



NHWA

Official journal of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia
incorporating Neighbourhood Support New Zealand



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at The Gaves Show



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- A Pilot Success



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Cover photo: Constable Kenny Koala and David, dropped by to say "Hi" to NHW ACT Vice President (South) Albert Orszaczky, and Membership Secretary Jude Bowman



Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

PO Box 64, Spring Hill QLD 4004 | Ph: 0428 377 901 | Email: admin@nhwa.com.au | Website: nhwa.com.au

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FROM THE CEO

MARIA BENNETT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

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

I am delighted to share with you many of the projects and initiatives of Neighbourhood Watch (NHW), Neighbourhood Support NZ (NSNZ), and our valued stakeholders and partners, as we work together to create safer communities.



Neighbourhood Watch Month Winner

In March, NHWA partnered with Crimsafe for Neighbourhood Watch Month. This year the theme was 'Crimprovement', dedicated to enhancing home security awareness and fostering safer communities. This collaborative initiative equips homeowners with dedicated tools and resources to assess and increase their home security measures. As well as that, this year, one lucky homeowner had the chance to win \$5,000 worth of Home Crimprovements, tailored to boost the safety, security and the Secure Score of their home. Congratulations to Nadia of Coomera, who has won the \$5k Home Crimprovement package. Nadia now has additional peace of mind and protection that comes from Crimsafe security screens, security cameras and other home crimprovements that will make her home more resistant to unwanted intruders, see page 12.



Nadia from Coomera winner of the \$5K Crimprovement package being congratulated by NHWA CEO Maria Bennett

NHWA 2023 Awards Announced

The NHWA Awards recognise the hard working members of NHW and Neighbourhood Support (New Zealand). These individuals are valued assets for our communities and Police, who go above and beyond to create safer communities. Congratulations to the 2023 Winners and nominees...

NHWA Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year Award:

- John Devaus, Daisy Hill QLD – Winner
- Stephen Bourke, TAS – Runner Up

Certificates of Recognition

- Pam Lobwein, Ipswich QLD
- Robert Ormsby, Gold Coast QLD
- Darren Buckley, Toowoomba region, QLD
- Joy Buckley, Toowoomba region, QLD

NHWA Police Commissioner's Award:

- Sergeant Nadine Webster, Ipswich, QLD – Winner
- Sergeant Anaru Graham, Hawkes Bay District, NZ – Runner Up

Certificates of Recognition

- Senior Constable Rob Whitehead, Logan District, QLD
- Senior Constable Mike McDonald, Logan District, QLD
- Sergeant Angela Graham, Mudgeeraba QLD

NHWA Community Champion Award:

- Sinead Gilligan, Kwinana WA – Inaugural Winner

Certificate of Recognition

- Julie Gliddon, Kwinana WA

A new NHWA Award was introduced this year, to acknowledge Community Champions. Recognising those who implement Neighbourhood Watch programs within their communities through their work, however, are not part of a specific NHW group or police.

Congratulations to everyone who was nominated, and 'Thank You' to the many tens of thousands of NHW Volunteers keeping communities safer.

Community Crime Prevention Forum

At a recent crime prevention forum in Toowoomba, it was great to see Ellisa Parker Area Coordinator from Oakey, representing NHW. Local residents were keen to find out more about how to join or start a Neighbourhood Watch group in their area. It is always lovely to see the awesome work being done by our incredible NHW Volunteers.



NHWA CEO Maria Bennett with NHW Oakey Area Coordinator Ellisa Parker

NHWA Annual Report wins Silver Award!

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia has won a Silver Award for our 2023 Annual Report, at the prestigious Australasian Reporting Awards!

This recognition reflects our commitment to excellence, transparency, and accountability.

A special shoutout to our amazing team members, Sarah, Lizzie, and Melissa, whose hard work and meticulous attention to detail made this achievement possible. A big thank you to all our Board members for their unwavering support and guidance throughout this process. Thanks also go to the team at Bear Marketing for the great graphic design.

This award is a shared success, and we couldn't have done it without each of you.

Here's to continuing our mission of building safer and more resilient communities across Australasia!



ARA Chair Alan Colegate with NHWA CEO Maria Bennett

Upcoming Events & Dates

2024 NHWA Awards

Nominations for the **NHWA Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year Award, Police Commissioner's Award and Community Champion Award** are now open! For details on how to nominate and acknowledge outstanding NHW, police and community members go to: www.nhwa.com.au/news-media/awards



Secure September 1 - 30 Sept 2024

A month long campaign promoting safer communities and the benefits of being part of NHW.

National Secure Your Home Day 28, 29 Sep 2024



(last weekend in Sept)

A great opportunity for all NHW groups to reach out to your neighbours and hold an event. Register now to participate at secureyourhomeday.com.au, and receive your free information kit, see page 11.

Get Online Week 14 - 20 Oct 2024

A digital inclusion campaign, with a theme of **Try One Thing**. Last year more than 40 NHW groups received grants of up to \$1,000 each to host local and online events to improve basic digital skills in a relaxed and fun way. **Get Online Week grant applications close on 9 August, contact admin@nhwa.com.au**

NHW Week 28 Oct - 3 Nov 2024

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Bunnings are partnering again this year to combine Neighbourhood Watch Week and Crime Prevention Week. Contact your local Bunnings to book a BBQ and hold an event.

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

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

Together we achieve great things.

Neighbourhood Watch - the Power of Many!

Maria Bennett

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

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



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

PATRON, BOARD DIRECTORS & STAFF



Commissioner Reece P Kershaw APM - Patron

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

In 1999, Commissioner Kershaw worked in Operations and Close Personal Protection in Perth. In 2003, he was promoted to Superintendent, undertaking roles in the investigation of victim-based crime, High Tech Crime Operations and deployments on overseas postings to the Netherlands, East Timor and Solomon Islands. In 2010, Commissioner Kershaw was promoted to Commander, leading Serious and Organised Crime Investigations.

In 2011, Commissioner Kershaw joined the Northern Territory Police Force (NTPF) as Assistant Commissioner Crime and Specialist Services and Darwin Metropolitan Service. In 2015, he was appointed Commissioner of Police and Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

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

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



Bernie Durkin - Chairman, Western Australia

Bernie is the Executive Manager for the Community Engagement Division of the Western Australia Police. Part of this role encompasses the position of WA State Director for NHTWA. In 1988 Bernie joined WA Police as a sworn Police Officer then switching to a Public Servant in 2008. In his current role Bernie manages a team of crime prevention community engagement staff and is extensively involved with NHTWA at both a State and National level. Bernie is currently the Chairman of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia.



Margaret Pearson - Company Secretary

Throughout Margaret's career she has made a significant contribution to the voluntary sector by being involved with numerous community organisations including ACT Neighbourhood Watch Association Inc. where she held a number of positions within that organisation and has recently retired from the role of President. Having lived overseas for a number of years Margaret returned, with her family, to Canberra where she continues to follow her great interest in local and international politics. Margaret is currently the Company Secretary of NHTWA.



Laurie Blackall - Australian Capital Territory

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



Deputy Commissioner Lesa Gale APM - AFP

Deputy Commissioner Gale's passion for combatting all forms of human exploitation and maintaining community safety has been admirably demonstrated throughout her 35 year career, most notably in her previous role as head of the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation. During her career in the AFP, Deputy Commissioner Gale has combined significant leadership expertise across serious and organised crime and national security portfolios, leading the delivery of business outcomes across AFP Commands in Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane. Deputy Commissioner Gale holds a Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Management and was awarded the Australian Police Medal in 2019.



Inspector Brett Callander - New Zealand

Inspector Brett Callander is the Manager Community Prevention Partnerships for New Zealand Police and is based at Police National Headquarters, Wellington. He manages Community Policing, Community Partners, Health Partnerships, Alcohol Harm Prevention, Community Inclusion, Rural Policing and Crowded Places. Brett has been a Police officer for 28 years and has worked in Frontline Policing, Youth Services, Diplomatic Protection, Alcohol Harm Prevention, Mental Health and Community Policing. Brett served with NZ Police in Timor-Leste for four years.



Acting Superintendent Rob Fleischer - Queensland

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



Peter Edwards BM APM - Tasmania

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



Maria Bennett - Chief Executive Officer

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



Lizzie McGrory - Project Manager & Executive Assistant

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



3-6 SEPTEMBER 2024 | ICC SYDNEY



IFE24 Conference

Incorporating:



ADRC24 Conference

Embracing innovation and disruption: designing the future for our sector

The AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ Conference and Exhibition is Australasia's premier and most comprehensive event for emergency management and first responders; as they continue to explore how interoperability across services, deliver outcomes to create safer communities.

