



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA



Annual Report

1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

This Annual Report demonstrates the performance of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia during the 2022-2023 financial year.

The report details the achievements, projects and initiatives Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) has delivered, and our ongoing commitment to safer communities.

The information in this report is intended for Australian Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ) community groups, for Police, for NHWA's partners and stakeholders, for government agencies, for philanthropic organisations and individuals, for future board members and employees, and for all our members and volunteers.

The objectives of our Annual Report are to:

- › Communicate NHWA's vision, mission, values, commitment and progress to our members, stakeholders, partners, and community
- › Convey NHWA's role as the peak body for Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support groups Australasia-wide
- › Acknowledge the achievements of NHWA during the 2022-2023 financial year
- › Recognise and acknowledge collaborations with key partners and stakeholders
- › Demonstrate NHWA's ability to develop and deliver significant programs and initiatives
- › Build confidence and potential for further undertakings and partnerships in the future
- › Report on the delivery of NHWA's strategic priorities and other key achievements
- › Demonstrate NHWA's commitment to accountable and transparent governance

Acknowledgement of Country

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia acknowledges the traditional owners of country and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters, and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to Elders past and present.



ingeous studios' Indigenous Artwork

For the Neighbourhood Watch International Conference in May 2021, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia commissioned Cairns based ingeous studios – an award-winning Indigenous design and digital creative agency – to create a unique Indigenous decal which would feature on a new Neighbourhood Watch polo shirt and face mask designs.

Created by talented Indigenous digital artist Leigh Harris and his team, the design represents – through contemporary elements – the work of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and its commitment and understanding to building safe, inclusive, and connected communities throughout Australia.

The centrepiece of the design has three elements, which represent Neighbourhood Watch members throughout Australia. These members are each connected by healing waterways, which act as conduits to share and connect and make our communities safer and stronger.

The outer elements of the design represent communities throughout Australia that work with Neighbourhood Watch Australasia to bring about change and understanding through their grassroot knowledge and connections to community.



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SUSTAINABILITY

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (NHW) cares about the environment. This Annual Report is printed on FSC® certified paper, traceable to accredited sources.

This Annual Report is also published and distributed as an accessible electronic document.



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*Because We Are
More Secure Together*
Building Safe and Resilient Communities



**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH
AUSTRALASIA**

Our Vision

Empowering communities to prevent crime.

Our Mission

Safe and resilient communities across Australasia.



Our Values



Community

We value, support, and connect with individuals and communities



Inclusion

We recognise and value the strength and resilience inherent in diversity



Safety

We are dedicated to the safety of all Australasian communities



Professionalism

We adhere to the highest standards of governance and practice



Integrity


We demonstrate respect and fairness in all our actions

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's core Values – Community, Inclusion, Safety, Professionalism, and Integrity – form the foundational basis of our organisation, informing all we do, from leadership and decision-making to the execution of our initiatives.


Our History

Since inception, Neighbourhood Watch has been dedicated to being Australia's foremost community volunteer crime prevention organisation.


In 2023, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's primary focus remains on fostering the exchange of information, knowledge, and resources between NHW and NSNZ communities and the Police, and to enhance community safety, engagement, connection, and social inclusion.

- 


1980s

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) programs were introduced to Australian communities by Police.
- 

1982


Bunbury WA starts the first NHW group in Australia.
- 

1983


The four faces logo was designed by a Victorian volunteer and is the nationally recognised brand of NHW.
- 


2003

NHW conference participants from policing agencies and NHW voluntary associations agreed there would be significant value in establishing a national structure to assist the growth and development of NHW across Australia and New Zealand.


- 

2006


Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) is formally incorporated as a not-for-profit organisation to be the peak body for Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ), to provide a collaborative approach to the development of resources, training, cross-sector information exchange and advocacy.
- 


The NHWA Journal was first published. The Journal shares information on crime prevention initiatives and events from Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support and continues as a highly valued triannual publication.
- 

2007


The NHWA logo was designed.
- 

2010

The nhwa.com.au website is launched, which continues to be a crucial central point of contact and source of news and information for NHW groups, members, and the general public.
- 


The NHWA Annual Awards were established, recognising the hardworking volunteers and police who make up Neighbourhood Watch (Australia) and Neighbourhood Support (New Zealand).
- 

2011


NHWA Facebook page is launched in response to the growth of social media.
- 


2015

NHWA launch 'Speak Up', an educational resource for Indigenous and other culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community members to ensure all Australians know how and when to call emergency services.


- 

2016


NHWA celebrates 10 years of service in crime prevention.
- 

Neighbourhood Watch Week, an annual event, is launched by NHWA and NSW Police Force.
- 


2017


NHWA's Remote and Vulnerable Communities Project receives a Bronze Award in the community-led category of the 2017 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards (ACVPA).
- 

2018


NHWA transitions from an incorporated association to a company limited by guarantee and registered charity.
- 

2019


NSW Police Commissioner Michael Fuller AO APM accepts the position of inaugural NHWA Patron.
- 

NHWA becomes a Be Connected Network Partner and launches our Digital Mentor training program to assist older Australians to improve their digital skills.
- 


2020


NHWA diagrammatic brochures are translated into 5 languages, designed to inform culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community members on safety and security.
- 


NHWA is bestowed with deductible gift recipient (DGR) status per the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, an honour for the organisation and recognition of NHWA's ongoing commitment to public safety and crime prevention.


- 


2021

NHWA hosts the inaugural Neighbourhood Watch International Conference, a hybrid event held at the Gold Coast, bringing together over 200 attendees both in person and virtually.
- 


Secure Score home security audit tool is launched by crime prevention partners NHWA and Crimsafe.
- 


Secure September, a month-long annual campaign to improve home security, is launched nationally by crime prevention partners NHWA and Crimsafe.
- 

2021 NHWA creates its first Community Service Announcement series - 5 TV advertisements, promoting community awareness on personal safety, vehicle, home and online security, and how-to-report-crime messaging.
- 


NHWA launches an online NHW shop.
- 

2022

Neighbourhood Watch Month, an annual March campaign promoting community safety and NHW group participation, is launched by NHWA and crime prevention partner Crimsafe.
- 

Australian Federal Police Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM accepts the position of NHWA Patron.
- 

2023

NHWA produces a series of three TV Commercial Community Service Announcements to Keep Kids Safe Online, developed in partnership with the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE).
- 

Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) program is launched by NHWA in collaboration with The University of Queensland (UQ).



Safety for All



Tamariki (children) enjoying Manaaki Street, a children's book by Neighbourhood Support, NZ

Patron Foreword



Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM
Australian Federal Police

As you read this Annual Report, I encourage you to reflect on the tools and materials available to you to boost your resilience to crime in the community

As Patron, I am pleased to showcase the fantastic work of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia in the 2022-2023 Annual Report.

Throughout my time as Patron, I have highlighted the importance of police building a bridge to the community. Strong community partnerships provide vital opportunities for education and prevention initiatives, allowing us to protect our communities from harm and work together to increase resilience to crime.

The projects highlighted in this year's annual report emphasise the critical role Neighbourhood Watch Australasia plays in building safe, strong communities. The world has never felt smaller, and it has never been easier for criminals to target vulnerable members of our community from anywhere in the world. The Australian Federal Police's (AFP's) partnership with Neighbourhood Watch Australasia is particularly focused on bringing community awareness to the impact of Commonwealth crime on our communities, and providing simple, practical tips to keep you and your families safe in online spaces.

The past 12 months have seen a focus on awareness raising, education and prevention activities aimed at protecting children from online harms. Partnerships such as those with the AFP-led Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) and the ThinkUKnow program represent a holistic approach to fighting child exploitation and have led to key initiatives to help families recognise and understand signs of child exploitation online and encourage children to speak up if they feel unsafe. The 'Keeping Kids Safe Online' Community Service Announcements, developed in collaboration with the ACCCE, highlight Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's continued efforts to engage, inform, and advocate for the safety and wellbeing of all children, their families, and communities.

As you read this Annual Report, I encourage you to reflect on the tools and materials available to you to boost your resilience to crime in the community and online, and to identify ways you can get involved with your local Neighbourhood Watch group.

Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM
Australian Federal Police

CEO Message



Maria Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

My sincere thanks to our members, volunteers, and the community. Your support is the cornerstone of NHTWA's success

A warm welcome to all

I am delighted to report on an impactful and industrious year of development and delivery of programs and outcomes during the 2022-2023 year, in Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's (NHTWA's) continuing collaborative mission to empower Australasian communities to prevent crime.

Throughout the year NHTWA has continued to work alongside our key partners, including the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE), The University of Queensland (UQ), Police and local councils. Our collaborations with corporate partners, including Crimsafe and Bunnings, with social sector organisations, Good Things Foundation and Be Connected, and with Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ) have likewise grown stronger.

With in-person attendance resuming in 2022 it has been heartening to see people present at events, including NHTWA annual calendar fixtures' Secure September, Get Online Week, NHW Week and NHW Month.

2022-2023 is the second year of the delivery of NHTWA's 2022-2024 Strategic Plan and we continue to make significant progress in activities and projects aligned to our Strategic Plan. Throughout the year the development and delivery of the three tiers of the SAFE (Safer Australia For Everyone) program, in collaboration with Dr Renee Zahnow, Senior Research Fellow, Criminology, UQ, has been central to our efforts.

Tier 1 - Target Hardening training and capacity building for NHW and community members.

Tier 2 - Target Hardening financial support for victims of crime in localised communities.

Tier 3 - The inaugural National Secure Your Home Day, 23-24 September 2023.

The production and distribution of the Keeping Kids Safe Online TV Community Service Announcement series, developed in partnership with the ACCCE, was also a key project and represents a valuable addition to NHTWA's community public safety television and social media messaging portfolio.

My thanks and gratitude to the Board for their guidance and unwavering support, and to outgoing Directors, Clare McGrath and Stephen Collins, for their service and contribution. A huge Thank You to my team, Lizzie, Sarah, and Mel, for your incredible commitment to achieving NHTWA's objectives and outcomes once again this year.

Finally, my sincere thanks to our members, volunteers, and the community. Your support is the cornerstone of NHTWA's success, and we would not achieve our mission without you.

Let's take action. Let's take ownership. And number 1 - Stay safe!

Maria Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Chair Report



Bernie Durkin
Chair

As an organisation we will continue to monitor these projects and look forward to the positive results for the benefit of our Australasian communities

Dear Stakeholders and Members

On behalf of the Board, it gives me great pleasure to present our Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (NHTWA) Annual Report for the financial year 2022-2023.

During this financial year NHTWA was honoured to welcome the Australian Federal Police Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM as our Patron. Commissioner Kershaw brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to our organisation, and we look forward to working closely with him on a number of innovative suggestions that he has made to create further positive opportunities and progress for NHTWA.

In 2022-2023 NHTWA continued to use video conferencing technology to effectively hold monthly Board Meetings. With a Board of Directors located across Australian states, territories, and New Zealand, we owe much to this technology. However, there is always a place for face-to-face meetings, and I was very pleased to hold our 2022 AGM and Board Meeting in Canberra.

On behalf of the Board and our members I wish to acknowledge the significant contribution of our CEO Maria Bennett and Executive Assistant/Project Managers Lizzie McGrory, Sarah Joy, and Melissa Roberts, who as a team have done an outstanding job maintaining the momentum of our organisation, which has enabled us to achieve our goals.

During the 2022-2023 financial year we farewelled from our Board long-term Director Clare McGrath. Clare has been on the Board for a significant period, and I thank her for her dedicated service to NHTWA. We welcome to our Board Laurie Blackall to replace Clare and represent NHW ACT. We also farewelled Acting Superintendent Stephen Collins from the Queensland Police Service and welcomed Acting Superintendent Robert Fleischer. We thank Stephen for his time on the Board and look forward to working with Robert.

During the past 12 months we have developed and implemented a number of new projects through our current Federal Government funding. We will continue to monitor these projects and work towards achieving positive results for the benefit of our Australasian communities.

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

Best regards

Bernie Durkin
Chair



Section 2

About Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

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NHWA supports and works to enhance the safety and security of communities through sharing ideas, information, and resources



NHWA Chair Bernie Durkin (WA), NHWA Board Director Brent Register (NZ), NHWA Patron AFP Commissioner Reece Kershaw, AFP Deputy Commissioner Lesa Gale, President ACT NHW Laurie Blackall, NHWA Company Secretary Margaret Pearson, NHWA CEO Maria Bennett, NHWA Board Director Clare McGrath (ACT), NHWA Board Director Peter Edwards (TAS), Chief Inspector Cameron Devey SA Police and ACT Chief Police Officer Neil Gaughan at the NHWA AGM in Canberra

About Us

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) is the peak body of Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand.

NHWA supports and works to enhance the safety and security of communities through the sharing of ideas, information, and resources, and through the development and delivery of community programs that encourage participation in crime prevention for building safe, confident, and resilient communities.

NHWA works to empower communities to prevent crime at a grassroots level through education, initiatives and programs developed and delivered through partnerships with local, state, federal, and international entities and experts.

In 2003 the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia torch was lit in response to the need for a 'National Secretariat as a collaborative body that assists with the sharing of information between the various programs on issues such as information technology, facilitating national sponsorship and uniform marketing strategies.'

By 2006, at the Neighbourhood Watch Conference held in Adelaide, delegates representing all Australian states, territories, and New Zealand, voted to adopt a draft constitution in agreement that Neighbourhood Watch Australasia would become an Incorporated Association 'as a central information gathering and dissemination point' for Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support groups across the Australasian region.

