will no doubt be happy to also hear that Jo was a 2023 finalist in the *Black Pepper* search for Australia's kindest person.



Exit left for the best scones in town!

This award is to recognise *World Kindness Day* which celebrates, according to Black Pepper, the stories of the country's good eggs who spread positive energy. Congratulations Jo, and thanks to all the other NHW good eggs who do something to contribute to the wellbeing of their communities.



Glenorchy City Mayor Bec Thomas supporting Cuppa with a Cop at Bunnings

Tasmanian Partnerships going from Strength to Strength

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is nothing without the contributions of volunteers who support our activities, because they believe in the value of community connectiveness. They know that the benefits of giving and doing without charge can, and will, make a positive difference in their neighbourhoods.

The second most important ingredient in the success of NHW is the partnerships we forge with organisations that support our purpose to help minimise preventable crime and improve neighbourliness. This article is a snapshot of some of those partnerships throughout 2023 in Tasmania.

Tasmania Police are our principal partner because our objective is to help neighbourhoods help themselves to help the police keep our communities safe and secure. Every three years we renew our Memorandum

of Understanding (MOU) with Tasmania Police to formalise this relationship. This agreement is important for NHW to access crime and crime prevention data which we use to keep our neighbourhoods informed so that they can take action to improve their own safety and security.

Each November **Bunnings** supports **Crime Prevention and Neighbourhood Watch Week** across the country, and in Tasmania their seven warehouses can't do enough to engage with our volunteers

and the police. We particularly benefit from their support with information stands, raffle prizes, barbecues, and *Cuppa with a Cop* in their cafes. Their venues and friendly staff provide great backdrops for plenty of action photographs.

Knight Frank supports NHW to host *Cuppa with a Cop* (CWAC) events in their shopping centres across the state. CWAC has rapidly become the flagship events for NHW, which have proven to be popular whenever and wherever they are held. The presence of Tasmania Police is obviously essential, but



NHW Tasmania President Peter Edwards and Commissioner Donna Adams APM celebrate the signing of their new Memorandum of Understanding at a Cuppa with a Cop in Wellington Walk, Hobart



Cuppa with a Cop at Burnie Plaza



Cuppa with a Cop at Claremont Plaza



Constable Sam takes the friendship with Bunnings staff to a whole new level!



Participants at Get Online Week at the ABC Centre, Hobart

good coffee in easily accessible venues guarantees the intended outcome of improving police/community relationships.

Good Things Foundation and access to their Be Connected grants for Get Online Week which our groups use to deliver advice to older members about the benefits of being online. These events not only help reduce fear and anxiety about using modern technologies, but are also invaluable social opportunities for people to connect and leave better informed and more confident than when they arrived.



Get Online Week at the South East Stadium in Sorell

Tasmania Neighbourhood Watch AGM and Awards Ceremony

Each year Neighbourhood Watch in Tasmania (NHWT) hosts its Awards Ceremony in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Country Club in Launceston.



NHW Award recipients and Calendar Drawing Competition Winners at the Country Club, Launceston

The Awards Ceremony is designed to provide recognition for a number of volunteers who have provided valuable service, often over many years. The use of the Auditorium at the Country Club, which is provided as a free community service, adds prestige, accessibility, comfort, and a true sense of occasion for the event.

For many years the flagship publication for NHWT has been our calendar which is distributed free of charge to our members and some lucky community members who get in early for a copy. In an effort to better engage with our younger generations and their families, in 2023 a competition was conducted for primary school students throughout the state to submit a drawing for the feature pages in the calendar on the theme of **Safe Neighbourhoods**.

Many readers of this article will be able to relate to the fact that every bright idea brings with it a whole range of tasks that were not initially identified when the concept was first floated! However, it was a resounding success with 14 winners having their drawings



Life Members from the Mowbray Heights NHW; Jill Strauss on left and Shirley Wiltshire on right, join with 2022 NHWA Police Commissioner's Runner Up Awardee, Senior Constable Annabel Shegog, in congratulating four of the winning children, all of whom were from Mowbray Heights Primary School in Launceston

published respectively for a full month in the calendar, and many of the runners up had their work reproduced in stamp size as a montage inside and outside the back cover. The highlight of it all was that the winners, their families, some teachers and friends were all guests at the Awards and Prize Giving Ceremony. Thankfully the additional catering for morning tea ensured no one was hungry after they left the venue!



Commander Kate Chambers, Senior Constable Annabel Shegog, Constable Marita Osborn and NHW Tasmania President Peter Edwards



We are very grateful to the students, and their parents, guardians, and teachers, who provided encouragement to enter the competition. So successful was this initiative that planning for a similar competition is underway for 2024. A special thanks to Commander Kate Chambers for representing the Police Commissioner in presenting the awards and prizes.

NHW WA

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Volunteers attended from Armadale, Burswood, Cockburn, Gosnells, Melville and Serpentine/Jarrahdale with Bernie Durkin (Executive Manager Community Engagement Division/State Chair NHW WA) on the left and Jenny O'Brien (NHW State Coordinator) on the right

NHW WA End of Year Function

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) WA volunteers attended an End of Year Celebration at WA Police Force Headquarters in East Perth on 1 December.

The event was to celebrate the achievements of the volunteers during 2023, as well as providing a network opportunity to share their successes in the NHW program.