A key element in achieving safer communities, welcomes the return of the NRMA Resilience Lane Partner; recognising the importance of working with organisations, all levels of government, community groups, volunteer organisations and not-for-profits, who focus on disaster risk reduction, resilience, and recovery.

Explore the exhibition and discover, the free to attend practical and educational program at the Solutions Theatre, visit the AIDR Knowledge Centre – Poster showcase, and take advantage of networking to source common outcomes – to protect life and property.

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AFAC24, ADRC24 and IFE24 deliver solutions to these industry sectors:



Fire



First responders



Emergency & rescue



Critical infrastructure



Public safety & defence



Fire prevention



Hazardous



Mining



Resilience



Community Risk Reduction

Risk reduction, mitigation strategies, warning systems, and risk management.

Workforce

WHS, people, systems, and learning and development.

Capability

Fleet, PPE, and Equipment.

Response Operations

Real-time operational decision systems, decision support, incident management, emerging technology, communication technology, drones, satellite imagery, GIS, field rigid redeployable infrastructure.

Fire Safety

Building fire safety systems, building standards.



Turning Information into Insights: An Inside Look at the Australian Federal Police Forensic Intelligence Capability

Forensic Intelligence utilises information obtained from examinations conducted by AFP Forensic members to provide the Police with additional lines of inquiry for their investigations

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) Forensic Intelligence (FORINT) is an operational team within the Forensics Command based at the Majura Forensics Facility in the ACT.

Recognised as one of the world's leading forensic intelligence capabilities, AFP FORINT utilises scientific and technical information to provide insights from forensic data, influencing decisions of investigators, policymakers and legislators.

FORINT assists ACT Police with identifying repeat offenders within the Canberra community. The team collects and collates information about how crimes are committed, as well as clues to identify the offender. This information comes from observations by police and crime scene investigators, examinations conducted by traditional forensic disciplines within the AFP Forensic Command (similar to those depicted on TV shows such as CSI and NCIS) including fingerprints or DNA profiles, and other sources such as Crime Stoppers reports and CCTV footage.

This information is then analysed to provide insight into investigations and influence decision-making.

Similar to completing a jigsaw puzzle, the FORINT process involves assembling puzzle pieces (case information), starting with the corner and edge pieces (the forensic information) and gradually fitting together similar pieces (information from other sources) to build a complete picture.

In the ACT, FORINT examines a significant number of DNA-based crime scene-to-crime. Over the past 3 years, FORINT has identified a person of interest for over 70% of these DNA links, providing ACT Policing with crucial leads to advance their investigations.

How can you help?

Community members are encouraged to make comprehensive reports through mechanisms such as

Crime Stoppers. In the unfortunate event that you become a victim of crime, providing Police with detailed descriptions of your missing property, including photographs and any identifying features or serial numbers, can be crucial in linking an offender to your specific incident and supporting police decisions to charge and prosecute the offender, as well as aiding in the return of your stolen property.

Are you interested in piecing puzzles together?

Entry-level AFP FORINT members have tertiary qualifications in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. A career within AFP FORINT offers you a unique opportunity to apply your technical knowledge and gain valuable experience and expertise in the policing environment.

Protect Yourself Against Impersonation Scams

Did you know that 3 in every 4 scams reported involve impersonation? That means criminals pretending to be from organisations or people we know and trust.

Impersonation scams are designed to look like they're from legitimate organisations that you know, like your bank, a government agency, a business you deal with, or even a scammer pretending to be a friend or family member.

By pretending to be from someone you trust, scammers use a sense of urgency to trick you into paying money or providing personal information, such as passwords, credit card or banking details.

To help you stay scam savvy, Be Connected has developed a **Top 10 tips to protect yourself against impersonation scams guide** in partnership with the National Anti-Scam Centre's Scamwatch.

The guide includes information on:

- What impersonation scams are
- Common impersonation scams
- Top tips to protect yourself
- Where to go for help if you think you've been scammed.

Download the free guide: beconnected.esafety.gov.au/download-free-scams-guide

Get your copy of the Impersonation Scams booklet



Be Connected
Every Australian online.

Remember: Stop, think and protect

Scammers are becoming more sophisticated in their approach to potential victims. Avoid tricks and scams by following a few simple steps: be careful, go slowly, and always be on the lookout for warning signs.

Stop

Take your time before giving money or personal information to anyone. Scammers will offer to help you or ask you to verify who you are. They will pretend to be from organisations you know and trust.

Think

Ask yourself, could the message or call be fake? Never click a link in a message and ask a trusted friend or family member what they would do. Only contact businesses or the government using contact information from their official website or their secure apps. If you're not sure say no, hang up or delete.

A range of free learning materials to help you spot a scam are available on the Be Connected website.

Protect

Act quickly if something feels wrong. Contact your bank immediately if you lose money or personal information or if you notice some unusual activity on your cards or accounts. Seek help from organisations like IDCARE and report online crime to ReportCyber. You can help others by reporting scams to Scamwatch.



Upcoming free online presentations

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

Dates for upcoming sessions:

- **1 August:** Technology for health
- **6 August:** Helpful apps
- **20 August:** Protect yourself against scams
- **22 August:** Online shopping and banking
- **28 August:** Can you spot a scam?
- **3 September:** Android phones
- **5 September:** Protecting personal information
- **17 September:** Smart home technology
- **19 September:** Government websites

To learn more, register your attendance: beconnected.esafety.gov.au/online-safety-presentations



Be Connected
2 million learners and counting

Join over 2 million learners with Be Connected

Be Connected has reached an incredible milestone, with more than 2 million learners choosing to embrace the digital world and online safety!

Australia's eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant said Be Connected continued to play an important role in helping improve the digital literacy of all Australians, making the online world a safer, more positive place for us all to enjoy.

"Technology has a wonderful ability to connect, enable and empower individuals, and we must ensure older Australians are not only included in our increasingly online world, but that they feel confident benefiting from it," she said.

Whether you want to pick up new skills or dive into a new topic, Be Connected has something to help you improve your digital skills.

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



Be Connected is a joint Australian government initiative between the Department of Social Services, the eSafety Commissioner and Good Things Foundation Australia

SAFE Program: Enhancing Security for a Safer Australia

The Safer Australia For Everyone (SAFE) Program, a Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) initiative, is a comprehensive initiative aimed at improving home safety and security across Australia.

Developed in collaboration with The University of Queensland (UQ), this federally funded program addresses the rising concern of break-and-enter incidents by empowering householders with the knowledge and resources to bolster their home security. With a focus on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), the SAFE Program integrates strategies such as 'target hardening' to create safer communities.

Dr Renee Zahnow of The University of Queensland said, "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".

The NHWA SAFE Program consisted of three Tiers: Home Security Information Sessions, Target Hardening \$550 Support Offer, and National Secure Your Home Day 2023.

Target Hardening Community Information Sessions

In March 2024, NHWA organised a series of free Target Hardening Community Information Sessions in three locations: Canberra, ACT (2 March), Belmont, WA (6 March), and Toowoomba, QLD (26, 27 March).

These sessions, led by renowned crime prevention and community safety specialist John Maynard, attracted more than 40 attendees at each event, highlighting the community's strong interest in enhancing home security.



NHWA Project Manager Lizzie McGrory, Dr Renee Zahnow Criminology Dept at The University of Queensland, and NHWA CEO Maria Bennett discussing implementation of the SAFE Program



Crime prevention and community safety specialist John Maynard explaining the principles of CPTED at the Canberra event

The sessions focused on the principles of CPTED, which include natural surveillance, access control, territorial reinforcement, and maintenance. By applying these principles, participants learned how to design and modify their

environments to reduce opportunities for crime. The interactive format allowed attendees to engage in practical exercises and informative discussions, helping them understand how to implement CPTED strategies in their own homes and communities.



Checklist video presenters Dr Renee Zahnow UQ and Chief Inspector Corey Allen QPS

Target Hardening \$550 Support Offer

Complementing the community information sessions, NHWA offered a \$550 support rebate to assist homeowners in implementing target hardening measures. The rebate was available to victims of burglary in Toowoomba/Darling Downs QLD, Canberra ACT, and Perth WA, to target harden their homes and reduce repeat victimisation. This initiative provided financial aid to participants to install or enhance security features, such as security screens, locks, sensor lights and CCTV cameras.

The rebate is designed to alleviate the financial burden of upgrading home security, making it accessible to a broader range of households. By investing in these improvements, homeowners can significantly reduce the risk of break-ins and create a safer living environment for themselves and their families. The program also aims to foster a sense of community resilience, encouraging neighbours to look out for each other and collaborate on security initiatives.