In the two decades since, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia has carried the torch forward, growing from an incorporated association to a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity, regulated by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

In 2023 NHWA serves the community in a way that in 2003 was only just beginning to be envisioned as being the future potential of a peak Australasian Neighbourhood Watch body.

The emerging vision was 'to use the existing Neighbourhood Watch structure as a vehicle to further build partnerships with police and the community, increase the quality and quantity of police citizen contact (and thus legitimacy) and at the same time build community capacity [and] help to strengthen communities and lead to benefits that will only be apparent in the longer term.'

A peak body that would have:

- › 'the capacity to enhance the relationship between police and the community
- › the ability to improve feelings of safety and security
- › the ability to expand community involvement in wider safety and crime prevention initiatives
- › and the capacity to form partnerships with police, other agencies, and the community.'

In 2023 NHWA proudly delivers on this potential as the peak body for Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand as a matter of course for business as usual, while continuing to adapt to meet and respond to the ever-evolving needs of ensuring community safety and security.

Quotes sourced from:

'Working together': Neighbourhood Watch, reassurance policing and the potential of partnerships. Trends & issues in crime and criminal justice no. 303. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology. Australian National University, <https://www.aic.gov.au/publications/tandi/tandi303>.



NHWA Board members meet with Assistant Minister Andrew Leigh. NHWA EA/Project Manager Lizzie McGrory, NHWA Chair Bernie Durkin (WA), NHWA CEO Maria Bennett, NHWA Board Director Peter Edwards (TAS), Assistant Minister Andrew Leigh MP, NHWA Company Secretary Margaret Pearson, NHWA Board Director Clare McGrath (ACT), NHWA Board Director Brent Register (NZ) at Parliament House, Canberra, ACT

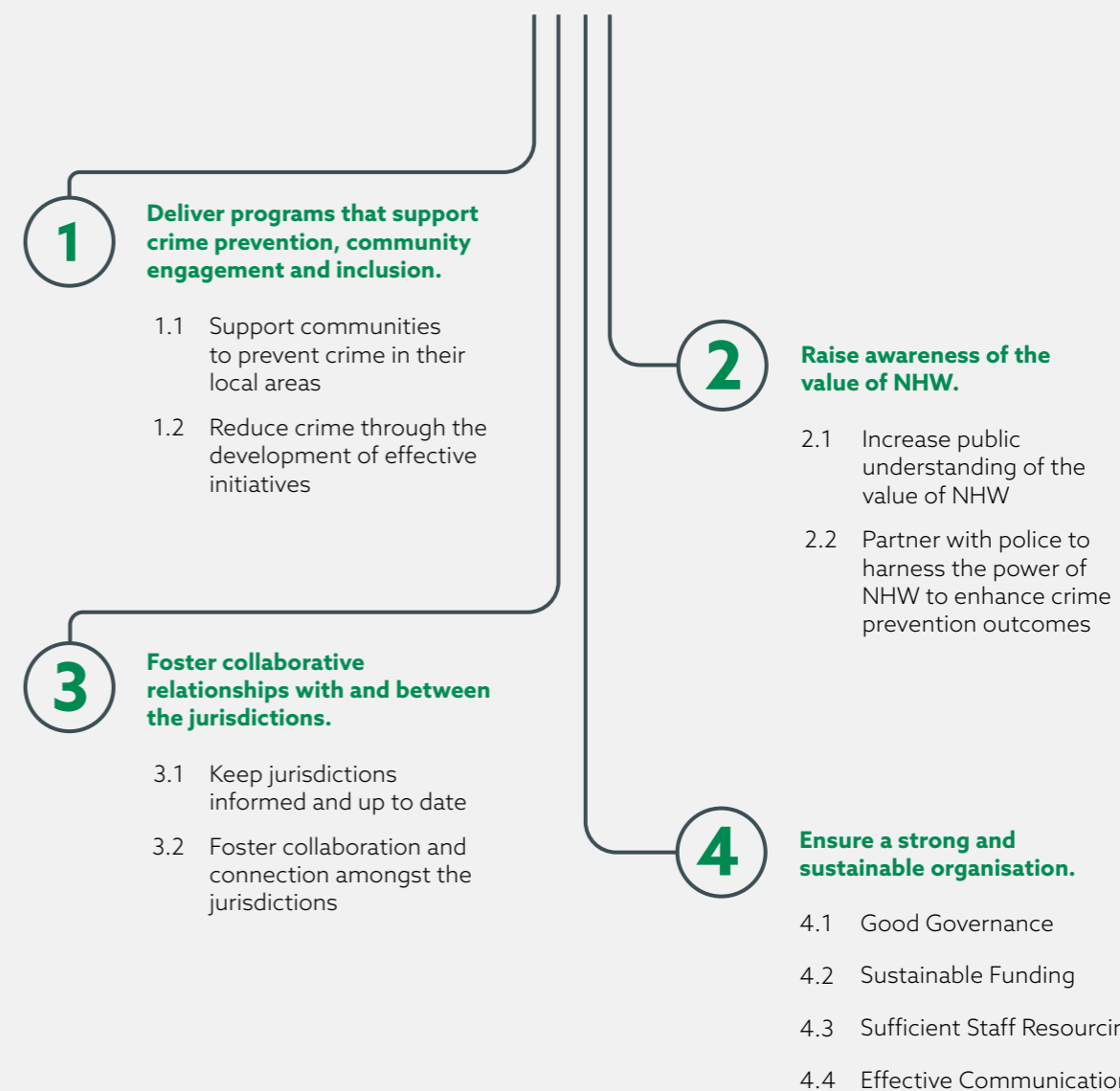




ACT Vice President (North) Clare McGrath, President Laurie Blackall, and Vice President (South) Albert Orszaczky at the 'African Party in the Park' celebration in Canberra, ACT



Objectives



Our Strategic Plan

2022-2024



Our Vision

Empowering communities to prevent crime.



Our Mission

Safe and resilient communities across Australasia.



Highlights of the Year

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's (NHWAs) highlights demonstrate performance against our strategic lines of effort to build sustainable community-led initiatives, in alignment with the pivotal focus and goals of our Strategic Plan.

These lines of effort are aimed at crime prevention, community safety, and resilience, and contribute to the delivery of NHWA's core mission to empower communities to prevent crime.

Empowered communities are central to how NHWA delivers initiatives. Our Constitution embeds partnership and participation as core to our approach.

“The community are our eyes and ears. It is in everyone's interests to keep their communities safe, we especially owe this to our children and older Australians”

Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM
Australian Federal Police



SAFE - Safer Australia For Everyone!

Delivery of SAFE, NHWA's key community program across 2022-2023, developed in collaboration with The University of Queensland.

Aims
to reduce the risk of household break and enters

Promotes
home security awareness and engages active participation in target hardening initiatives

Demonstrates
NHWAs work in crime prevention, community engagement and inclusion, and in supporting communities to prevent crime in their local areas



Target Hardening Program (THP)

Tier 2 of the SAFE Program, the THP provides the opportunity for householders to enhance security in their homes.

Offers
eligible households security improvements and strategies to target harden homes against the risk of repeat break and enter crimes

Educates
the community about the benefits of neighbourhood cocooning and connections

Empowers
homeowners to take proactive steps to improve their home security



Get Online Week

During 17-23 October 2022 NHWA assisted NHW and community organisations to access funding and host a Good Things Foundation Get Online Week (GOLW) event. The annual GOLW events aim to improve digital skills in the community. In 2022 NHWA and NHW teams participated in delivering – and enjoying – 26 GOLW events nationwide!

Develops
digital skills, abilities, and utility for all

Facilitates
community engagement, connection, and inclusivity in accessible public spaces

Connects
NHWAs with NHW communities and members at local levels



National Secure Your Home Day

The inaugural National Secure Your Home Day (Tier 3 SAFE Program), created in collaboration with UQ, will be held in 2023, encouraging Australians to dedicate one day a year to take the time to assess and enhance their home security.

Engages
community to proactively assess and implement home security measures

Evaluates
participants' security improvements and perceptions to tailor future crime prevention projects and responses

Builds
confidence in public understanding of the value of NHW in communities



NHW Connect

Launched in 2023, NHW Connect offers a new way for communities across Australia and New Zealand to connect with their local groups.

Fosters
strong bonds between communities and local NHW and NSNZ groups

Contributes
a new way for communities across Australia and New Zealand to connect with their local groups using an interactive map and search function

Creates
clear pathways of connection amongst the jurisdictions and the community



Community Grants & News

NHWAs regularly updates Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Neighbourhood Support (NSNZ) groups and members via Electronic Direct Mailouts (EDMs), informing of local upcoming community grant opportunities.

Communicates
key information to NHW and NSNZ members, volunteers, and jurisdictions to keep them up to date on funding opportunities

Supports
community access and attainment of funding for community projects and initiatives

Establishes
conduits for effective communications and connections between NHWA and our community



Annual Events Calendar

2022-2023

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's (NHWA's) annual events calendar highlights special projects and initiatives that are undertaken throughout the year, including safety and security-focused campaigns, information sharing through publications and resources, community training and support, recognition awards, and supporting key partner initiatives.

NHWA's commitment to fostering connected, safer communities is demonstrated through its many and varied programs and initiatives, which continue to evolve and grow each year.

View the NHWA Events Calendar here: www.nhwa.com.au/calendar

AUGUST

2022

NHWA Journal (August Edition)

- › 3 editions published each year
- › Distributed across Australia and New Zealand
- › Packed with great information on programs, initiatives and the work of community groups



Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Campaign

AUG - DEC

- › 4-month social media campaign
- › Highlighting the facts around vehicle theft and ways to protect your vehicle and valuables
- › Received a fantastic response and engagement from the online audience



SEPTEMBER

2022

Secure September

1-30 SEP

- › NHWA and Crimesafe joint initiative
- › Month-long campaign promoting home security
- › Free, online Secure Score tool to help assess your home security



Digital Mentor Training

SEP 22 - JUN 23

- › Free, digital skills training program delivered by NHWA
- › Enabling trainees to go out into their communities and assist older Australians get online and stay connected
- › 100+ Digital Mentors certified in 2022-2023, and 400+ mentors Australia-wide since the program's inception



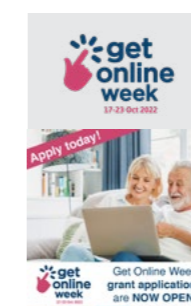
OCTOBER

2022

Get Online Week (GOLW)

17-23 OCT

- › International digital inclusion campaign by Good Things Foundation
- › Week-long annual celebration sees thousands of events take place each year
- › NHWA assists NHW groups with GOLW grants to hold GOLW events



NHWA 2022 Volunteer of the Year and Police Commissioner's Awards

- › Annual NHWA awards initiative
- › Recognising the hardworking individuals who make up Neighbourhood Watch (Australia) and Neighbourhood Support (New Zealand)
- › Nominees include Volunteer community members and Police employees



NOVEMBER

2022

Neighbourhood Watch Week

7-13 NOV

- › Week-long event showcasing Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) in Australia and Neighbourhood Support NZ groups and crime prevention initiatives to the community
- › Hundreds of NHW members and volunteers conduct events in their local communities



NHWA Journal (November Edition)

- › 3 editions published each year
- › Distributed across Australia and New Zealand
- › Packed with great information on programs, initiatives and the work of community groups

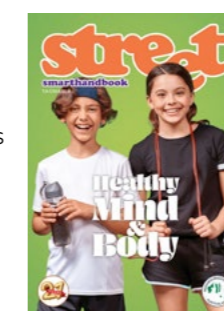


FEBRUARY

2023

Streetsmart Handbooks

- › A practical guide designed to help prepare today's youth for life after leaving school
- › Addresses contemporary topics and issues that are relevant to the lives of young people
- › Available in secondary schools and youth organisations across Australia and New Zealand



MARCH

2023

Neighbourhood Watch Month

1-31 MAR

- › Month-long campaign, from NHWA and Crimesafe
- › Encouraging homeowners to review and improve their home security - using the online Secure Score quiz
- › Promotes the benefits of joining a local Neighbourhood Watch group



APRIL

2023

NHWA Journal (April Edition)

- › 3 editions published each year
- › Distributed across Australia and New Zealand
- › Packed with great information on programs, initiatives and the work of community groups



Section 3

Major Projects

- 3.1 Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) 26
- 3.2 Keeping Kids Safe Online NHTA TV Commercials 28
- 3.3 Be Connected Digital Mentor Training 32
- 3.4 NHTA Connect 34

NHTA is committed to continuing to produce further campaigns and projects to work towards Keeping Kids Safe Online



Attendees celebrating the NHTA WA 40th Anniversary 1982-2022, in the Government House Ballroom, Perth, WA



Attendees at the Gold Coast NHTA Connection Day, QLD



Dr Renee Zahnow, Senior Research Fellow, Criminology, The University of Queensland, and Corey Allen APM, Chief Inspector, Queensland Police Service, filming a Home Security Checklist video for National Secure Your Home Day 2023

“As we all return to normal daily activities post COVID-19, it is vital that we encourage the community to review their home security. The Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) program provides strategies to empower individuals to take steps towards reducing their risk of victimisation and reducing crime in their community”
 Dr Renee Zahnow



Dr Renee Zahnow

Senior Research Fellow
 Criminology ARC DECRA
 School of Social Science
 The University of Queensland

Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) program

The Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) program, led by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) in collaboration with The University of Queensland (UQ), aims to enhance home safety and security across Australia. Implemented in response to a rise in break-and-enter incidents, the SAFE program is a federal government funded initiative consisting of three tiers, aimed at empowering householders to bolster their home security.