Mr Bernie Durkin (Executive Manager for the Community Engagement Division, WA and Chairman NHW Australasia) briefly addressed the group and thanked them for supporting the program and continuing the effort in providing crime prevention information to the community on behalf of WA Police Force.

Volunteers from the following Local Government areas attended the event; Burswood, Melville, Cockburn, Serpentine / Jarrahdale, Gosnells and Armadale.

The volunteers are actively involved in promoting NHW and crime prevention information at local community events, as well as facilitating anti-theft number screw events and street meet and greet programs.

The focus for NHW in 2024 will be to continue to evolve

the program in line with WA Police Force vision for the future, as well as the upgrade and digitisation of crime prevention resources.

Atul Garg has been a volunteer since 1993, the Chairperson of the Melville Neighbourhood Watch committee since 2008 and a NHW WA Board member since 2017.

Atul Garg was the winner of the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year Award in 2011.



Junior Neighbourhood Watch students brighten up the Orelia Bike Library

Innovative Bike Library Lends Bikes to Students

An exciting new bike library concept is leaving a positive legacy in Kwinana by linking unclaimed or donated bikes with students at Orelia Primary School.

The Orelia Bike Library is a collaborative effort between the City of Kwinana, Orelia Primary School, WA Police, and Neighbourhood Watch (NHW).

The bike library is housed at the primary school and Junior NHW students got involved in painting the shed's exterior to brighten it up and helping school staff register the bikes with Bikelinc.

Unclaimed bikes and scooters from WA Police, and some donated by the

public, are given a new lease of life at the school. Children are able to borrow the bikes to ride to school, increasing their physical activity and helping prevent childhood obesity while improving emotional wellbeing.

Spare parts like bells and baskets are also part of the inventory of bikes and scooters at the school and the initiative is a model that can be rolled out in other schools.

At the end of 2023, the bike library presented a wonderful

opportunity for Year 6 student Nyakong Mathiang, who was keen to learn to ride but hadn't had the opportunity prior.

Orelia Primary School Marketing and Library Officer 'Miss Julie' Gliddon taught Nyakong to ride on one of the borrowed bikes.

Together, they then rode from the school to a live radio broadcast by the ABC held in November 2023 to promote the bike library.



NHWA members with members of the NHW Asian Group at the Perth event

NHWA AGM, Board Meeting and NHW Asian Group event Perth

WA Police recently hosted the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) Board and staff in Perth, where they held their Annual General meeting (AGM) and Board Meeting.

Bernie Durkin from the WA Police Community Engagement Division is the current Chair of the NHWA Board and has taken on the role for a further 12-month term.

The NHWA Board met over two days at WA Police Headquarters, and also took the opportunity to undertake governance and team building training.

On 26 November the NHWA Board members and staff attended a Neighbourhood Watch Asian Group community event held at the Coventry Pavilion in Morley. This was an amazing spectacle with local entertainment and performances throughout the day. The WA Police pipe band were also in attendance to play the national anthem and a number of other tunes.



NHWA Chair Bernie Durkin, Company Secretary Margaret Peason, CEO Maria Bennett, NHW Asian Group Coordinator Lisa Li, NHWA Director Peter Edwards and Executive Assistant Lizzie McGrory with the WA Police band

The Neighbourhood Watch Asian Group are certainly not a traditional Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group, but more of a support network to the Asian community throughout Perth.

When they commenced they were branded as the 'NHW

Chinese group' however, they have since expanded to include all Asian cultures which is proving extremely successful.

WA Police and NHW work very closely with this group and continue to offer support wherever they can.

City of Canning Neighbourhood Watch Group

Canning Show

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) volunteers Kath, Kutty and Steve attended the Canning Show in November to help share crime and safety information with the community.

The show had a great turn out and the team distributed over 500 resources including graffiti removal kits, 'who to call' magnets and property marking kits.



NHW volunteer Kath at the NHW booth at the Canning Show

Community Safety Month

Throughout October Community Safety Month, Canning NHW group assisted the City in running daily pop-up events and initiatives to talk all things safety and promote the release of the 2023 Community Safety Survey.

Events included:

- FREE women's and seniors self-defence workshops
- FREE Bike workshops for adults and children
- Coffee with a Cop and Coffee with a Ranger
- Pop ups at local shopping centres and markets
- FREE anti-theft screw giveaway
- FREE graffiti removal kit pop-up

The month was very successful, with over 1,300 surveys completed by the community.



Officers from Cannington Police Station at the City's 'Coffee with a Cop' event at Westfield Carousel, Cannington



NHW volunteer Kutty with the Canning Safe Communities team



NHW volunteer Kath was ready with resources to hand out at the 'Coffee with a Cop' event



NHW volunteer Kutty sharing safety tips with residents from Willetton at Willetton Rotary Markets



NHW volunteer Dhan handing out free anti-theft screws for 'Safe Plate Day' at Bunnings Warehouse Cannington



Don't touch it, report it.



Australian Government
Department of Defence

UXO. Curiosity Can Kill You.

You need to understand the real danger of **unexploded ordnance (UXO)**. If you touch UXO - like an old bomb, bullet or hand grenade - it could seriously injure or even kill you. You must know - Don't Touch It!

Report it to the Police on 000



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TASMANIAN CHINESE BUDDHIST ACADEMY OF AUSTRALIA

Wishing all readers
Happy Year of the Dragon
and Lantern Festival