Applicants were very grateful for the support offered through the rebate. **Almost 60% of surveyed participants indicated the rebate positively influenced their decision to install target hardening security devices, and over 70% of surveyed participants indicated they felt safer after target hardening their homes.**

National Secure Your Home Day

The SAFE Program's efforts included National Secure Your Home Day (NSYHD), an annual event dedicated to raising awareness about home security. The inaugural event was held on the last weekend of September 2023. Scheduled for 28-29 September 2024, NSYHD invites all Australians to assess and enhance their home security measures. Participants receive a free National Secure Your Home Day Kit, which includes a Home Security Checklist developed in collaboration with UQ. The checklist offers practical advice on proactive home security measures, helping homeowners identify potential vulnerabilities and take corrective actions.

In addition to the checklist, the event features a range of activities, including a children's colouring competition and local community events. These activities are designed to engage all age groups, fostering a culture of safety and security within the community. The dedicated website, National Secure Your Home Day (<https://secureyourhomeday.com.au/>) serves as a hub for the event, providing resources, updates, and information about local events and activities.

Nearly 85% of surveyed participants of NSYHD 2023 learnt something new to assist them to secure their homes, and 81% of participants intended to make changes to their home after doing the Home Security Checklist.

Keep an eye out for updates on National Secure Your Home Day 2024!

Moving Forward: Towards a Safer Australia

The SAFE Program exemplifies NHWA's commitment to creating safer communities through education, support, and engagement. By integrating CPTED principles and offering practical resources and financial support, the program empowers individuals to take proactive steps towards enhancing their home security. The community information sessions, Target Hardening \$550 Support Offer, and National Secure Your Home Day collectively contribute to a safer Australia for everyone.

NHWA envisions a future where every citizen feels secure in their home. Through collaborative efforts, continuous engagement, and the application of evidence-based strategies, the SAFE Program strives to make this vision a reality. For more information about the SAFE Program and other NHWA initiatives, visit the NHWA website at <https://www.nhwa.com.au/>

It is with gratitude that we thank the federal government for the funding to support community crime prevention.

Join us in making Australia a safer place. Let's work together to protect our homes, our families, and our communities.

NHW Month Crimprovement Winner

March was Neighbourhood Watch Month, and Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) and Crimsafe teamed up for the Home Crimprovement campaign. Providing valuable tips to homeowners to enhance their home security and also giving away a Crimsafe \$5,000 Home Crimprovement package.



Crimsafe Head of Marketing Natalie Hodgskin, Nadia from Coomera winner of the \$5K Crimprovement package with NHWA CEO Maria Bennett

One lucky homeowner had the chance to win \$5,000 worth of Home Crimprovements, tailored to boost the safety, security and Secure Score of their home. The prize included the installation of Crimsafe security screen doors or windows, Ring security cameras, and other security enhancements tailored to the needs of the winning home.

The Crimprovement competition saw an overwhelming response with nearly 1,000 entries from across Australia.

We are thrilled to announce that the winner of the Crimprovement competition is Nadia from Coomera, Queensland! Nadia impressed the judges with her comprehensive approach to home security. She not only secures her home but also fosters a strong sense of community vigilance. Nadia shared, "Winning the Crimprovement competition is such an honour.

It's fantastic to see that my efforts to keep my family and neighbourhood safe have been recognised. I hope my approach can inspire others to take similar steps."

Attention on Home Secure Scores

The Secure Score tool developed in collaboration with Crimsafe and NHWA, has been the most trusted way for Australian households to test their security rating, plus one of the best ways to pinpoint potential vulnerabilities and implement better protection against unwanted intruders.

Practical Ideas for Home Security

- Leave a large pair of boots outside the front door, a sign that someone is home.
- 'Beware of the Dog' sign on the front fence.



- Close the garage door during the day (and night) – it's an open invitation to intruders.
- Add locks onto gates and sheds.
- Secure bins away from the house, so they can't be used to access upper levels or windows.
- Lock away tools and valuables.
- Get to know your neighbours, they are your closest ally in an emergency.

Learn more about your Secure Score by visiting securescore.crimsafe.com.au or by scanning the QR code.



What is 'sextortion'?

What carers and young people need to know about sexual extortion.



Sexual extortion, known as 'Sextortion' is a serious online concern, especially for young people.

The eSafety Commissioner, Australia's independent regulator for online safety, has important advice on what you can do and how can you support your child if they're targeted.

What is sextortion?

Sextortion is a form of blackmail that usually originates via a dating app or social networking site. It involves criminals using fake profiles to pose as someone charming and flirtatious to manipulate their targets into sharing nude images or videos of themselves. Then, they threaten to share the compromising material unless the person complies with their demands. These criminals are increasingly targeting people, especially young men.

What can I do?

If this happens to you, you're not alone – there is help available. Remember, it's not your fault, even if you shared the intimate content with the blackmailer in the first place – anyone can experience sextortion.

We encourage parents and carers to play an active role in their children's online life. Having conversations, being curious, and getting involved can help anticipate when children might need support and advice. If you're unsure how to start conversations about these topics, eSafety has advice on their website to help you.

If your child or someone you know has been targeted, reassure them that it is not their fault, there is help available, and you can help them make a report. These criminals are practised in the art of manipulation and know how to isolate, shame and corner children.

Here's what you can do:

- 1. Cease all communication with the blackmailer** – Stop all contact and do not pay the blackmailer, or provide any more intimate content.
- 2. Seek additional support** – If your child needs further support, they can contact Lifeline or Kids Helpline 24/7 for immediate assistance.
- 3. Report the incident** – For those under 18, contact the Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation. For those over 18, report to the platform where contact occurred. If intimate images or videos are shared or the platform is unhelpful, report to eSafety at [eSafety.gov.au/report](https://esafety.gov.au/report).

More information on what you can do is available at [eSafety.gov.au/deal-with-sextortion](https://esafety.gov.au/deal-with-sextortion)

24/7 helplines - free and confidential

If you're 25 or younger, you can call or chat online with Kids Helpline (1800 55 1800). If you're 18 or older, you can call, text or chat with Lifeline (13 11 14).

FREE GUIDES

ARE THEY TRIPLE OK?

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

ARE THEY TRIPLE OK?

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

RUOK?™
A conversation could change a life.

Are They Triple OK? Trailer
Are They Triple OK?



0:00



PODCAST NOW STREAMING

ARE THEY TRIPLE OK?

Even the most resilient emergency services workers and volunteers can be affected by stress and trauma related to their work, or as a result of other life challenges. Are They Triple OK? resources provide practical tools and tips on how to start an R U OK? conversation with a workmate, friend or family member in the emergency services, to help them feel connected and supported, long before they're in crisis.



Scan to learn more

ruok.org.au/triple-ok

RUOK?
A conversation could change a life.

NHW ACT

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Celebrating the Spirit of the AusIndia Fair

In March, Canberrans and visitors from neighbouring areas flocked to Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC) for the 2024 AusIndia Fair, organised by the Federation of Indian Associations of ACT (FINACT).

FINACT serves as an umbrella organisation to coordinate, collaborate, and cooperate with the Indian diaspora through its member organisations, providing a collective representation to all levels of Australian government and the High Commission of India.

Approximately 12,000 residents of Indian origin live in the ACT, with many having migrated from other countries such as Fiji, Singapore, Mauritius, Malaysia, South Africa, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Indian associations typically organise events to celebrate festivals like Diwali, Holi, and Ugadi. However, the AusIndia Fair aimed to showcase India and its unique opportunities, fostering a better understanding of India's contributions to Australian society.

The event offered interaction and entertainment for all age groups, featuring displays of Indian arts and culture, tourism, spirituality,



NHW ACT President Laurie Blackall chatting with Lisa Murphy from Crime Stoppers and Praneeth Galla, Crime Stoppers Board Director and FINACT representative, at the AusIndia Fair



NHW ACT President Laurie Blackall and Board Member Maria Adams explaining Neighbourhood Watch to dancers after their performance

and glimpses into traditional health practices like Ayurveda, a natural system of medicine that originated in India more than 3,000 years ago.

In addition to highlighting India's diverse and rich heritage through music, poetry, skits, dances and more on the large stage, there were booths promoting sectors such as education, IT, fashion design, digital media, handicrafts, renewable energy,

and tourism. Community groups such as Neighbourhood Watch, Crime Stoppers and ACT Policing were also actively represented.