In the 2022-2023 financial year, NHWA concentrated on advancing the SAFE program, building upon the foundation laid in the previous year. The program's primary objective is to reduce break-ins by promoting home security awareness and encouraging participation in its initiatives. Driven by the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), the program incorporates strategies like target hardening and cocooning to enhance security in built environments.

NHWA has partnered with Dr. Renee Zahnow, Senior Research Fellow, School of Social Science,

Criminology, The University of Queensland, to develop and distribute SAFE program CPTED strategies and resources within the community. Dr. Zahnow is also conducting post-evaluation and reporting on the SAFE program, which will be used to inform and direct future home and community safety initiatives.

Dr Renee Zahnow said, "As we all return to normal daily activities post COVID-19, it is vital that we encourage the community to review their home security. The Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) program provides strategies to empower individuals to take steps towards reducing their risk of victimisation and reducing crime in their community."

NHWA envisions a Safer Australia For Everyone, where every citizen feels secure in their home. By raising awareness, providing resources, and engaging communities, the SAFE program strives to curtail break-ins and enhance overall security nationwide. Through collaborative efforts and the integration of CPTED principles, the program aspires to create lasting positive impacts on home security and feelings of safety.



TIER 1

CPTED Training

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) volunteers and local community members in Canberra (ACT), Toowoomba (QLD), and Belmont (WA) are receiving training in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) practices. The CPTED program involves guidance on target hardening for both homes and communities, as well as cocooning. The partnership with UQ ensures the evidence-based development of home security assessment checklists, resources, and surveys, gathering valuable data for future security initiatives.

TIER 2

Target Hardening Program

Scheduled for launch in July 2023, NHWA's Target Hardening Program will enhance security in eligible homes. Up to 500 homes in the three selected locations will be offered improvements valued at up to \$500, encompassing measures like locks, sensor lights, security screens, and CCTV cameras. The program empowers homeowners who have been a victim of crime to take proactive steps to improve home security.

TIER 3

National Secure Your Home Day

NHWA's inaugural National Secure Your Home Day, set for 23-24 September 2023, encourages Australians to assess and enhance their home security. Participants receive a free National Secure Your Home Day Kit, featuring a downloadable Home Security Checklist, created in collaboration with UQ, and advice on proactive home security measures. Registered households can also engage in activities, including a children's colouring competition, and gain insights into local community events. A dedicated website www.secureyourhomeday.com.au serves as a hub for the event.



Keeping Kids Safe Online

NHWA TV Commercials

Campaign to protect children from online sexual exploitation

In April 2023 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) launched the newest in its series of television commercial Community Service Announcements (CSAs), Keeping Kids Safe Online.

Developed in collaboration with the Australian Federal Police (AFP) led Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE), NHWA's Keeping Kids Safe Online CSAs inform children, parents, and carers how to recognise, respond to, and report online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

The three CSAs, funded by the Westpac Group 'Safer Children, Safer Communities' Grant, have been produced in direct response to the need for there to be open communication and dialogue about online child sexual exploitation and abuse, and to empower the community to better protect children and young people.

Reports of online child exploitation to the ACCCE have more than doubled across each of the four years of the law enforcement agencies' operation since 2018. Market research commissioned by the ACCCE into online child sexual exploitation in Australia* included the following key findings:

*Australian Centre To Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) ONLINE CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION: UNDERSTANDING COMMUNITY AWARENESS, PERCEPTIONS, ATTITUDES AND PREVENTATIVE BEHAVIOURS - Research Report FEBRUARY 2020

www.acce.gov.au/resources/research-and-statistics/understanding-community-research



4 out of 5

children aged four are using the internet



30%

of these children have their own device.



21%

(of participants) think there is a likelihood that online child sexual exploitation can happen to their child.



21%

felt online child exploitation is too repulsive and sickening to think about.



23%

of parents and carers sit with their children while they use the internet.



51%

did not know what they could do to keep children safe from online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

In 2021 the Australian Childhood Foundation national community attitude tracking study¹ reported:



1 in 3

Australians will not believe children if they disclose that they are being abused



1 in 5

lack the confidence to know what to do if they suspect that a child is being abused



1 in 5

Australians are not confident of being able to recognise that a child is being abused

¹Tucci, J. and Mitchell, J. (August 2021). Still unseen and ignored: Tracking Community Knowledge and Attitudes about Child Abuse and Child Protection in Australia. Australian Childhood Foundation, Melbourne.

www.childhood.org.au/app/uploads/2021/08/Still-unseen-and-ignored-report-FINAL-REPORT-17aug21.pdf

Keeping Kids Safe Online



Keeping Kids Safe Online, featured on the ACCCE billboard, Brisbane, QLD



Keeping Kids Safe Online

NHWA TV Commercials

(Continued)

I have seen firsthand the hard work and dedication that NHWA put into their community, and the vital contribution they make to improving community safety

Hon Mark Ryan, MP

Minister for Police and Corrective Services
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services

The Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Keeping Kids Safe Online Community Service Announcements focus on three key messages:

1. It Can Happen To Anyone

Raising awareness of the extent of the problem.



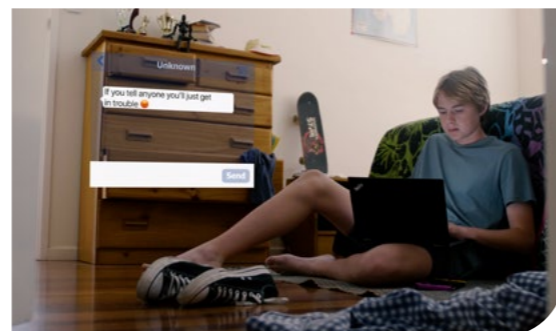
2. Red Flags

Recognising the signs of online predators.



3. Speak Up

Supporting children and adults to speak up and know how to report.



NHWA Project Manager Melissa Roberts, NHWA CEO Maria Bennett with AFP Detective Superintendent Jayne Crossling, at the launch of the Keeping Kids Safe Online campaign

The TV commercial Community Service Announcements (CSAs) have been well-received by the Australian broadcasting sector and are being aired during primetime across Australia on Paramount Network 10, WIN TV, GOOD TV, and on C31 (a Melbourne community television station). Feedback from members of the community who have viewed the CSAs, both in cities and regions, has been resoundingly positive.

NHWA's Keeping Kids Safe Online project has been endorsed by the Hon Mark Ryan MP, Queensland Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services, who wrote in support of NHWA's application for further funding to produce additional Child Online Safety CSAs: "I have seen firsthand the hard work and dedication that NHWA put into their community, and the vital contribution they make to improving community safety. Funding towards the production of community service announcements would allow the team to continue to educate about how to recognise, respond to and report online sexual exploitation. NHWA's partnership with the ACCCE on this issue is an invaluable community resource."

At the April 2023 ARGOS Queensland Police Service Youth, Technology and Virtual Communities Conference, the Keeping Kids Safe Online CSAs were

screened during the ACCCE's Commander Helen Schneider's presentation, "The Power of Partnerships for Success" as an example of effective and valuable entity partnership outcomes.

NHWA is committed to continuing to produce further campaigns and projects to work towards Keeping Kids Safe Online, and recognises that the protection of children does not exist in isolation, but instead requires strong effective partnerships and community collaboration. By working closely with our partners and communities, NHWA aims to educate parents, carers, and children to know what to look out for, how to respond and discuss, and how to report, to protect children and young people against the increasing risk of online child sexual exploitation.

To view the three Keeping Kids Safe Online videos go to:

www.nhwa.com.au/resources/tvc-messages

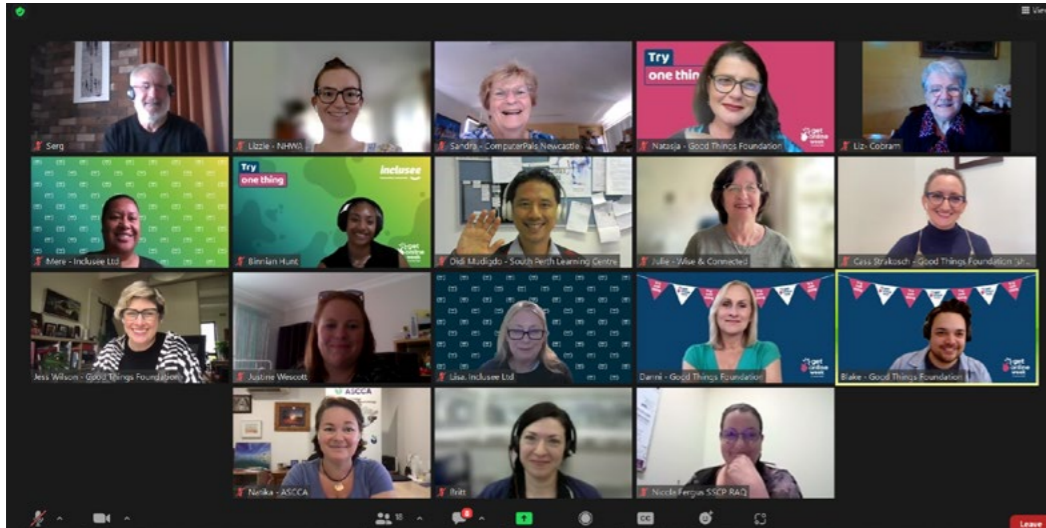
To report inappropriate behaviour towards children online, visit the ACCCE:

www.accce.gov.au/report

For assistance and support go to:

www.accce.gov.au/help-and-support/who-can-help





Capacity Building grant organisations including NHTWA at the Be Connected Online Network Partner Meetup in November 2022

Be Connected Digital Mentor Training

Building digital literacy skills, safety, and connections in communities

In testament to the power of collaborative partnership and initiatives, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHTWA) delivered a fourth round of Good Things Foundation's (GTF) Be Connected Capacity Building training during 2022-2023. This round of training resulted in over 100 additional Digital Mentors being certified by NHTWA in this year's cohort, ready to go out into their communities to empower otherwise excluded individuals with access to digital skills and pathways. This round of training brings NHTWA's tally of trained Digital Mentors to over 400 mentors Australia-wide!

Over the course of delivery of the 2022-2023 Capacity Building program, NHTWA held 13 Digital Mentor training sessions with an average of 8 participants per session. The participants included NHTWA volunteers, retirees, and students, however, the majority of attendees (64%) were aged between 30 and 59 years of age, all looking to volunteer their time to help others improve their digital skills.

An unanticipated outcome of COVID-19 was the rapid integration of local communities accessing national and global communities via digital pathways. NHTWA's online Digital Mentoring delivery model, established during the pandemic, continues to fill an evidently ongoing need in the community for convenient, flexible, online

training. NHTWA is well positioned to provide training courses to learners nationwide, in their familiar, safe, and accessible environments. NHTWA delivers the Digital Mentor programs remotely into local settings, across urban, suburban, diaspora, and regional communities, with the online model being accessible for people and communities who may otherwise be excluded.

The diverse cohort of NHTWA's Digital Mentors represent various countries of birth, with over 21 languages spoken. NHTWA's Capacity Building model enables individuals to become qualified Digital Mentors, to deliver high-quality digital support services within both their immediate and online communities.

Neighbourhood Watch members across all states have also increased participation in NHTWA's Digital Skills program, with these participants often increasing their abilities to enhance the delivery of other digital skill improvement programs, including Get Online Week.

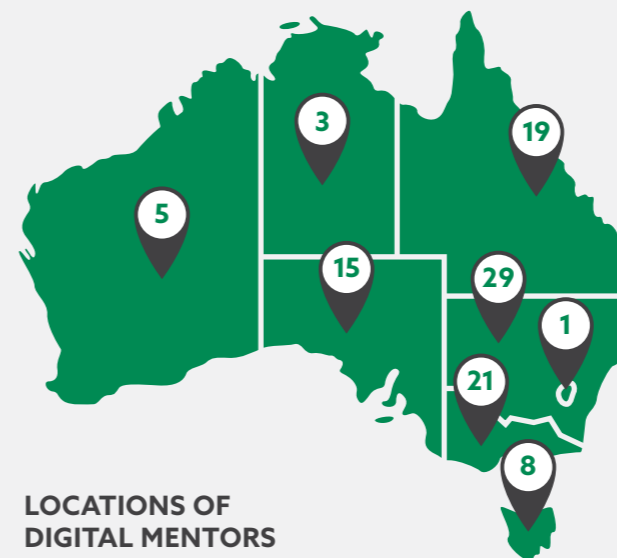
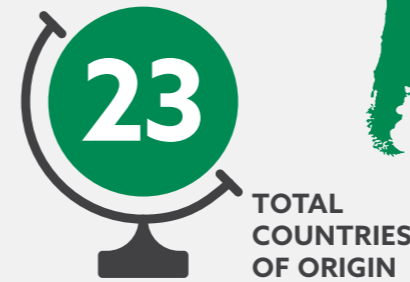
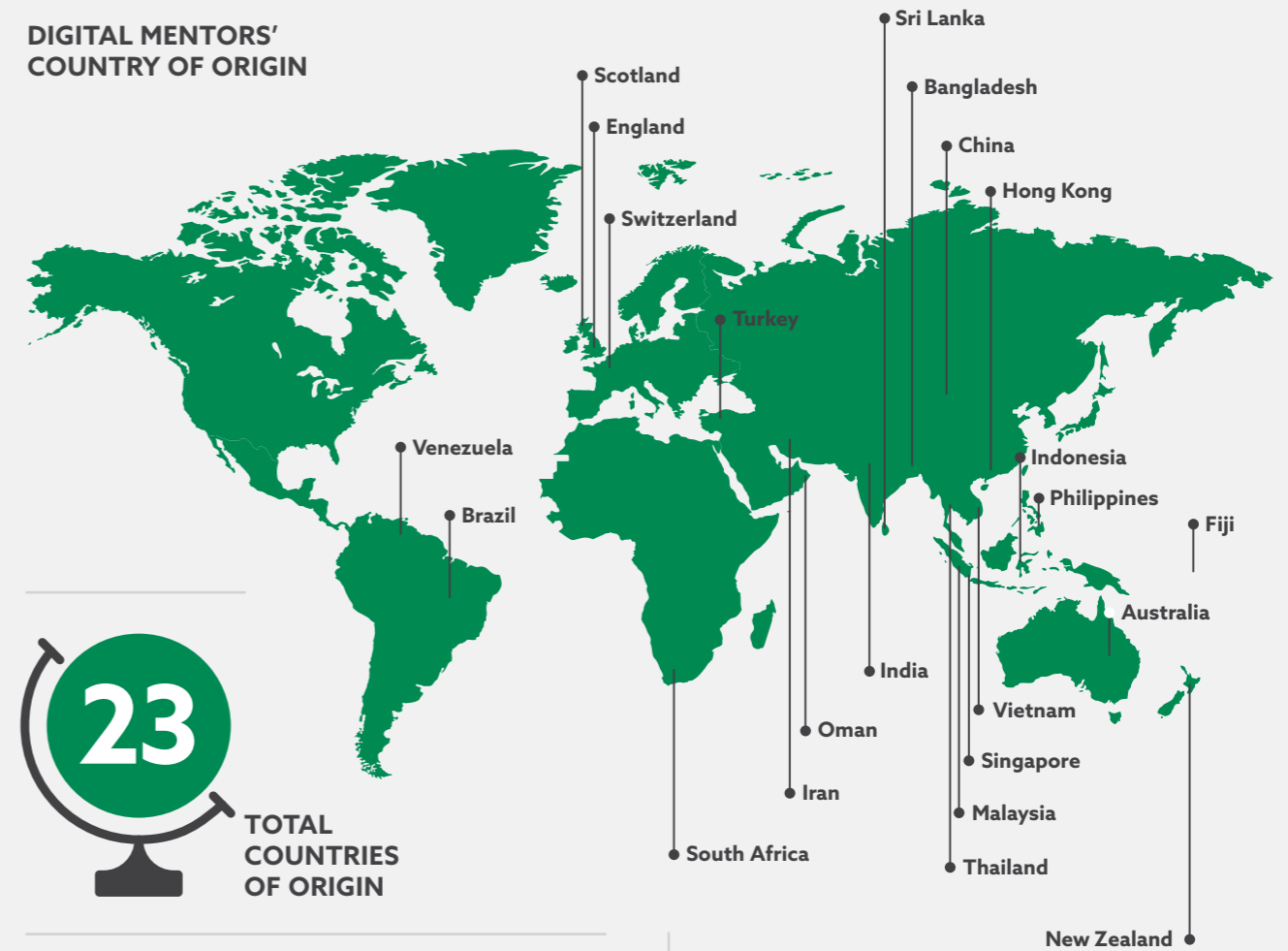
Over the course of the four years of delivering the Digital Mentor training, NHTWA has built up a valuable store of resources, assets, personnel, partnerships, and networking facilitation pathways that are central to delivery of the current program, and will remain available for the delivery of future programs.

These resources include:

- › Digital Mentor website page
- › Digital Mentor social media
- › Digital Mentor Connect Facebook page

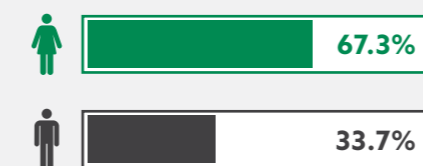
NHTWA places great value in supporting older Australians to improve their skills and confidence in using digital technology, and in working with community partners towards the common goal of increasing safe digital inclusion for everyone.

DIGITAL MENTORS' COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



LOCATIONS OF DIGITAL MENTORS

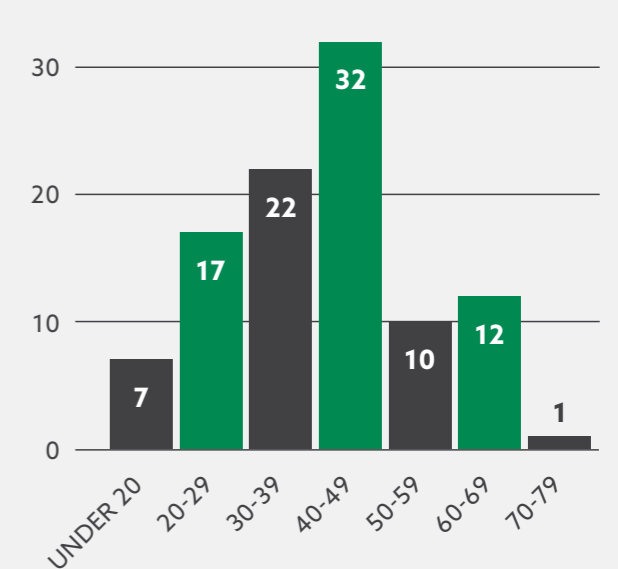
GENDER OF DIGITAL MENTORS



LANGUAGES OF DIGITAL MENTORS



AGE AND NUMBER OF DIGITAL MENTORS





NHW Connect

Connecting our communities

In an era where community connection is more important than ever, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) proudly presents NHW Connect – an innovative platform aimed at fostering strong bonds between communities and their local Neighbourhood Watch (AU) and Neighbourhood Support (NZ) groups.

Launched in 2023, NHW Connect is a new way for communities across Australia and New Zealand to connect with their local groups.

The NHW Connect website enables visitors to browse, search and connect with groups – using an interactive map and search function.

The interactive map uses Google Geocoding API to indicate the approximate location where each group operates (using address details supplied, which are converted into latitude and longitude coordinates). Contact details for each group are also shown (as available), making it easier than ever for people to find a local Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) or Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ) group to Connect with!

As well as finding nearby existing groups and connecting with group coordinators, visitors can also get in touch with their local jurisdiction’s head office about starting a new group.

Individual NHW and NSNZ groups are invited to contact NHWA to be added to the NHW Connect website. Check out the NHW Connect site at www.nhwconnect.com.au

Section 4

Ongoing Initiatives

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4.3	Secure Score	38

Secure September 2022 highlighted the simple yet effective ways in which home security can be improved, and how undertaking security checks can easily be combined with similar spring-cleaning tasks around the home – all with one goal in mind: to improve a home’s Secure Score



NHW members Braelynn French and Ian McLean at the NHW information booth at the Yerrabi Pond Easter Egg Hunt, ACT



Neighbourhood Watch Month

Safety in Numbers

In March 2023, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) and crime prevention partner Crimsafe came together for another successful Neighbourhood Watch Month campaign, to raise awareness of the benefits of joining a Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group for both individuals and the wider community, and to educate householders on ways to protect their home.

This year the theme of Neighbourhood Watch Month was 'Safety in Numbers', encouraging householders to connect with others in their community - including NHW groups - to build safer, more crime-resilient neighbourhoods. This is because we are safer together, and by collectively improving the security of each home in their local area the risk of crime is reduced.

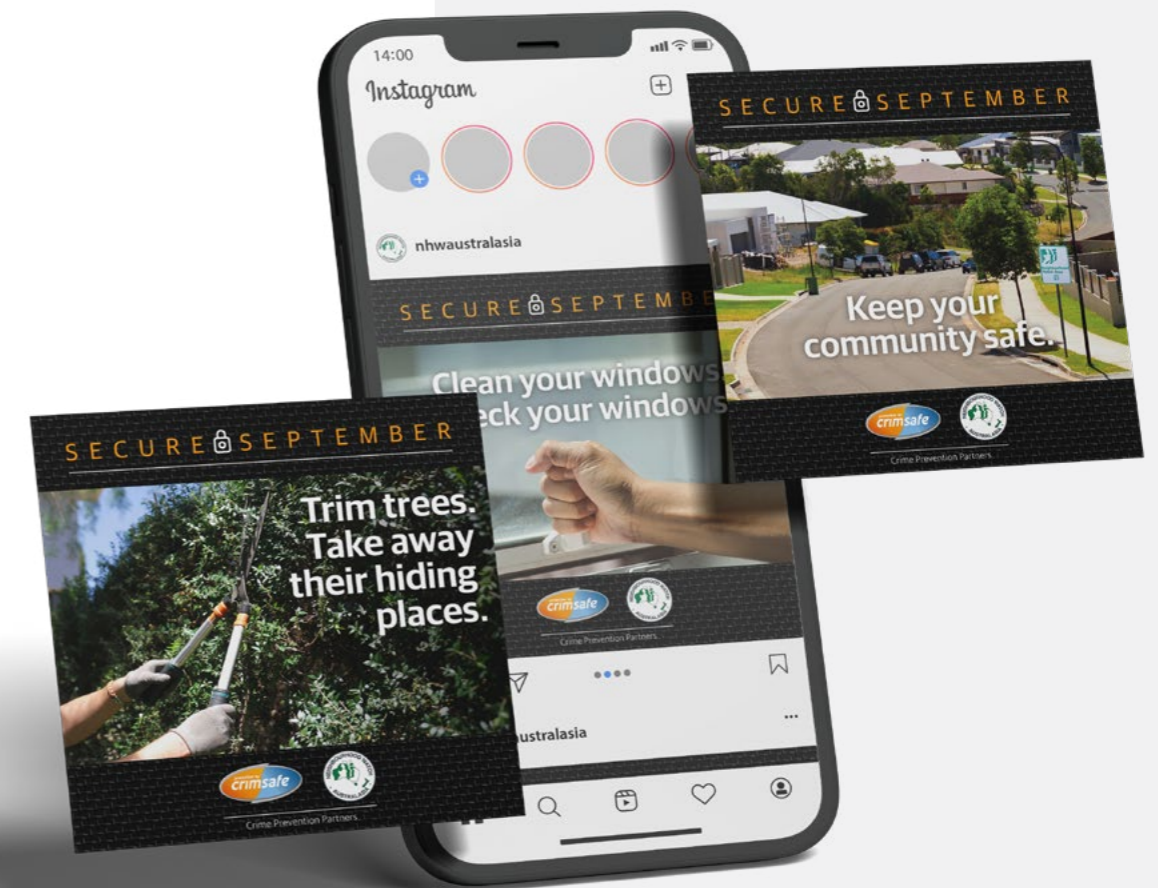
Householders were also shown there's 'Safety in Numbers' by improving their Secure Score - the higher a home's Secure Score, the better protected it is against break-ins, theft or property damage. Likewise, the higher the average Secure Score in a local community, the more resilient individual households are against crime.

Throughout the month of March, both Crimsafe and NHWA shared a tiered action plan across their websites and social media, listing home security improvements that a homeowner could make to increase their Secure Score by up to 66 points. While some security improvements are an investment, many required no cost – proof that improving home security doesn't have to be expensive. By boosting their Secure Score, residents improved not only their home security, but also enhanced community safety.

The tiered action plan included 'scored points' for preventative actions such as:

- +5 points** Moving your wheelie bins to a secure location, and not leaving them against the house for easy access to upper levels or windows
- +6 points** Lock your garden shed and garage
- +6 points** Install sensor lights around external doors and windows
- +4 points** Install visible alarms or CCTV cameras
- +8 points** Install security screens on your doors and windows

At its core, the 'Safety in Numbers' campaign is about people and neighbours coming together, to collectively work to create safer neighbourhoods, starting at their own front gate.



Secure September

Clean up crime campaign

Crime prevention partners Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) and Crimsafe joined forces once again for Secure September, a month-long national safety behavioural change campaign with a clear and simple message: 'Clean up Crime!'

The annual campaign encourages Australians to become more security conscious and make improvements to enhance their home security, while promoting a community-minded approach to crime prevention and the benefits of involvement with their local Neighbourhood Watch groups.

Now in its second year, Secure September 2022 highlighted the simple yet effective ways in which home security can be improved, and how undertaking security checks can easily be combined with similar spring-cleaning tasks around the home – all with one goal in mind: to improve a home's Secure Score.