FINACT enables its member organisations to organise events and provides networking opportunities for community leaders, youth groups, students, and senior citizens to interact with other ethnic communities in the ACT.



Kenny Koala and David dropped by to greet NHW ACT Vice President (South) Albert Orszaczky and Membership Secretary Jude Bowman

Neighbourhood Watch at the 2024 Royal Canberra Show

The Royal Canberra Show has captivated Canberrans for nearly a century, and the 2024 show did not disappoint the thousands who attended the three-day event.

Among the numerous community stands was the AFP ACT Policing stand, where Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and Crime Stoppers handed out brochures about home and personal safety, UV pens for marking personal property, and answering questions from visitors.

ACT Policing's Constable Kenny Koala greeted children at the booth. The Constable Kenny program, which has been running for over 30 years, educates children between the ages of three and twelve on various safety themes and encourages them to seek help and advice from the police.

A new addition to the Canberra Show this year was the Outback



NHW ACT Vice President (South) Albert Orszaczky and Board Secretary Angela Di Pauli at the show

Stockman's Show, featuring horsemanship, working dogs, and crowd participation. The Woodchop event returned in 2024, including a daring performance with chainsaws.

The World Flavours Food Court offered a variety of international foods, including Turkish, Asian, Italian, and German cuisine. Additionally, there were BBQ food options, a shaded outdoor picnic area, and traditional show fare in Sideshow Alley.

The Farmyard Nursery was a favourite among children, who could cuddle farm animals and see baby animals.

The Main Arena showcased horse competitions during the day and featured daredevil motorbike shows, the Grand Parade, and fireworks at night.



NHW ACT Vice President (North) Clare McGrath and Membership Secretary Jude Bowman preparing for Easter Family Night

Bunnings Hosts Easter Family Night in ACT

Bunnings Warehouse in Gungahlin, Canberra hosted an Easter community event to raise money for the Canberra Hospital.

The event was driven by the Bunnings Gungahlin Activities Organiser team, led by Fiona McKerchar and Lilly Eastman, who meticulously planned and coordinated the day's activities. Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) joined forces with other community-minded organisations, setting up informative stalls that showcased a variety of activities, from the Orchid Society to the Belconnen Model Aero Club.

In addition to distributing NHW brochures about home and personal safety, visitors were delighted to receive giveaways such as NHW-branded ponchos, LED flashlights, and UV pens

for marking personal property – always a favourite among Bunnings customers. The Easter Bunny was a standout attraction, charming 'kids of all ages,' many of whom had fond memories of meeting the bunny in previous years.

Adding to the festive atmosphere was a performance by the band from Neville Bonner Primary School, which was warmly supported by parents and visitors alike. The event also featured commercial stalls that contributed to Canberra Hospital, offering a diverse mix of products, from the 'Chameleon Icecreamery' to local stores selling delectable chocolates and exquisite jewelry.



Lilly Eastman from Bunnings escorted the Easter Bunny into the Family Night event

NHW NSW

NEW SOUTH WALES



Gay showing off her painting skills

Gay Balasubramanian Joint Coordinator at NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby added, "The KerbWatch project reminds residents that Neighbourhood Watch is still very much in the community - forty years and counting!"

Details of services available, plus volunteer opportunities, are all available on the NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby website <https://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/>. More info about house numbers and kerb numbering can be found at: <https://au-nhwkuringgaihornsby.org/faqs/>



The KerbWatch kit has it all!



Warwick expertly applies the house number to the kerb

KerbWatch Project and NHW NSW 40 years and counting!

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) NSW celebrates 40 years this year, and was originally established to improve the safety, security and connection of community life across NSW. In consultation with local police, the NHW community - which is made up of localised volunteer groups within NSW - provides information about preventative measures to help reduce the incidences of crime in the community.

The NHW Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby group goes one step further, and provides a range of services to their local community including engraving tools, licence plate security bolts, driveway white line stencils, and kerb number painting kits (KerbWatch), that are loaned out to the community.

The KerbWatch project enables emergency services and tradespeople to easily locate a house number, especially where mailbox or other house number markers are unclear.

NHW Ku-ring-gai & Hornsby have sourced and tested the contents of these KerbWatch Kits, in order to make the process easy and convenient, giving the best results for residents. Kits include everything needed, such as a wire brush, acrylic stencil sets (Australian Standard AS1744), special paint brushes, tape, paint, traffic cones, high-visibility vests, cleaning products, and instructions. Volunteers have even uploaded extra information to the website; "How to Achieve the Best Results for your Kerb", "What Could Go Wrong?" and a video showing

"What do we mean by 'dabbing'?" to assist residents unfamiliar with the use of stencils. For those residents who can't do the job themselves, volunteers will happily help out.

The project relies on a 'Pay-it-forward' scheme to renew the contents of the kits, which most residents respect. Local Turramurra resident Warwick came across details of the NHW services in their local newsletter emailed regularly to people in the area and chose to utilise the house number painting kit to increase the visibility of his house number. "It is really simple to use and helps make it easier for delivery vans and tradies to find the address", he said. "I highly recommend using the kit".

Neighbourhood Watch Moruya

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Moruya petitioned to have the Moruya police station open during business hours.

A Moruya NHW stall was set up outside the local IGA, manned by volunteers. The volunteers chatted to locals about the petition, in addition to crime prevention tips, and how to keep residents safe in Moruya.

The petition requested for a receptionist and for an extra police officer man the police station. In less than two hours more than 100 people signed the petition.

Recently NHW Moruya presented the petition Dr Michael Holland, Member for Bega, requesting additional resources for the station. The petition had just over 1,100 signatures.



NHW Moruya presenting the petition



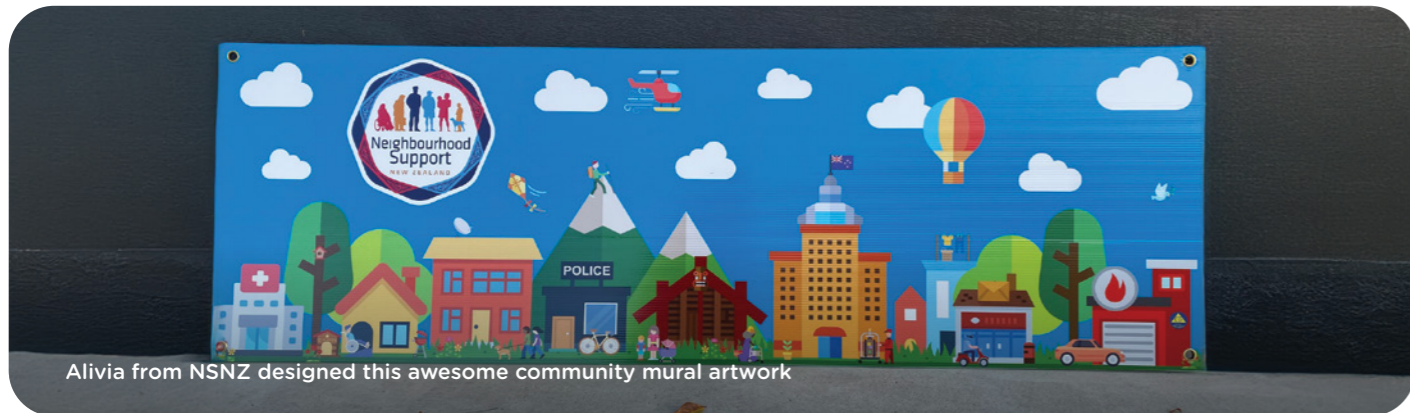
NHW committee member Kathryn Maxwell handing out information at the stall

NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT

NEW ZEALAND

What's New with Neighbourhood Support NZ

Here's an overview of the latest news and highlights from the team at Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ).



Alivia from NSNZ designed this awesome community mural artwork

Waitaki Neighbourhood Support Gift Community Murals to Schools

Waitaki Neighbourhood Support is enjoying visiting kindergartens and preschools in the Canterbury region to gift beautiful community murals to the children. This provides lots of opportunities for talking with children about the makeup of communities and the role of the emergency services. Could your child call 111 if needed? Do they have access to a cellphone, and do they know how? With the demise of landlines, this is a real problem. Children must be taught how to call 111 from a cellphone, or be encouraged to run to a neighbour they know for help. We encourage families to talk this through and provide guidance for their children.



Waitaki NS coordinator Christine Dorsey interacts with the kids at an Oamaru Kindergarten

Cambridge Resthaven Residents Engage in Safety Session

In an ongoing commitment to fostering a safe and informed community, Cambridge Neighbourhood Support (Safer Cambridge) recently had the pleasure of hosting a public speaking engagement at the Resthaven Retirement Village. The focus of the session was on equipping residents with valuable insights on staying safe from crime, making it an interactive and engaging experience for all.