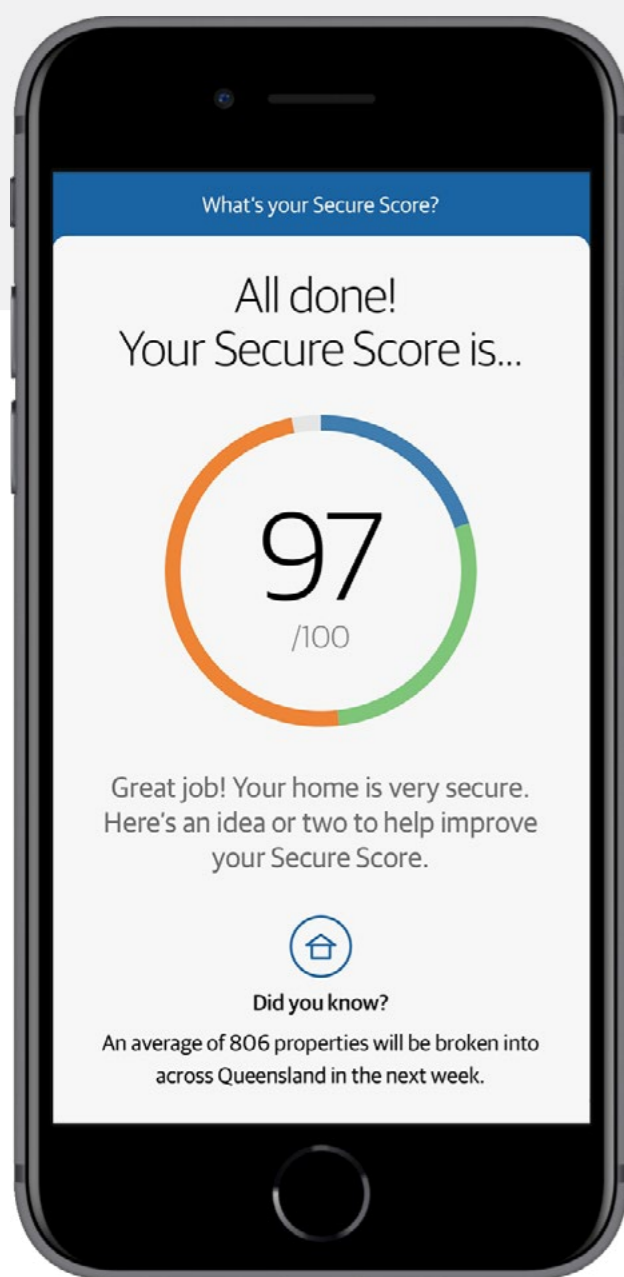
From cleaning and checking spotlights, to decluttering the office to prevent identity theft, each day of the month during Secure September offered a simple yet effective home security and spring-cleaning tip via Crimsafe and NHWA's social media channels. Messaging was also shared via radio ads – through Australian Radio Network (ARN) Media, one of Australia's leading Broadcast and On-demand audio companies with 58 stations nationwide in addition to digital entertainment platform, iHeartRadio, reaching over 6 million listeners – and across both NHWA and Crimsafe's websites.

Individuals were also encouraged to use Secure Score, a free home security audit tool (developed in 2021 by NHWA and Crimsafe) that rates the effectiveness of householders' overall home security, based on current home features and security set up, and to consider joining their local Neighbourhood Watch group. Together we can clean up crime!



Secure Score

Home Security Audit Tool



Secure Score – launched during Secure September 2021 – gives householders a free, accessible way to evaluate their home’s security, and practical, cost-effective tips and advice for improving security and making their home and community safer.

Developed by crime prevention partners Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) and Crimsafe, the Secure Score home security audit tool is an ongoing initiative that rates the effectiveness of Australian householders’ overall home security, based on current home features and security set up.

Households are prompted to answer a series of questions about their current home security measures, which are then analysed to provide a security score rating out of 100.

Based on their answers, householders are provided with a tailored action plan to help improve their Secure Score and the overall security of their home and property.

Insights from Secure Score data have highlighted some simple and effective actions homeowners can take to improve their home security. For example, adding a sensor light, trimming trees and shrubs near windows, and leaving shoes at the front door improves your Secure Score, and your home security.

With 151,200 victims of ‘unlawful entry with intent’ recorded in Australia in 2022, an increase of 9% (12,112 victims) from 2021, it’s more important than ever for householders to be aware, informed, and empowered to keep their homes safe.

The Secure Score tool provides an opportunity for Australian families to take control of their home security and help arm them with the knowledge they need to better protect their homes and neighbourhoods.

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

Australia’s average Secure Score is **56.**

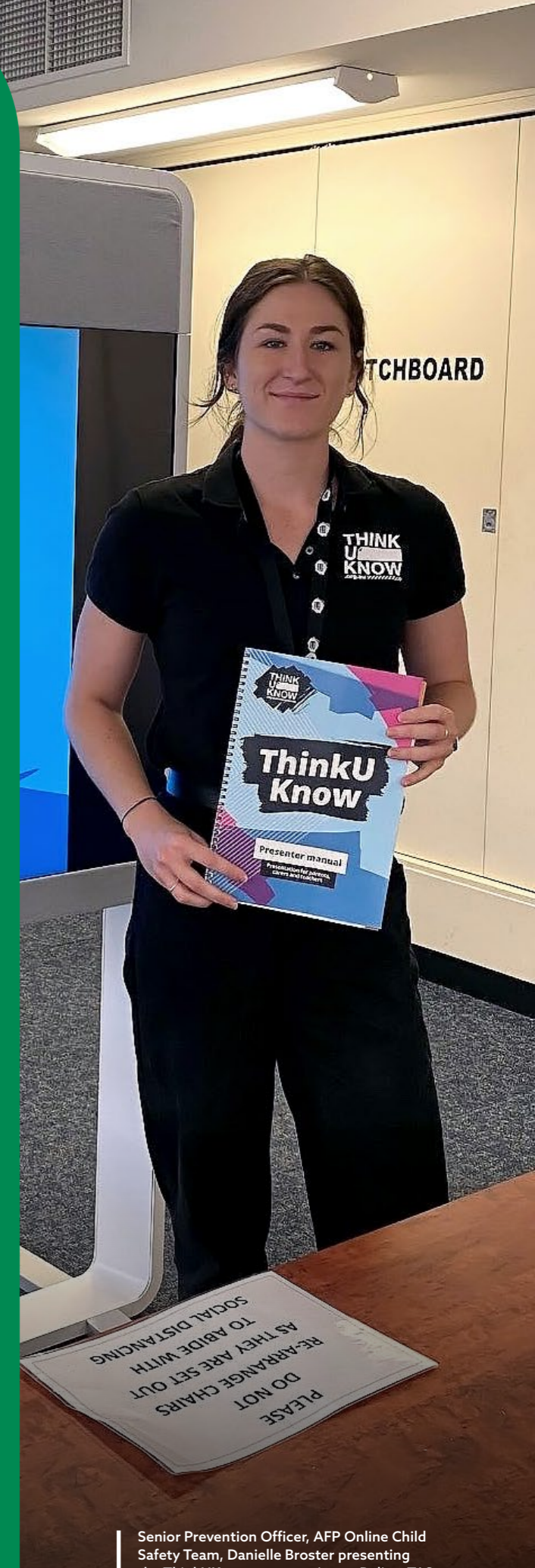


Section 5

Acknowledgements and Partnerships

- 5.1 Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) 40
- 5.2 ThinkUKnow 41

NHWA is committed to actively supporting the ACCCE as a key partner through the ACCCE’s five pillars to free children from exploitation: Prepare, Prevent, Protect, Pursue and Promote



Senior Prevention Officer, AFP Online Child Safety Team, Danielle Broster presenting the ThinkUKnow presentation to Police, TAS





Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation

Representatives from Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, Daniel Morcombe Foundation, Carly Ryan Foundation, Act for Kids, yourtown, Bravehearts, NAPCAN, ACCCE team, with Deputy Commissioner Lesa Gale and Attorney-General the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) has been a proud partner of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) led Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE), the ACCCE (pronounced ACE), since the agency's establishment in 2018.

The ACCCE provides a national capability not held by any single federal or state agency in Australia, delivered in response to the increasing number and severity of reports of child exploitation received by Australian law enforcement.

The ACCCE brings together a world-leading approach founded on a principle of partnership, incorporating key stakeholders and partners, and driving a collective effort to counter the epidemic of child exploitation.

NHW is committed to actively supporting the ACCCE as a key partner through the ACCCE's five pillars to free children from exploitation: Prepare, Prevent, Protect, Pursue and Promote.

During the 2022-2023 year NHW attended regular stakeholder meetings and roundtables with the ACCCE and other partners, including the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC AUSTRALIA).

In September 2022 NHW had the opportunity, along with fellow associate ACCCE partners,

including representatives from the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, yourtown, Bravehearts, NAPCAN, and Act for Kids, to attend an event hosted by Acting Deputy Commissioner Operations Lesa Gale, at which the Attorney-General, the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC, was invited to sign the new ACCCE vision board, committing to a world where children are free from exploitation.

In early 2023 NHW partnered with the ACCCE to produce a powerful series of three television commercial Community Service Announcements (CSAs), Keeping Kids Safe Online, to inform children, parents, and carers how to recognise, respond to, and report online child sexual exploitation and abuse. The Keeping Kids Safe Online CSAs have been well-received by the Australian broadcasting sector and are being aired during primetime across Australia on Paramount Network 10, WIN TV, GOOD TV, and on Melbourne's C31.

At the April 2023 ARGOS-Queensland Police Service Youth, Technology and Virtual Communities Conference, the Keeping Kids Safe Online CSAs were screened during ACCCE Commander Helen Schneider's presentation, "The Power of Partnerships for Success".

ThinkUKnow Program

ThinkUKnow was established in 2009 and is Australia's first and only nationally-delivered, law enforcement-led online child safety program, supporting the critical work of the Australian Federal Police's Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE).

A collaboration between ThinkUKnow, the ACCCE, the Commonwealth Bank, Microsoft, and Datacom, the program is delivered in partnership with all State and Territory Police and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW).

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

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

In-person ThinkUKnow parent, carer and teacher presentations and engagements can be booked through NHW for any organisation, community group, sporting club or other group, and are available year-round.

In November 2022, the ACCCE and ThinkUKnow held a stakeholder event to introduce a new children's picture book to help kids recognise the signs of online grooming. Written by Tess Rowley and illustrated by Shannon Horsfall, Jack Changes the Game, takes a child's perspective to online grooming, the challenges they face and why it's important to talk to a trusted adult if they encounter any problems online.



Jack Changes the Game is designed to be co-read by parents, carers and educators with children aged 5 to 8. It encourages important conversations about inappropriate contact, online grooming, why it's important to speak up, and where to get help and report.

To learn more visit:
www.thinkuknow.org.au

To access resources, including Jack Changes the Game, go to:
www.thinkuknow.org.au/resources-tab



Scan QR to view
Jack Changes
the Game



Section 6

Events, Publications and Awards

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NHW Chinese Group assisting members learn new online skills during Get Online Week 2022, WA

Get Online Week

17-23 October 2022

Facilitating Digital Inclusion 'Try One Thing'

In the ever-evolving landscape of digital technology, ensuring that everyone has access to the opportunities it brings is a pressing concern. Recognising this need, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) was once again a key Network Partner for Good Things Foundation's Get Online Week (GOLW), actively fostering digital inclusion and digital skill improvements through the annual national GOLW initiative.

Get Online Week has been held in Australia since 2018, with NHWA and NHW groups participating every year, contributing well over 100 events to date. In 2022 NHWA facilitated 26 Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups to access \$28,600 in GOLW

grants, and to participate in over a total of 1,000 GOLW events nationally, reaching more than an impressive 15,400 individuals.

The theme for this year's Get Online Week was 'Try One Thing', and NHW groups once again rose admirably to the GOLW occasion, holding both in-person and online community events to provide assistance and guidance in how to use digital devices and safely access online services. Increasingly, NHW members are taking up the baton to participate in NHWA's Digital Mentor training programs specifically to be better prepared and equipped to assist and mentor members of the community during Get Online Week.

NHW GOLW events included face-to-face and online events, with a range of morning and afternoon teas, door prizes and fun activities, seminars and conferences, and community engagement activities on offer. Interestingly, there was a noticeable emphasis on cyber safety and how to stay safe online included in the NHW GOLW events delivered during 2022.

The resounding message from the GOLW events is that digital inclusion is not just a matter of convenience, it is imperative for building a more equitable and connected society. Through collaboration, innovation, and a shared vision, we can all continue to bridge the digital divide between those with digital skills and those with no or low digital skills, and empower individuals to seize the countless opportunities that the digital world offers.

As NHWA looks to the future, the organisation remains committed to advancing digital inclusion and empowering individuals to confidently and safely embrace the digital age. Through ongoing efforts, NHWA endeavours to create a more digitally inclusive society, where all individuals can thrive safely in an ever-evolving virtual world and community.



Senior Constable 1st Class David Brown, Area Coordinator Barb Green, and Maurice Wegener from Murray Bridge NHW at Murray Bridge Bunnings for NHW Week, SA

Neighbourhood Watch Crime Prevention Week

7-13 November 2022

Strengthening Communities Against Crime

In a commendable display of community partnership and vigilance, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (Australia and New Zealand) joined forces for the fourth consecutive year with Bunnings to lead the charge against crime during the combined Neighbourhood Watch Crime Prevention Week, held in November 2022. This collaborative effort marked another milestone in the ongoing battle to create safer and more secure neighbourhoods across the region.

Neighbourhood Watch Week, a time-honoured tradition, proved its mettle yet again by presenting a week-long showcase of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Neighbourhood Support NZ (NSNZ) groups, alongside an array of impactful crime prevention initiatives. As community champions, hundreds of NHW and NSNZ members and dedicated volunteers orchestrated synchronised events, spanning the breadth of Australia and New Zealand.

The activities encompassed during NHW Week were as diverse as they were effective, embodying the essence of proactive community engagement. From sizzling BBQ fundraisers that not only brought the community together but

also generated resources to fuel future crime prevention endeavours, to ingenious measures such as one-way number plate theft prevention security screw installations. The latter, a seemingly small initiative, bore substantial impact by deterring car-related crime and bolstering residents' peace of mind.

Attendees were further enlightened through tool engraving and UV property marking sessions. These hands-on activities didn't just serve as crime deterrents, but also empowered residents with practical tools to safeguard their belongings. NHW Week wasn't solely focused on material possessions; it extended a helping hand by disseminating vital home security information and equipping individuals with the knowledge to fortify their homes against potential threats.

The core ethos of NHW Week is encapsulated by its commitment to spreading awareness about the benefits of being part of a local community NHW group. In an era when digital connection sometimes overshadows physical proximity, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's resolute stance on nurturing communal bonds remains a beacon of hope.

The combined NHW and Bunnings Crime Prevention Week 2022 stands as a shining testament to the power of collaboration, education, and community engagement.



Media

Media Campaigns

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) continues to broaden existing projects and develop new initiatives that promote community connection and improve safety for all.

Over the course of the year, NHWA has promoted these campaigns across multiple media outlets, including TV, radio, and social media. NHWA encourages everyone to read, engage and share this news and information among family, friends, and neighbours.

Together, we create safer communities.



Television

During NHW Week 2022, NHWA CEO Maria Bennett appeared on Studio 10 to talk about the simple measures we can all adopt to improve our home security, including proven target-hardening techniques and behavioural changes.

In early 2023, NHWA began its powerful campaign to protect children from online sexual exploitation, through a series of Community Services Announcements (CSAs) created in collaboration with the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE). The 'Keeping Kids Safe Online' TV commercials aired across several networks including Network 10, WIN Network, C31 Community Television Melbourne, and GOOD Pay TV. NHWA extends its gratitude to these networks for their generous time and effort in helping promote this important child safety messaging to the public and help protect them from harm.



Radio

Radio ads for NHWA's Secure September and NHW Month, in conjunction with crime prevention partner Crimsafe, were aired across the Australian Radio Network (ARN) network during their respective campaign dates in September 2022 and March 2023 – highlighting to millions of listeners the importance of keeping our homes and communities safe and secure.



Social Media

NHWA shared, via various social media channels, a 4-month Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention campaign, Secure September, Neighbourhood Watch Week, Holiday Crime Prevention Tips, Neighbourhood Watch Month, Keeping Kids Safe Online community service announcement TV series, NHWA Journal editions and partner campaigns and initiatives.



Billboards

To further highlight the 'Keeping Kids Safe Online' child online sexual exploitation campaign, NHWA created a series of signs to be displayed in rotation on the ACCCE's billboard, located in central Brisbane.



Streetsmart Handbooks

In recognition of the importance of the safety and well-being of Australasian youth, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) is proud to partner with Countrywide Austral to develop and deliver the Streetsmart Handbooks, a practical life guide for school-leavers.



Streetsmart Handbooks turned 21 in 2023 and celebrated this milestone with a fresh look and a renewed take on life. The new-look Streetsmart Handbook website, launched in July 2022, reflects the refreshed publications and the new responsive website design makes the eHandbooks accessible across all devices.

Since the first Streetsmart edition was published in 2002, Streetsmart Handbooks, supported by their partners, have been a valuable resource available in secondary schools and youth organisations in all Australian states and in New Zealand, assisting young people to navigate life in a post-school world.

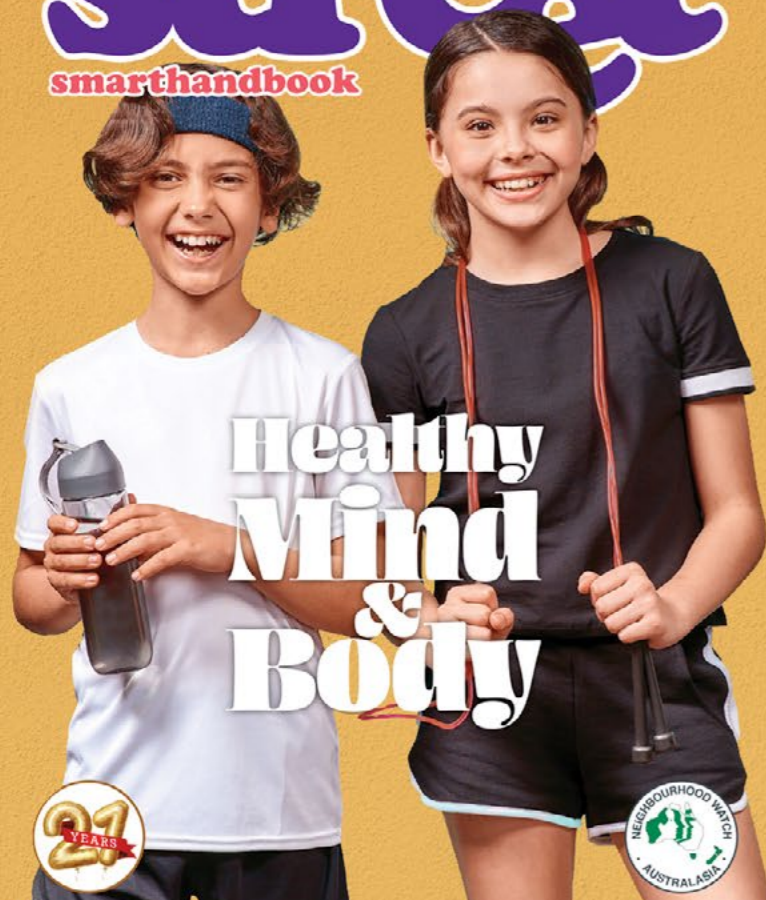
The Streetsmart Handbooks deliver accessible and comprehensive content and information that is tailored specifically to states and regions. The Streetsmart Handbooks go beyond traditional educational resources, addressing contemporary topics and issues that are relevant to the lives of young people, including subjects such as cyber bullying, depression, social behaviour in the community, the dangers of drugs and alcohol, healthy respect and safety, and much more. The Handbooks also provide teenagers and their families with details of places and organisations to contact in instances when they may need assistance or information.

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

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

street

smarthandbook



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Journals

Connecting Communities

In the dynamic landscape of community engagement and safety, the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) Journal fosters a sense of belonging and empowerment across Australia and New Zealand. As we reflect on the past year, the NHWA Journal has once again proven to be a cornerstone of our message to create safer and more connected neighbourhoods.

Published three times a year, the NHWA Journal serves as a comprehensive resource for volunteers, community members, and stakeholders. In partnership with Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ), they encapsulate a rich tapestry of events, news, initiatives, and opportunities at local, state, and national levels. These pages come alive with vibrant narratives that highlight recent and upcoming NHWA, NHW, and NSNZ activities, bringing our diverse communities together.

What truly sets the NHWA Journal apart is our commitment to inclusivity. The pages are a canvas for NHW and NSNZ communities to share their stories and experiences. These stories of dedication, resilience, and impact serve as a testament to the incredible individuals who power our organisations and shape the fabric of our neighbourhoods and communities.

In addition to community voices, the NHWA Journal forges connections with pivotal stakeholders. Updates from esteemed partners such as the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) and the eSafety Commissioner find a home within these pages, reinforcing the importance of collaboration in our shared pursuit of safety and well-being.

The NHWA Journal reach is far and wide, extending to NHW and NSNZ members, groups, and policing organisations. This wide reach, both in print and through extensive electronic distribution, ensures that valuable insights and information is accessible to all who seek to engage with their communities.

Each contribution, each story, and each update represents a step toward building safer and more resilient neighbourhoods. To access the NHWA Journal online go to:
www.nhwa.com.au/news-media/journal



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia 2022 Awards

The Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Awards are presented in honour and recognition of the committed and valuable individuals who are essential to the success and impact of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) in Australia and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ) communities and Police Services working together across the region.

In 2022, the 12th year of the Awards, the event held even more significance than previous years, with nominations including outstanding individuals drawn from 2020, 2021 and 2022, due to the Awards not having been held during COVID-19. In response, a runner-up was announced in each category.

The recipients of the 2022 Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year and the Police Commissioner's Awards are:

Gerri Kissner, Area Coordinator, Neighbourhood Watch Mackay Northern Beaches, Queensland – Recipient 2022 Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year Award

Sergeant Nigel Dalton, Queensland Police Service, Mackay District – Recipient 2022 Police Commissioner's Award

Annette Moon, Neighbourhood Watch Queensland, Mudgeeraba District – Runner-up 2022 Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year Award

Senior Constable Annabel Shegog, Tasmania Police, Northern Police District Launceston – Runner-up 2022 Police Commissioner's Award

Congratulations to the recipients, runners-up, and all nominees for the tremendous work they do within NHW and NSNZ, and for their dedication and countless hours of commitment – these are just four of the many incredible people within NHW and NSNZ communities!

Thank you to all the volunteers and members who truly make NHW and NSNZ great!



NHWA Awards presented by QPS Assistant Commissioner Kevin Guteridge and Julieanne Gilbert, Member for Mackay, Assistant Minister for Education, to Gerri Kissner NHW Mackay Coordinator and QPS Sergeant Nigel Dalton, Mackay, QLD



**Malcolm Grant
OAM Volunteer of
the Year Award**



**Police
Commissioner's
Award**



Section 7

People and Governance

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Lizzie McGrory, Melissa Roberts, Sarah Joy and Maria Bennett host the NHWA event for Get Online Week 2022

Board Directors

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia's (NHW) Board Directors are responsible for the strategic leadership and governance of NHWA in accordance with its Constitution and the 2022-2024 Strategic Plan.

The Board oversees the implementation of the Strategic Plan and endorses transparent evaluation through results-based monitoring and reporting to ensure the consistent demonstration of the delivery of effective community benefits from NHWA programs and initiatives.



Bernie Durkin

Chair
Western Australia

May 2010
Commenced Non-Executive role
Grad Dip Ldrshp Mgmt.,
MICDA.

Bernie Durkin is the Executive Manager for the Community Engagement Division of the WA Police. This role encompasses the position of WA State Director for NHW. Bernie joined WA Police as a sworn Police Officer, then moved to a Public Service role.

Bernie manages a team of crime prevention community engagement staff and is extensively involved with NHW at both a State and National level.

Special Responsibilities:
Chair - Nominations Committee

Member:
Finance, Audit and Risk Committee



Margaret Pearson

Company Secretary
Australian Capital Territory

Oct 2009
Commenced Non-Executive role
BCom, MICDA.

Margaret Pearson has made a significant contribution to the voluntary sector throughout her career by being involved with numerous community organisations, including ACT NHW, where she held multiple positions, recently retiring from the role of President.

Having lived overseas for some time, Margaret returned to Canberra with her family, where she continues to follow her great interest in local and international politics.

Special Responsibilities:
Chair - Finance, Audit and Risk Committee



Lesa Gale APM

Australian Federal Police

Jan 2021
Commenced Non-Executive role
Grad Cert Ldrshp Mgmt.,
MAICD.

Deputy Commissioner Lesa Gale's passion for combatting all forms of human exploitation and maintaining community safety has been admirably demonstrated throughout her 35-year career, notably in her role as head of the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE).

Lesa has significant leadership expertise across serious and organised crime and national security portfolios, leading the delivery of business outcomes across Australian Federal Police (AFP) Commands in Sydney, Canberra, and Brisbane.

Member:
Nominations Committee



Brent Register

New Zealand

May 2022
Commenced Non-Executive role
BA PR&TM, Post Grad Bus
Admin, Grad Cert App Mgmt.

Inspector Brent Register joined Police in 1998, with a career in operational policing, ranging from Sergeant in both Frontline and Road Policing, Prosecutions, to Sub Area Commander in a rural location to Area Commander Wairarapa.

In his current role Brent is responsible for the areas of Alcohol Harm Prevention, Mental Health, Community Policing, Community Inclusion and Crowded Places at a national level.

Member:
Nominations Committee

Directors of NHWA's Board are drawn from Neighbourhood Watch (NHW), Neighbourhood Support, and Australian and New Zealand Police organisations.



Robert Fleischer

Queensland

Dec 2022
Commenced Non-Executive role
Grad Cert App Mgmt., Grad
Cert Com.

Acting Superintendent Robert Fleischer joined the NSW Police in 1997, moving to the Queensland Police Service (QPS) in 2002. He has worked in various areas of Policing, including general duties, Drug Unit, Covert and Surveillance Operations Unit, State Intelligence Group, Security and Counter-Terrorism Command, and the Commissioner's Office.

Rob is currently at the QPS Communications, Culture and Engagement Division and manages several portfolios including Youth Programs, Community Engagement and Crime Prevention.



Peter Edwards BM APM

Tasmania

Nov 2017
Commenced Non-Executive role
BA(PolSt), MSocSc(PSM),
Grad Cert App Mgmt., MICDA.

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.

Peter has served as a Detective, Prosecutor, Intelligence Officer, and Head of Training. He is currently the President of NHW Tasmania.

Special Responsibilities:
Chair - Public Ancillary Fund Committee



Laurie Blackall

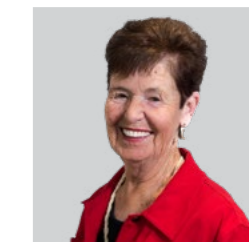
Australian Capital Territory

Jun 2023
Commenced Non-Executive role
BAppSc (Resour Environ
Mgmt.)

Laurie Blackall joined the Australian Public Service, specialising in geospatial intelligence analysis and intelligence capability development, after a 22-year career as an Officer in the Royal Australian Navy.

Laurie has extensive project and program management experience and was an Associate Member of the Australian Institute of Project Management. Laurie joined the Board of ACT NHW as Treasurer and is now the current President.

Outgoing Directors



Clare McGrath

Australian Capital Territory

Nov 2012
Commenced Non-Executive role

May 2023
Retired

Clare is currently the Vice-President and Board Member of the ACT NHW. Clare has been an active member of NHW since 1985, primarily in the Ainslie suburb of Canberra.