Attendees actively participated in discussions, making the event a dynamic exchange of ideas. From practical tips on securing homes and cars to recognising potential risks, the wealth of shared knowledge created an atmosphere of empowerment. It's heartening to hear that residents found the session worthwhile and learned a lot in the process.



Residents at Resthaven Retirement Village engaging in discussions with Safer Cambridge and sharing their experiences, concerns, and questions

Waitaki Neighbourhood Support sets up the 'Good Neighbour' Awards with local Constable Jay Morriss

Waitaki Neighbourhood Support Coordinator Christine Dorsey heard stories of Ōamaru neighbors going above and beyond and decided they should be recognised. She set up the 'Good Neighbour' Awards with Constable Jay Morriss. The three people who inspired the initiative received a certificate and box of chocolates.

"Basically, we're trying to acknowledge neighbours who are doing great things because we need to rely on them and share good news stories," she said. "It doesn't have to be huge or mighty; even small acts can make a big difference to someone else."



Ōamaru Constable Jay Morriss, good neighbour Carolyn Lister, and Waitaki Neighbourhood Support coordinator Christine Dorsey

“3 Steps for Life” CPR and AED Training Sessions a huge success

Whakatane Neighbourhood Support partnered with Hato Hone St John to provide the “3 Steps for Life” CPR and AED training for their community and members. They held two sessions in March which were a huge success. They had such a high number of responses to register and attend the sessions, that they now have a waitlist for the next sessions. Ivan the volunteer from St John agreed to hold more sessions in April along with a session in Edgcumbe for the rural community later in the year.



Jennifer Lacy and Jane Fox from Whakatane Neighbourhood Support with St John volunteer Ivan



A birds eye view of the Southern Field Days held just outside of Gore at Waimumu

Neighbourhood Support Offers Rural Safety Advice at Southern Field Days

Sharlene Taylor-Giles, of Neighbourhood Support Eastern Southland (NSES), recently attended the Southern Field Days held just out of Gore. Three days, 780 exhibitors, 45,000 people on site with rain, sun and so much fun! Sharlene promoted Neighbourhood Support to visitors, provided take home resources, signed up new members and even gave away NS colouring pencils which went perfectly with the Southern District Police colouring in competition.

The NSES booth was shared with police, and next door to Emergency Management Southland, strengthening the messaging that local organisations are invested in crime prevention, safety and resilience. There was great interest from rural visitors on keeping their property safe and what to do about unlawful hunting.



The Year 9 Dean of Feilding High School, Cecile, talks to the students about what to expect and answers their questions

Neighbourhood Support Manawatu (NSM) Organises Prep Day for Students about to enter High School

For the second year, NSM has been the organiser of a day for rural students who are about to start high school. The programme, called Online for Nine (getting nervous minds ready for Year 9) has been going for some 22+ years. It is the brainchild of Judy Jack, a former teacher and board member of Manawatu Rural Support Services.

The programme covers topics such as self-worth, bullying, setting goals, meeting new people, and team building. The lunchtime BBQ is cooked by local Senior Constable Mark and a former NSM Coordinator Allan. The Year 9 Dean of Feilding High School, Cecile, talks to the students at lunch, providing information about what will happen on the first day, what they should bring, how to find their way around, and answers lots of questions to put their minds at ease.

Central Districts Field Days

Neighbourhood Support Manawatu (NSM) partnered with NZ Police and Community Patrol at the Field Days held at Manfeild, Feilding.

So many visitors came to our site and the old uniform dress-ups for kids of all ages, as well as checking out what the inside of a police car is like (from the front seat - lights, radio and all) which was hugely popular. Two beautiful horses and a young police dog created huge attention and NSM had many helpful conversations with people about connecting with their neighbours and keeping their properties safe.



Police pup Iha was certainly a popular attraction at the Central Districts Field Days



Students were keen to put their jumping skills to the test at the interactive Police/Neighbourhood Support stand at Central Districts Field Days



Constable Tegan's horse Doris strikes a pose



Horses decked out in police livery attracted a lot of positive feedback from the community



Neighbourhood Support Manawatu's set up at Central Districts Field Days

Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) and NSNZ collaborate for a “Get to know your neighbours” giveaway

Fire and Emergency NZ and NSNZ have an established relationship aimed at increasing collaboration between our organisations to better support our communities.

In April 2024, we worked together on a social media promotion aimed at encouraging people to get to know their neighbours by shouting them out in the comments to be in the draw for a prize.

The goals of this promotion were to;

- Encourage community connectedness
- Promote Fire and Emergency and Neighbourhood Support's partnership
- Increase engagement with our social media channels

The majority of prize entries focused on the nice things their neighbours do for them, including looking after their dog or just stopping by for a chat. We saw examples of extreme



kindness from neighbours within the comments, many of which talking about how they supported people with health issues and/or elderly people in their street. The winner received a gift basket of goodies including edible treats, fire safety items and a first aid kit!

NHW QLD

QUEENSLAND

Gold Coast City Council declares NHW Volunteers to be Local Heroes

In a Gold Coast citywide campaign, the council have been recognising local heroes.

These local heroes are those that give their time to make the city a better place to live.

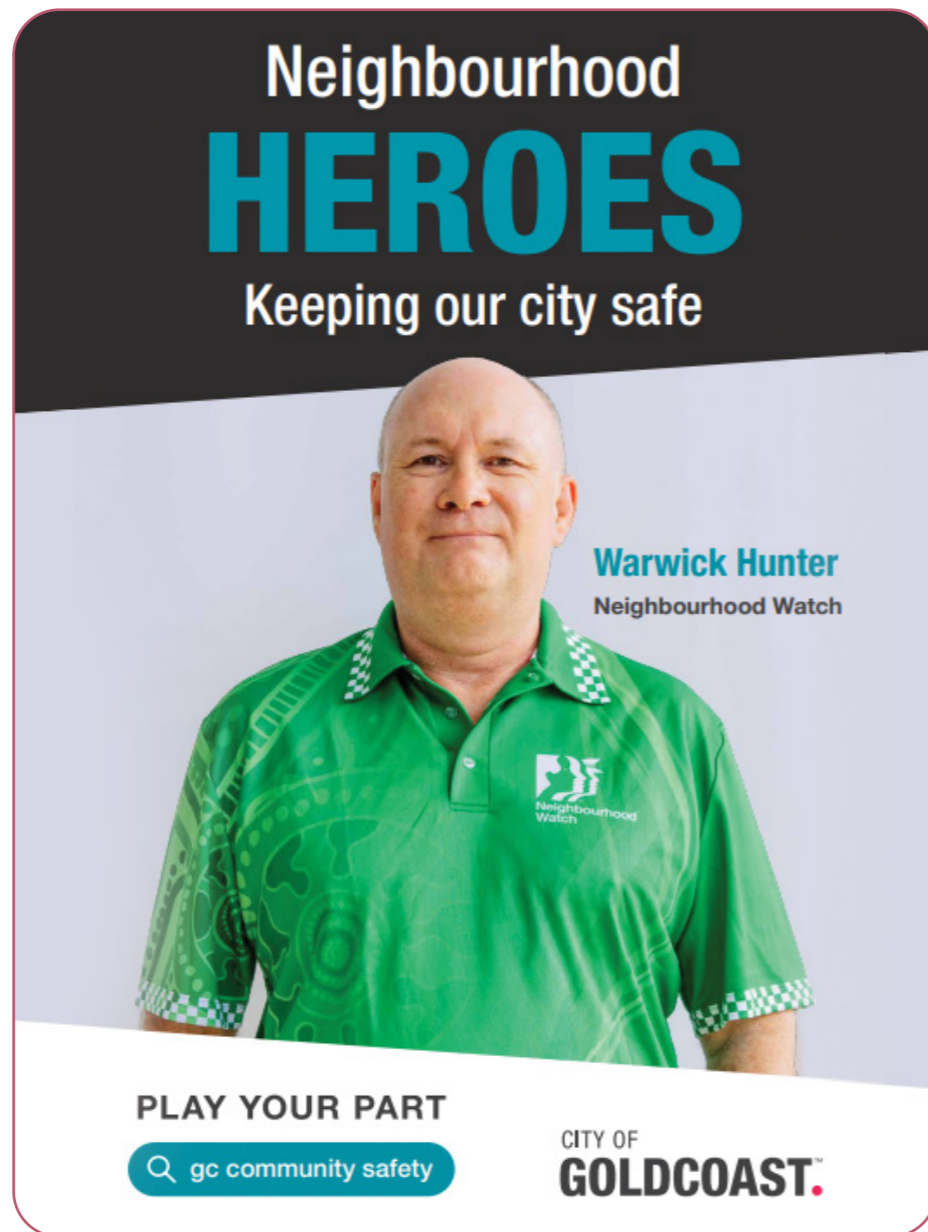
Recently Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) was recognised as 'local heroes' and was represented by Warwick Hunter from the Robina 1 NHW group. The campaign ran as posters on bus shelters and in shopping centres, as well as on the Council's website.

Congratulations to Warwick and all the 'NHW local heroes' in the community!

For more information:
<https://www.goldcoast.qld.gov.au/Services/Safety-security/Community-safety/Neighbourhood-heroes>



The campaign ran in local shopping centres, bus shelters, and the Council website



Poster of Warwick Hunter representing NHW 'local heroes'

Robina Getting the NHW Message Out

Robina Waters and Robina Woods Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group is based in the Gold Coast, straddling both Broadbeach and Robina Police Districts.

Late 2023, the group updated the NHW Robina Waters and Robina Woods brochure with new venue and contact details.

Community meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday night of February, May, August and November at Club Robina. There have also been many successful lunches at Club Robina, to allow members to get to know each other in a social surrounding.

The group arranges interesting speakers for each of the community meetings, to encourage residents to be conscious of the NHW concept of reporting crime and suspicious activity to police, and to protect their properties by adding a level of security (LOCK IT OR LOSE IT as the stickers on the rubbish bins remind us). The local MP, Ray Stevens, prints the newsletter each quarter, and it is distributed to 2800 homes, offices, shops and units in the designated area by the amazing band of block coordinators and registered volunteers.

Late last year, the group was encouraged by the District Crime Prevention Coordinator to allow members from outside our designated area access to the communication. One way to do this was to arrange distribution of the brochure to a wider area, so over 4000 brochures were printed by Club Robina and distributed with assistance from Karyn O'Dea (Ray White Realty). Karyn already delivers 'Welcome Packs' to all new homeowners in Robina, and these now include our new brochure. The Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) Journal is also distributed to our members digitally



Dan Doran addressing the meeting one day after his first full Gold Coast City Council meeting



Doug Ringham (Social Media Coordinator), Sascha Vovoedin (Area Coordinator), Leon Rebello (Candidate for McPherson), Dan Duran (Gold Coast Div 11 Councillor), SC Lincoln Jones, SC Emma Hayes, Gail Boyle and Benny Wang

or in hardcopy, and a number are distributed to shops in the local Robina Village Shopping Centre.

Our online message goes out by email to all on the database, we also have a Facebook Page open to the public and a Closed Group for members only. The Social Media Coordinator also posts and adds events to the Robina Community and the Division 11 Community Groups (Division 11 is the local Gold Coast City ward) - both of these groups are very active.

At the May NHW Community Meeting, the guest presenters were two Tactical Flight Officers from the Police Helicopter Unit (POLAIR). The evening also included a brief report by the new Councillor Dan Doran, and the whole event was live-streamed to the NHW Facebook Group. Needless to say, the meeting was a huge success, with 54 in attendance and up to 30 online!

The Neighbourhood Watch message is simple - our job is to get it out there.



Vicki James, Diane Marchant, Rob Ormsby, Courtney Mulder and Claire Robinson at the NHW stall

Gold Coast hinterland NHW groups play a starring role in Mudgeeraba Street Party and Parade

On 19 May 2024, the Gold Coast hinterland showed up in force to celebrate the wonderful community groups, small businesses, and local musicians at the Mudgeeraba Street Party and Parade.

The NHW team hosted an impressive stall, with a gazebo, banners, safety information, bin stickers, merchandise, giveaways, and of course a team of legendary volunteers from the Mudgeeraba Creek, Reedy Creek, Glenwood Park, and Clover Hill groups.

Over the four-hour event, more than 5000 people entered the Village Green and Railway Street area, with many of them talking with NHW volunteers about the best ways to keep themselves and each other safe, and grabbing some nice freebies.

Mudgeeraba Creek NHW Area Coordinator John Kiss said “It was great to see all the people out in the sunshine, with so many choosing to come and speak with Neighbourhood Watch volunteers. “The community wants to feel safe, and we as part of NHW are a key voice in this arena, having productive relationships with local police, politicians, and our neighbours.



David and Vicki James carry the NHW banner, with Annette Moon as Seymour the Owl for the street parade

“We also have a range of fabulous events and initiatives coming up, including Movies in the Park, the Mudgeeraba Police Community Consultative Committee, and a stall at the Mudgeeraba Agricultural Show, which people were very interested in,” Mr Kiss said.

A highlight of the day was the famous street parade, with the

NHW team holding a strong and steady presence. Annette Moon of Glenwood Park NHW donned the Seymour the Owl costume and was a hit with the kids.

It was a fantastic day of community spirit, and the team is looking forward to the next event where they can make a positive impact on community safety!



Riverview NHW celebrates Muscle in Maculata

This year's Muscle in Maculata Car Spectacular saw more than 4000 attendees visit the car show and market day across four fun-filled hours.

The event showcased a variety of local market stalls and children's amusement rides

As early as 8am on 2 June, more than 112 show cars, 33 market stalls, amusement rides, a petting zoo and the mobile police unit started to roll into the park under some of the bluest skies Riverview has seen. The sound of the cars rolling in was music to the organiser's ears, after a few days of rain had cast doubt over the event!

This year's event was assisted by the Ipswich City Council's Community Events Funding Program which the Riverview Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group was able to access through an auspice agreement with Neighbourhood Watch Australasia. Having grown from a handful of cars and stalls in 2017, this event has become well known throughout the car community, as well as the neighbouring council areas as a safe, welcoming, family friendly and low-cost day out.

The event was opened by Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding and Local Councillor Marie Doyle presenting the winning car owners with their



Riverview Police Beat Officer Senior Constable Lynda Whincup showed Riverview NHW Zone 6 Coordinator Sandra Smrecnik an insiders look at the police car

trophies. Riverview Police Beat officer Sergeant Lynda Whincup has attended this event annually, and this year the mobile police unit was a favourite stop with the children who were keen to have their photos taken with the officers and police cars.

Riverview enlisted the help of some Goodna 17 NHW group volunteers and the result was the biggest Muscle in Maculata event yet. The community feedback was very positive and the team at Riverview will take a short break before they begin to plan for next year's event.



Riverview NHW Coordinator Amanda Draheim, Councillor for Division 3 Marnie Doyle, and Riverview NHW Zone 5 Coordinator Lydia Teekens

Sergeant Nigel Dalton Farewell

On 30 May the Mackay Northern Beaches (MNB) Neighbourhood Watch (NHW), in conjunction with Mackay Northern Beaches Police, held a community “Thank you/Well done/Good luck for the future” evening for Sergeant Nigel Dalton, who recently age-retired from Queensland Police Service (QPS).



Officer-in-Charge Sergeant Mitch Benson gave an update on local crime and the status of policing in the district, and Brad Huddleston, accompanied by Senior Constable Steve Smith, updated attendees on their educational presentations about the behavioral problems associated with online activity (mainly gaming and involving young people).

Ken Rehbein shared a touching and encompassing speech about his association with Nigel, along with a long list of Nigel’s activities, awards and achievements. Nigel was presented with a Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHW) gift pack by Gerri Kissner, and an original painting by Ken and Claire Rehbein.

Nigel reaffirmed the point of the behavioral problems brought about by online usage. His story of a mother, whose rage-filled nine-year-old son, was totally out of control, was hard-hitting and sobering.

Some highlights of Nigel Daltons achievements and awards:

- Police District Crime Prevention Coordinator
- Mackay Police Liaison Officer 2013, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023
- Awarded the Queensland Police Liaison Officer Award in 2017
- Winner of NHWA Police Commissioner’s Award 2023
- ‘Choices’ and ‘Safety Circus’ programs, Road Safety talks, and Cyber Safety (Year 12s) - raising awareness of behavioral problems brought on by digital addiction
- Secretariat for Mackay Community Based Crime Action Committee, organising projects to help disengaged youth from offending
- Created, launched and led the “Anger Rage Regret” project, to reduce the frequency of physical assaults

- Mackay Mosque Liaison Officer, interacting with culturally and linguistically diverse people
- Pancakes in the Park, annual community family fun day
- Be Connected, digital skills training project
- Beaches Baptist Church member, involved with disadvantage youths
- Shed Happens men’s group, since established 13 years ago
- Mackay International Men’s Day Breakfast, since inception in 2019
- Mackay Citizen of the Year for 2022 - the highest accolade a local community can bestow on one of its own

We thank Nigel for all he has done for the community and wish him all the best for the future!