Member:
Finance, Audit and Risk Committee



Stephen Collins

Acting Superintendent
Queensland

May 2021
Commenced Non-Executive role

Nov 2022
Retired

A career police officer with extensive experience during 40 years with the QPS, Stephen's focus is on prevention strategies to address crime in communities.

Member:
Nominations Committee



Board Committees

The Board has established various committees comprising Directors and non-Director members with the relevant specialist expertise to focus on specific issues and make recommendations. Terms of Reference set out each Committee's remit. The CEO attends all Board Committee meetings by invitation.

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is responsible for ensuring the integrity of financial reporting. The Committee provides advice to the Board and assists NHTWA in fulfilling its responsibilities in respect of financial affairs, external audit functions, and control frameworks. Other key responsibilities include assisting the Board in relation to the approval, application, and amendment of policies.

Committee members: Margaret Pearson (Chair), Bernie Durkin, Clare McGrath (retired May 2023), Maria Bennett.

Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee oversees the selection and appointment practices of NHTWA, and the processes for evaluating the performance of the Board, the Board Committees, and the Chief Executive Officer. The Committee is responsible for the selection and recommendation to the Board of new members, reviewing the size and composition of the Board, and implementing succession plans to enable an appropriate balance of skills, diversity, experience, and expertise to be maintained.

Committee members: Bernie Durkin (Chair), Lesa Gale, Stephen Collins (retired Nov 2022), Brent Register, Maria Bennett.

Public Ancillary Fund Committee

The Public Ancillary Fund Committee monitors the administration and governance of the Public Ancillary Fund for donations received as a Deductible Gift Recipient per ITAA97 Section 30.

Committee members: Peter Edwards (Chair), Maria Bennett, Stephen Barnes.

Meetings of Board Directors

The number of Board Director meetings held in the period each Director held office during the financial year, and the number of meetings attended by each Director are:

Bernie Durkin

Meetings Attended	12
Meetings Eligible to Attend	12

Margaret Pearson

Meetings Attended	12
Meetings Eligible to Attend	12

Clare McGrath

Meetings Attended	11
Meetings Eligible to Attend	11

Peter Edwards

Meetings Attended	10
Meetings Eligible to Attend	12

Lesa Gale

Meetings Attended	4
Meetings Eligible to Attend	12

Stephen Collins

Meetings Attended	3
Meetings Eligible to Attend	4

Brent Register

Meetings Attended	9
Meetings Eligible to Attend	12

Robert Fleischer

Meetings Attended	2
Meetings Eligible to Attend	6

Laurie Blackall

Meetings Attended	1
Meetings Eligible to Attend	1

NHTWA Team

The Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHTWA) team is led by experienced CEO, Maria Bennett, who is supported by three outstanding part-time staff.

The NHTWA team have been working together during and post COVID-19 to deliver NHTWA's programs and initiatives adaptively and effectively during an era of extreme change and external pressures that impacted matters of personal and property safety and security in communities.

Each team member brings a complementary set of skills and strengths to the NHTWA table, contributing to the organisation's comprehensive outcomes, capability, and achievements.

“Thank You to my Team, Lizzie, Sarah, and Mel, for your incredible commitment to achieving NHTWA's objectives and outcomes once again this year”



Maria Bennett

Chief Executive Officer
Full Time

Grad Cert Mgmt.

Maria Bennett commenced as CEO in 2017, bringing an extensive portfolio of knowledge, management skills, and leadership experience across both the private and public sectors. Maria has worked with many prominent charities and not for profit organisations and has held significant corporate management roles, including positions in medical and health industries in Australia, New Zealand, and Asia.

Maria values and acknowledges the vital role Neighbourhood Watch in Australia and Neighbourhood Support NZ contribute to crime prevention and community safety Australasia-wide.



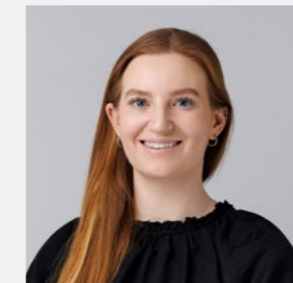
Melissa Roberts

Project Manager
Part Time

IOSH H&S Mgmt.

Melissa Roberts has over 20 years of project management and operations experience, having worked with architectural, media, marketing and event agencies in Australia and the UK, delivering a range of campaigns and special projects.

Melissa has overseen NHTWA projects including the 2021 NHTWA International Conference, production of Community Service Announcement TV commercials, including the 'Keeping Kids Safe Online' series, and planning National Secure Your Home Day.



Lizzie McGrory

Executive Assistant/Project Manager | Part Time

BAPsy., BAJus (Crim/Policing)

Lizzie McGrory has an interest in youth crime and national security and enjoys encouraging safer and more connected communities through her role at NHTWA.

Lizzie manages a range of NHTWA projects and initiatives, including the NHTWA Journal publication, and facilitation of Digital Mentor training, Get Online Week and the National Secure Your Home Day campaign. Lizzie is the first point of contact for local NHTWA groups reaching out to NHTWA, providing friendly assistance and access to resources.



Sarah Joy

Executive Assistant/Project Manager | Part Time

BA Scriptwriting, Dip Fam Hist, Ind Cert Prod Mgmt.

Sarah Joy has worked extensively across the community sector and in film and television, has an enduring interest in Australian colonial history, and volunteers across social and community impact initiatives.

Sarah provides editorial support for NHTWA, including writing and research for grant applications and acquittals, marketing copy, communications, articles, and reports, and provides administrative and accounts' support for the development and delivery of all NHTWA programs and activities.



Section 8

Finance

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South Canterbury NSNZ with their new wheels, being able to connect with more members of their community, NZ

2022-2023 Financial Report



Margaret Pearson
Company Secretary

“The Board’s appreciation is extended to the CEO, Maria Bennett, for her tireless efforts to ensure that the organisation is financially strong”

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) has maintained a strong financial position during the 2022-2023 financial year, with all projects delivered in line with budgeted costs.

2022-2023 is the second year of NHWA’s three-year Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) program. SAFE is funded by the Commonwealth Government through the Grants to Australian Organisations Program. The SAFE program delivers across three tiers: (i) training to build community capacity and resilience, (ii) target hardening support for victims of crime, and (iii) establishment of a national portal for community to easily access information to improve home security. See pages 26 and 27 for more information.

NHWA was again a successful grant recipient from Good Things Foundation programs, Get Online Week and Digital Capacity Building. These grants have enabled NHWA to assist 26 grassroots Neighbourhood Watch groups to provide digital upskilling in their local communities, and to train over 100 Digital Mentors to assist older Australians with digital technology. In addition, through NHWA’s partnership with Crimsafe, two further projects, Secure September and Neighbourhood Watch Month, were delivered during 2022-2023.

The end of COVID-19 as a global health emergency has allowed re-engagement in-person, which has been beneficial to the organisation and the community, however, this resumption is reflected financially in correlating increases in travel and administration expenditure. Employee and marketing costs also increased during 2022-2023, as budgeted for in the delivery of the SAFE projects, however, through careful financial management NHWA achieved a surplus for the 2022/2023 financial year of \$13,023.

Over the past several years NHWA has been consistently consolidating its balance sheet, which is now in a strong position. NHWA will be looking at securing further diversified funding arrangements from various sources over the next twelve months and beyond.

The Board’s appreciation is extended to the CEO, Maria Bennett, for her tireless efforts to ensure that the organisation is financially strong. To the CEO and all members of staff, our thanks for the outstanding contributions you have made to NHWA during the last financial year.

To our many supporters, thank you for your considerable interest in the work being undertaken by the organisation and we look forward to this continuing.

Margaret Pearson
Company Secretary
Chair – Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

Auditor’s Independence Declaration



To the Responsible People of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited

In relation to the audit of the financial statements of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2023, and in accordance with the requirements of Subdivision 60-C of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

1. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
2. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit; and
3. no non-audit services provided that contravene any applicable code of professional conduct

Queensland Audit Services
A Member of CPA Australia

Kent Gripske CPA
Partner - Audit

Dalby QLD, 5 September 2023

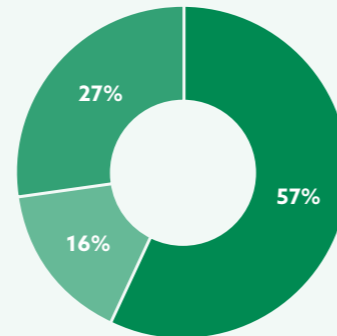


Income Statement

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

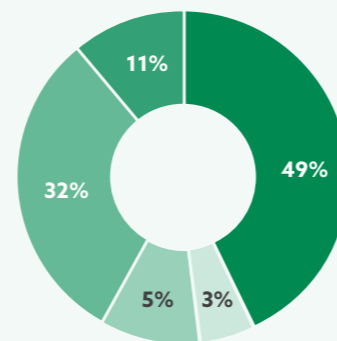
INCOME	NOTES	2023	2022
Revenue			
Government Grant		295,000	500,002
Grants - other		82,373	76,506
Other Income		142,614	139,447
Total Revenue		519,987	715,955
Total Income		519,987	715,955
EXPENSES			
Administration expenses		35,468	15,410
Board costs		3,797	8,250
Employee Costs		163,947	130,826
Grants and Sponsorship expenses		14,684	9,245
Marketing and Social Media		29,666	3,442
Program Delivery		213,111	160,650
Travel and meetings		15,836	1,564
NHW Grants Paid		25,735	8,364
Staff Training		2,322	-
Police Checks		2,398	4,346
Total Expenses		506,963	342,096
Profit/(Loss) before Taxation		13,023	373,859
Net Profit After Tax		13,023	13,023

REVENUE 2023 Total Revenue: \$519,987



- 57%** Total Government Grants
\$295,000
- 16%** Total Grants - Other
\$82,373
- 27%** Total Other Income
\$142,614

EXPENSES 2023 Total expenses: \$506,963



- 49%** Total Program Expenses
\$247,497
- 3%** Total Grants & Sponsorship Expenses
\$14,684
- 5%** Total NHW Grants Paid
\$25,735
- 32%** Total Employee Expenses
\$163,947
- 11%** Total Other Expenses
\$55,100

Balance Statement

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

ASSETS	NOTES	2023	2022
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts	2	601,994	598,562
Total Current Assets		601,994	598,562
Total Assets		601,994	598,562
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	3	469	688
Employee Liabilities	4	54,262	52,009
GST		8,122	19,748
Total Current Liabilities		62,853	72,445
Total Liabilities		62,853	72,445
Net Assets		539,141	526,117
EQUITY			
Current Liabilities		13,023	373,859
Retained Earnings		526,117	152,258
Total Liabilities		539,141	526,117



Notes to the Financial Statements

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The directors have prepared the financial statements on the basis that Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited is a non-reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. These financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the directors have determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous periods unless stated otherwise.

The accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the statements are as follows:

Trade and Other Receivables

Trade receivables and other receivables, including distributions receivable, are recognised at the nominal transaction value without taking into account the time value of money. If required a provision for doubtful debt has been created.

Financial Assets

Investments held are originally recognised at cost, which includes transaction costs. They are subsequently measured at fair value which is equivalent to their market bid price at the end of the reporting period. Movements in fair value are recognised through an equity reserve.

Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the company that remain unpaid at 30 June 2023. Trade payables are recognised at their transaction price. They are subject to normal credit terms and do not bear interest.

Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to 30 June 2023. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related costs.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation resulting from past events, for which it is probable that there will be an outflow of economic benefits and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions are measured using the best estimate available of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held on call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Revenue Recognition

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised upon the delivery of the services to customers.

Revenue from commissions is recognised upon delivery of services to customers.

Revenue from interest is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

Revenue from dividends is recognised when the entity has a right to receive the dividend.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Goods and Services Tax

Transactions are recognised net of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Leases

Finance leases are leases of fixed assets where substantially all of the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset are transferred to the entity, but the legal ownership is not transferred to the entity.

Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and a corresponding liability at the lower of the amounts equal to the fair value of the leased asset, or the minimum lease payments measured at present value including any residual values.

Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or the lease term.

Operating lease payments are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Lease incentives are deferred and amortised over the period of the lease.

Profits and losses on sale and leaseback transactions are recognised in the reporting period in which they occur.

Grants

Grant revenue is recognised in the income statement when the entity receives the grant, when it is probable that the entity will receive the economic benefits of the grant and the amount can be reliably measured.

If the grant has conditions attached which must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the grant, the recognition of the revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Where the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value back to the grant contributor, the transaction is considered a reciprocal transaction and the revenue is recognised as a liability in the balance sheet until the required service has been completed, otherwise the income is recognised on receipt.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for a nominal or zero

value. These assets are recognised at their fair value on the date of acquisition in the balance sheet, with an equivalent amount of income recognised in the income statement. Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Government Grants

Government grants received are recognised as revenue on a basis to match the recognition of revenue with costs incurred in the project. The design, development and trials extend over a two year period and revenue from the government grant has been recognised on a straight line basis over that period.

2. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2023	2022
Bank Accounts	601,994	598,562
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	601,994	598,562

3. Payables

	2023	2022
Current	469	688
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	469	688

4. Employee Liabilities

	2023	2022
Wages Payable - Payroll	(12)	51
PAYG Withholdings Payable	10,858	10,434
Superannuation Payable	6,130	5,041
Provision for Annual Leave	37,286	36,483
Total Employee Liabilities	54,262	52,009

5. Income Tax

As the company is a charitable institution in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.