First Midge Point NHW Meeting for 2024

Midge Point is a small coastal township situated a short distance south of Proserpine in the Mackay Whitsunday police district.

The Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) group combines well with the local Progress Association and advocates for the residents on a variety of issues and coordinated social events.

The coordinator for the Midge Point NHW group has been leading the group for multiple years, however, has now returned to New Zealand, and a new coordinator has been found.

On 5 May Midge Point NHW with their new coordinator held their first social gathering for 2024.

Residents along with police, local Volunteer Marine Rescue and the Rural Fire Brigade all attended in numbers to show their support and get to know their neighbours and nearby residents.

Stan Camm Park is a great location for social gatherings, only a short distance away from the beach, with a playground and BBQ, and wallabies gathering nearby.

A fantastic effort from all of the organisers, thank you to all who attended.



Local residents were out in force to support the first Midge Point NHW social gathering for 2024

Mackay Northern Beaches NHW Cuppa and a Chat



Police, NHW volunteers, and local residents enjoyed the opportunity to catch up

Mackay Northern Beaches Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) held a Cuppa and a Chat on 13 March for local residents. Although on leave, Nigel Dalton attended the monthly gathering.

This was the last such attendance Nigel made prior to his retirement from the Queensland Police Service. It was a special occasion for Nigel on many levels - his brother Alan was visiting from Northern Ireland, on his first trip to Australia. Cuppa and a Chat events are a great way for locals to meet and catch up with NHW volunteers and police, in a relaxed setting.



Senior Constable Steve Smith provided attendees with an update from police

Kumbia NHW Throwing Down a Challenge to other NHW Groups

Zone coordinators at an appreciation night in November 2020, to thank them for their years of service

Kumbia Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is interested in finding out the longevity of other NHW groups and their office bearers, to see if anyone can match Kumbia's record.

In 2024, our books will show the following continuous periods of service:

- Kumbia NHW Group** 33 years
- Area Coordinator** 32 years
- Secretary** 25 years
- Treasurer** 29 years

It should be mentioned that several of our zone coordinators have fulfilled the role since inception - serving continuously for 33 years.

The group takes pride in the fact that to date, four members have received the NHW Queensland District Member of the Year Award - not bad for a small but dedicated group!

If other groups can match or surpass the above, then we await word to that effect - and in the meantime... "Congratulations on a job well done!"



NHTA CEO Maria with four original members of Kumbia NHW, taken at the 30th anniversary in August 2021



Kumbia Area Coordinator Morris Winter awarded NHWQ District Member of 2016



Peter Verbakel awarded NHWQ District Member of the Year 2017



Treasurer Michelle Cartlidge awarded NHWQ District Member of the Year 2019



Rosalie Winter District Member of the Year 2022, with MP Jim Madden and QPS Commissioner Katarina Carroll



Neil Winter (Secretary over 20 years), Morris Winter (Kumbia NHW Area Coordinator over 30 years), co-founder of Ceres Tags Melita Smith, Tamika from Norco (local distributor Ceres Tags), and Beck Cross from Bunya Beef Grazing



Solar powered Ceres Tag



Trees being grown for that special time of the year at Christmas Tree Farm

Kumbia NHW 2023 Guest Speakers

As you can imagine in a span of over 30 years, Kumbia Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has hosted a large number of guest speakers at their quarterly meetings.

Officers from both Queensland Police Service (QPS) and the Australian Federal Police (AFP) have spoken on varied topics, ranging from farm security, preventing stock theft and disaster recovery to their own journeys in the services, and have always been well received and informative.

During 2023, we turned our attention to hearing from locals who have made successes out of their businesses or professions, and have enjoyed listening to:

Nev Kassulke
District Court Bailiff

Debbie Bunker
Christmas Tree Farm, a farm growing and selling trees suited to our climate (chrissytrees4U.com.au)

Liz Beavis
Eight Acres Farm, producing filtered natural honey and soap (eight-acres.com.au)

Beck Cross
Bunya Beef Grazing, a family operated grazing business selling beef packs throughout SE Queensland (bunyabeef.com.au)

Melita Smith
Ceres Tags (an animal welfare and location monitoring system used around the world (cerestag.com))

The websites for each of their businesses have been included in the list for readers who would like to investigate further.

Thank you for all our guest speakers throughout 2023!



Gift shop at Christmas Tree Farm

Update from NHW Wondai

Wondai NHW at the Markets

As part Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Month in March, Wondai NHW set up a display at the monthly Wondai markets.

NHW Volunteers had great time catching up with locals, and promoting Wondai NHW. Attendees stopped by to discuss home security, how to stay safe, and the importance of getting to know your neighbours. There were also plenty of NHW resources available, including the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Kids Colouring books, keyrings, pens, water bottles and torches.



Wondai NHW Area Coordinator Darren Buckley and Joy Buckley at the Wondai NHW stall, ready to chat with locals

Coffee with a Cop

The first Coffee with a Cop for Wondai Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) 2024 was held at the Wondai Diggers Club.

Seven NHW members and the Acting Sergeant Adam Done attended the event. It was a great opportunity for NHW members to meet with and have a chat A/Sergeant Done, to discuss local crime trends and provide an update from police.



Glenis Radunz, Roy Radunz OAM, A/Sgt Adam Done, Pat Hanson and Gwen Hodge

Get Online Week

Wondai Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) celebrated Get Online Week 2023 at the South Burnett Regional Council Wondai Library.

Joy Buckley and South Burnett Regional Council Librarian Chris Thomas held an interactive presentation teaching residents of Wondai about the internet, digital skills, and most importantly how to stay safe online.

Attendees were also shown the Be Connected website, and its many useful resources. It was a very successful event, thank you to the organisers and attendees!



Joy Buckley presenting at the Wondai GOLW 2023 with attendees Roy and Glenis Radunz, Margaret Heritage, Gwen Hodge and Fred Law

The Caves Neighbourhood Watch at The Caves Show

Members of The Caves Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) spent a lovely day on 27 April running a stall at The Caves Show.



Lana and Barry congratulate our money board winner



Laurie and Barry ready for a busy day!

On the afternoon prior to the show the stall was set up in a shady spot near the Pavillion, to ensure maximum traffic.

More than 2000 people attended the show, and most passed by The Caves NHW stall. There was plenty of interest from attendees, and members happily shared information about The Caves NHW group and its role in the community.

Without a roster, members took turns to answer questions and hand out goodies including advisory leaflets, fridge magnets, and metal tags for mailboxes and gateways were also popular.

We were especially impressed with the number of newcomers to the small community, who dropped by for a chat and to collect fridge magnets to add their neighbour's phone numbers.

Volunteers Barry and Laurie also took advantage of the passing performer to get an eye catching photo for the local Facebook page!

The next promotion The Caves NHW will be attending will be "Fair in the Square", held in conjunction with the local Lions organisation.



Barry and Laurie meet one of the talented street performers

Happy Halloween from Daisy Hill NHW

Halloween is big in the Daisy Hill Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) neck of the woods.

In 2022 and 2023 Daisy Hill made it a Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) event as there seemed to be lots of people with young families who were interested in dressing up their kids (and themselves), and we thought it would be fun to have Senior Constable Rob Whitehead bring the mobile Police Beat van out and set up a display for the younger members. He was available to discuss issues with children and adults alike - great community policing.

NHW tends to be more relevant to older residents, and the aim is to introduce the NHW concepts to a younger audience. Having families with children attend the event allows us to do this - to connect with a wider variety of ages within the community.

While the kids loved the dressing up and the treats, the event was more successful because of the baked goods available, the bottled water, the Halloween music and the presence of the Police Beat van. Senior Constable Rob Whitehead also set up a table with handcuffs and other police equipment to show the kids - this was very popular and is a great way of introducing younger people to NHW and community policing in a safe way.

Well the kids outdid themselves. Over 250 kids visited for treats over a period of about three hours, there were five dozen cupcakes baked, 50 coconut meringues, chocolate marshmallows, jelly cups and there were hundreds and hundreds of candies.

Some attendees looked gorgeous and some not so! Thanks Jenny for the makeup (I think), thanks Irene for the wonderful food and cups of tea, and thanks Cliff, Irene, Jenny, James and Jayme for helping get it all together on the night. Thank you to Logan City Councillor Mindy Russell for helping with funding.