Directors' Declaration

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

In the Directors' opinion:

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

- › comply with Australian Accounting Standards applicable to Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited; and
- › give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30th June 2023 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.


There are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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



Bernie Durkin
Director

5/9/2023



Margaret Pearson
Director

5/9/2023

Independent Auditor's Report



To the members of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited (the registered entity), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2023, the income statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

- i. In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the registered entity is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act), including:
- ii. giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and complying with the Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ACNC Act and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Other information

Other Information is financial and non-financial information in registered entity's annual reporting which is provided in addition to the Financial Statements and the Auditor's Report. The responsible people are responsible for the Other Information.

The Other Information we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report was the Board Report.

Our opinion on the Financial Statements does not cover the Other Information and, accordingly, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.





In connection with our audit of the Financial Statements, our responsibility is to read the Other Information. In doing so, we consider whether the Other Information is materially inconsistent with the Financial Statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We are required to report if we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this Other Information, and based on the work we have performed on the Other Information that we obtained prior to the date of this Auditor's Report we have nothing to report.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements has been prepared to assist the registered entity to meet the financial reporting requirements of the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Responsible People and those charged with governance for the Financial Statements

The responsible people are responsible for:

- i. Preparing the financial statements that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the ACNC Act.
- ii. Implementing necessary internal control to enable the preparation of the financial statements that gives a true and fair view that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- iii. Assessing the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern and whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate. This includes disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible people either intend to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements

Our objective is:

- i. to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- ii. to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. They are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial statements.



As part of our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- i. Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis of our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusions, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ii. Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design and audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- iii. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the responsible people.
- iv. Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible people's use of going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, modify our audit opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- v. Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Queensland Audit Services

A Member of CPA Australia

Kent Gripske CPA
Partner - Audit

Dalby QLD, 5 September 2023





NHW Week volunteers in Mornington sampling their cooking expertise at a Bunnings fundraising barbecue! TAS

Outlook for 2023-2024

In the 2023-2024 financial year, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) will continue to consolidate its pivotal position in the Australasian community crime prevention space, including establishing and strengthening partnerships between police, other agencies, stakeholders, and the community.

Throughout 2023-2024 NHWA will develop, progress, and deliver both commenced and new projects, while actively applying for further funding opportunities. Future projects include production of additional Community Service Announcements (CSAs), particularly for Keeping Kids Safe Online, and online cybersecurity projects.

Central to NHWA's outlook for 2023-2024 is the completion of the delivery of the SAFE (Safer Australia For Everyone) program. SAFE results and outcomes will be used to develop future property and personal crime prevention programs in response to data and community feedback received.

NHWA will continue to focus efforts on connecting our integral network of Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support communities in Australia and New Zealand, increasing community engagement as critical to delivering NHWA's mission: empowering communities to prevent crime.

“
Future projects include production of additional Community Service Announcements (CSAs), particularly for Keeping Kids Safe Online, and online cybersecurity projects.
Central to NHWA's outlook for 2023-2024 is the completion of the delivery of the SAFE (Safer Australia For Everyone) program
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Section 9

Grants and Community Projects

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“
NHWA is committed to ensuring that NHW groups are not disadvantaged due to being ineligible or unable to apply for or access funding for the purpose of making their communities safer, more resilient, welcoming, and well-resourced
 ”



NHW Melville celebrating Christmas at Bunnings, WA



Grants and Community Projects

As the peak body for Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) supports NHW groups to apply for and access vital grant funding for initiatives and projects to benefit their local communities. Assistance to access grant funding is facilitated through the provision of auspicing and administrative support by NHWA for NHW groups who do not have an Australian Business Number (ABN), a prerequisite for eligibility for receipt of grant funds.

NHWA is committed to ensuring that NHW groups are not disadvantaged due to being ineligible or unable to apply for or access funding for the purpose of making their communities safer, more resilient, welcoming, and well-resourced.

During the 2022-2023 financial year, NHWA assisted 29 NHW groups in sourcing over \$37,500 in grant funding for local community events, initiatives, and resources.



Summary of NHWA auspiced grants for NHW groups during 2022-2023:

1. NHW Australia – 26 NHW Groups in QLD, TAS and WA for a combined total of: \$28,600
2. NHW Riverview, QLD: \$5,500
3. NHW Golden Beach, QLD: \$1,930
4. NHW Daisy Hill, QLD: \$1,500



Howrah Gardens NHW group holding a Get Online Week event to practice using a range of digital devices, TAS

PROJECT	Get Online Week 2022	RECIPIENTS	26 NHW groups QLD, TAS, WA
STATUS	Completed	GRANT	\$28,600

In October 2022, a total of 26 NHW groups were successful in receiving NHWA auspiced grants to the value of \$1,100 each to host events and activities for Good Things Foundation's annual Get Online Week (GOLW). Events held included online morning and afternoon teas, sessions for instruction and practice of using digital devices, in-person presentations covering basic digital skills, sharing resources, and how to stay safe online. In 2022-2023 GOLW events were focussed on trying something new online, to improve participant digital confidence and cyber security awareness.



Riverview
Snr Const Lynda Whincup, Riverview NHW Area Coordinator Amanda Draheim, and Const Steve Ihle at the 2023 Muscle in Maculata, QLD

PROJECT	Muscle in Maculata
RECIPIENTS	Neighbourhood Watch Riverview, QLD
STATUS	In Progress
GRANT	\$5,500

Riverview NHW invited the community to the free Muscle in Maculata event, with rides, food trucks, entertainment, and many unique and rare cars on display. The event provided an opportunity for Riverview NHW to engage with locals within the community who might not otherwise reach out to NHW. The event also served to bring the community together in solidarity as a 'soft approach' to address problems of hooning and unsafe driving in the area.



Golden Beach NHW members, with their Certificates of Appreciation celebrating 30 years, QLD

PROJECT	30 Years of Golden Beach NHW
RECIPIENTS	Neighbourhood Watch Golden Beach, QLD
STATUS	Completed
GRANT	\$1,930

After postponing due to COVID-19, Golden Beach NHW held a free community event to celebrate their 30-year NHW anniversary! An invitation was extended to all to attend a local 'Community Family Fun Day,' with entertainment including live music and face painting. The event was an opportunity for participants to engage with police and community groups, and for the Golden Beach NHW volunteers to receive well-deserved recognition for their efforts!



Snr Const Mike McDonald, Daisy Hill NHW members Jill Devaus, Irene Walker, and Snr Sgt Neil Stacey, QLD

PROJECT	New barbeque and sound equipment
RECIPIENTS	Neighbourhood Watch Daisy Hill, QLD
STATUS	In Progress
GRANT	\$1,500

Daisy Hill NHW holds many community events throughout the year, including morning & afternoon teas, Halloween and Christmas events, Coffee with a Cop events and regular meetings. This grant provided a much-needed barbeque and sound equipment, as previously a NHW volunteer's personal barbeque was being used for events. The new equipment assists the group to reach and welcome more members of their community to local NHW events!



Section 10

Thank You

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



The Junior NHW Forensic Science Day at Our Lady's Primary School was a big hit with the students, VIC

Thank You

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

Volunteers and Members

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

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



Australian Government

Partner Organisations

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



Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Support and Police Jurisdictions

Sir Robert Peel is regarded as the father of modern policing, and this quote is as relevant today as it was nearly 200 years ago.

This philosophy epitomises the essential and intrinsic collaboration that exists between the community and police, as both parties work together to reduce crime and build safer communities.

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

“
The Police are the Public and the Public are the Police
 ”
 Sir Robert Peel, 1829



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



Glossary

2022-2024 Strategic Plan - A document outlining NHTWA's strategic objectives and activities for the specified period

ACCCE - Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation

ACF - Australian Childhood Foundation

ACNC - Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission

ACVPA - Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards

AFP - Australian Federal Police

AGM - Annual General Meeting

AGSM - Australian Graduate School of Management

AIC - Australian Institute of Criminology

AO - Order of Australia

APM - Australian Police Medal

ARGOS - Queensland Police Services's specialist child sexual abuse team, Taskforce Argos

Asst - Assistant

Be Connected - An Australian government initiative committed to building the confidence, digital skills and online safety of older Australians

Bear Marketing - A full-service digital marketing agency in Brisbane

BM - The Bravery Medal

Board Directors - The individuals responsible for the governance and strategic leadership of NHTWA

CALD - Culturally and linguistically diverse

CEO - Chief Executive Officer

Chair - The leader or head of the NHTWA Board of Directors

Child Online Safety - Refers to the practice of protecting children and adolescents from potential risks and harm that can occur while using the internet and digital technologies

Community Benefits - Positive impacts and advantages for the local communities served by NHTWA

Community Engagement - Involvement and interaction with the community to address issues and build relationships

Constitution - The fundamental principles or laws governing NHTWA's operations and structure

CoP - Commissioner of Police

Corporate Partners - Business entities that collaborate with NHTWA, including Crimsafe and Bunnings

COVID-19 - An infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus

CPTED - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

Crime Prevention - Activities and strategies designed to reduce and deter criminal behavior

Crimsafe - A company that supplies security solutions to protect homes and businesses in Australia and overseas

CSA - Community Service Announcement

CSE - Child sexual exploitation

CSPWG - Communications/Strategic Partnership Work Group

Cybersecurity - Protection of digital systems, data and people from unauthorised access or damage

DGR - Deductible Gift Recipient

Digital Inclusion - Efforts and projects aimed at ensuring equitable access to digital technologies and online resources for all members of the community

Directors - Individuals responsible for governing NHTWA, typically drawn from various organisations, including Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Support NZ, and Australian and New Zealand Police organisations

EDMs - Electronic Direct Mailouts

eSafety - Australia's independent regulator for online safety

FAR - Finance, Audit and Risk Committee - responsible for overseeing financial matters, audits, and risk management within NHTWA

FWG - Funding Working Group

GOLW - Get Online Week - An event promoting online engagement and education

Governance - The framework of rules and practices by which a board ensures accountability, fairness, and transparency in an organization's operations

GTF - Good Things Foundation

ICMEC - International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children

IDCARE - Australia and New Zealand's national identity & cyber support service

Indigenous studios - An award winning full service Indigenous design and digital creative agency based in Cairns

Jack Changes the Game - A children's picture book about staying safer online

Keeping Kids Safe Online TV Community Service Announcement Series - Television and social media messages aimed at promoting online safety for children

MGVA - Malcom Grant Volunteer Award

MICDA - Member Institute of Community Directors Australia

Mission - NHTWA's overarching goal of empowering communities to prevent crime

MVTPP - Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Project - a project focused on preventing theft of motor vehicles

NAPCAN - National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

NC - Nominations Committee

Neighbourhood Watch Crime Prevention Week - An annual community led safety and awareness program - working in partnership with police - held in November to build safer, more confident, and interconnected communities

Neighbourhood Watch Month - An annual event held in March to put the spotlight on adequate home security, provide tips and tricks to improve security and encourage people to become involved in their local Neighbourhood Watch community

NHW - Neighbourhood Watch

NHW Connect - An online interactive locator map used to find a NHW or NSNZ group in local areas via an extensive database of groups across Australia and New Zealand

NHTWA - Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

NHTWA Awards - NHTWA Malcom Grant Volunteer of the Year and Police Commissioner's Awards

NHTWA Journal - A triannual publication designed to share news, ideas and good practice around crime prevention and community safety

Nominations Committee - A committee responsible for selecting and nominating new members for NHTWA's Board

Non-Executive Role - A role in which the individual is not involved in the day-to-day operations of NHTWA

NSNZ - Neighbourhood Support New Zealand

NSYHD - National Secure Your Home Day

OAM - Medal of the Order of Australia

Online Safety Projects - Projects focused on educating and promoting safe practices for internet and online activities

PAF Committee - Public Ancillary Fund Committee - a committee focused on overseeing a public fund established for NHTWA's charitable purposes

Partnerships - Collaborative relationships between NHTWA, police, other government agencies, and the community to achieve common goals related to crime prevention

Patron - A patron is a person who supports, sponsors, or is a benefactor of an organisation, cause, or individual

QPS - Queensland Police Service

QR code - Quick Response code

Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation - Assessing the outcomes and effectiveness of NHTWA's programs and initiatives

SAFE - Safer Australia For Everyone program

Secure Score - A home security audit tool that rates the effectiveness of householders' overall home security

Secure September - A month long event focused on enhancing community safety

Sir Robert Peel - In 1829, Sir Robert Peel established the London Metropolitan Police Force. He is known as the "Father of Modern Policing"

Speak Up - An educational resource developed for Indigenous and other culturally and linguistically diverse community members

Streetsmart Handbooks - A practical life guide for 16 and 17 year old school leavers that is designed to help prepare today's youth for life after school

Three Tiers of the SAFE Program (Safer Australia For Everyone) - Different levels of a program aimed at enhancing safety and security in Australia

TUK - ThinkUKnow

TVC - Television Commercial

UQ - The University of Queensland

Volunteers - Individuals who willingly offer their time, skills, and efforts to perform tasks, provide services, or contribute to activities on behalf of NHW and NSNZ groups and NHTWA

Youth Programs - Initiatives and activities aimed at serving and supporting young people





0428 377 901



admin@nhwa.com.au



PO Box 64, Spring Hill Qld 4004



www.nhwa.com.au



@nhwa.com.au



@nhwaaustralia



@NHWAustralia

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Donations to Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Limited of \$2 or more are tax-deductible.

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www.nhwa.com.au/donate