The Flintstones family trick-or-treating



Jill Devaus, Charlotte and Rex



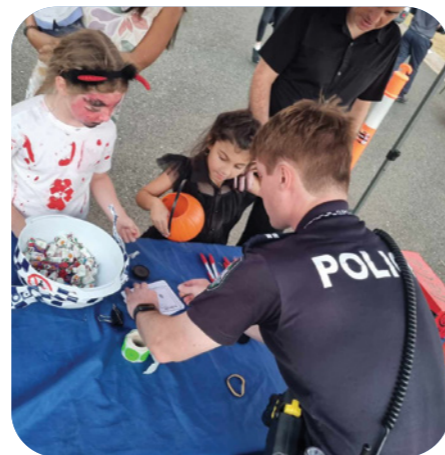
Jill and Jenny Devaus, with S/C Rob Crowley



Cliff Walker and Jenny Devaus were dressed to impress!



Sienna and Chelsea were sure to scare some residents!



S/C Rob Crowley with some goodies for the younger residents

NHW SA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Lorraine McDonnell, Goolwa NHW Area Coordinator Tony McWhinney, Tony Peake, S/C1 Andrew, Supreme Auto Mart store representative, Patricia Salter, Morag Barker and Malcolm Salter

Community Initiative to Improve Bicycle Safety in Goolwa

Due to safety concerns regarding children riding bikes without helmets, Goolwa Police and Goolwa Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) came up with the idea of distributing free bike helmets to children who did not have them.

Goolwa NHW partnered with Supreme Auto Mart, a local automotive product and bike shop, to provide a free bike helmet to anyone who presented a voucher.

Goolwa police officers identify children who aren't wearing bike helmets and have a chat with them about the importance of wearing a helmet for their safety on the road. If it is determined that a child doesn't have a helmet or is unable to

purchase one, the police officer will give them a voucher that they can redeem for a helmet that complies with Australian standards from Supreme Auto Mart.

Ten children have received helmets to date, improving community safety in Goolwa.

To take community and road safety a step further, NHW Goolwa and Supreme Auto Mart have extended

the initiative to include adults experiencing financial hardships.

NHW Goolwa's fundraising efforts enable funding of the helmet distribution initiative and other community safety initiatives including local school breakfast clubs.

Goolwa is a coastal town and popular holiday location around 85km south of Adelaide, South Australia.

Jenny Keeps Klemzig Organised

When Jenny Moller joined Klemzig Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) as its secretary 18 years ago, she quickly helped move the group into the age of technology. "We modernised the whole show and put everything on computer," said the 2023 recipient of the NHW South Australia's President's Award.

Klemzig NHW Secretary Jenny Moller and Area Coordinator Robyn Williams

Jenny had been secretary for a number of committees and groups in her career as a teacher librarian, so had the confidence to embrace the role. "I knew what being a secretary was all about," she said, "I knew how to do things like take minutes."

Jenny has provided so much more than secretarial skills over the years. She is known for her networking ability and for supporting other members to step up and assist without feeling daunted. And members did step up when Jenny was diagnosed with cancer in 2009. They supported her with her NHW responsibilities, but Jenny continued to capably undertake the role of secretary despite undergoing surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy.

Jenny has set up 'no fuss' Information Packs to assist in processing volunteer applications as well as Welcome Packs for new volunteers. She maintains and updates the volunteer records and keeps account of volunteers due for service awards. It is also Jenny's role to keep the newsletter



Klemzig NHW Secretary Jenny Moller

delivery-records up-to-date, which is how she knows the 'Klemzig Watch' newsletter is now delivered to 3,400 homes and businesses; up from almost 2,000 when the group started.

The size of the community Klemzig NHW serves is important to the group's sustainability, according to Jenny. "Our area is big enough to be able to call on people,"

she said, "We have no trouble getting new volunteers."

Jenny is particularly proud of the newsletter and is one of the regular contributors. She is also part of the team that collates and labels the newsletters in readiness for delivery.

"I get an enormous sense of satisfaction from making the community a lot safer," she said.

Empowering Seniors: Scam Awareness Session in Limestone Coast

In response to numerous Limestone Coast residents - particularly seniors - becoming victims to various online scams, Senior Constable Deb Edwards, the Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) SA Police (SAPOL) Coordinator for the Limestone Coast, came up with the idea of hosting a Scam Awareness Session for seniors.

The session was a collaborative effort by Kingston SE NHW with Senior Constable Deb from Mt Gambier Police. **Its aim was to raise awareness about scams commonly encountered on phones and computers, and empower people with resources they could use to recognise and prevent scams effectively.**

The Scam Awareness Session, held in March at a local retirement village, attracted more than 40 attendants. Deb began the session with a short presentation on common online scams, offering tips on how to spot and prevent them. Throughout the session, Deb actively engaged with the seniors, encouraging them to ask questions. Attendees shared experiences of being scammed or almost falling victim to scams.

In the wake of the rising number of online scams, the attendees were offered resources such as factsheets, pamphlets, and a booklet called 'The Little Black Book of Scams' to enhance their awareness on scams and assist them in identifying potential scams.

Copies of these resources were also provided to the retirement village, benefiting both existing and new residents.

In order to increase awareness about scams, Kingston SE NHW has gone a step further by securing a dedicated area at the Kingston Community Shop and Janet's Takeaway at The Big Lobster, where valuable scam awareness resources will be made available.



Kingston SE NHW Secretary Pauline Williams and S/C Deb of Mt Gambier Police



S/C Deb presents scam awareness tips to seniors



All set for the Neighbour Day Barbecue outside the Glenorchy City Council Chambers



Cuppa with a Cop at Glenorchy Central



Tasmanian Bush Watch Group Discovers New Zealand Link

Bush Watch for Westerway and the Upper Derwent Valley is a member of the Tasmanian Neighbourhood Watch family.

Community members at the handover ceremony

Greater Glenorchy NHW - A Pilot Success

The Greater Glenorchy Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is, as the title suggests, an NHW group for the whole City of Glenorchy.

The traditional NHW groupings were previously divided into areas, zones and sometimes streets, so the idea of having one for a whole city of almost 50,000 people was thinking outside the box. But as their current Coordinator, Peter Vogelsanger says, "that is what you have to do sometimes if you want to get things done."

Not knowing how it would work out, Peter convinced the Tasmanian NHW Board to allow him to run it as a trial, using one of the new coordination arrangements, by sharing information through a dedicated Facebook Page. It is no doubt a reflection of Peter's passion and determination to make the trial work, that two years later he has a number of runs on the board, and albeit slowly, he is increasing the NHW engagement with the public and other like-minded organisations.

Like most successful NHW groups, it relies on committed leadership, and Peter has been relentless in taking up every NHW challenge that comes his way. And en route he has built his network with Knight Frank sponsoring Cuppa With a Cop (CWAC) events at Glenorchy Central and Claremont Plaza; an information stand and raffle at Bunnings Glenorchy every year for NHW and Bunnings Crime Prevention Week; hosting Get Online Week events, and partnering with the City Safety Lead Ronan McDermott, to host a Neighbour Day Barbecue in the city centre.

All of these activities have been supported by Tasmania Police and so the added advantage is that not only does it bring people together, but it also gives them the opportunity to rub shoulders with their civic leaders, other volunteer organisations and



Cuppa with a Cop at Claremont Plaza

members of the Police Service. Peter says that every time the police and community engagement is increased, we are improving community wellbeing, the sense of belonging, and safety. It may only happen incrementally - but it does happen.

The wash up from this trial is that NHW in Tasmania is now comfortable with larger areas being operated through a dedicated Facebook Coordinator. New larger groups have recently been inducted for Lauderdale to Opossum Bay and the Kentish local government area. Using Facebook effectively means that we can share information quickly and more widely than was previously the case. It does not mean we no longer value face to face engagement - we do, and our Coordinators are invariably the ones who, with a team of helpers, will be organising NHW events in their locale.



New Zealand flag flying free

They operate in one of the highest bushfire prone areas of Australia and actively harness volunteers to keep their towns clean and remove illegally dumped tyres from the bush to help minimise the bushfire fuel load.

In a previous article it was reported how the group uncovered a forgotten and neglected war memorial in Fentonbury, once a township but now a hamlet, which honoured three local men who died in WWI. In their quest to right the wrongs of the neglected memorial, the group took on the project to have it restored to ensure it received the prominence and respect it rightly deserved.

Further research revealed that one of the Fentonbury soldiers was actually working in New Zealand when Australia and New Zealand made a commitment to join the



Bush Watch Clean Up Maydena

war effort. Rather than make his way back to Australia to join up, James Scanlon joined the 1st Battalion of Auckland Rifles, on 16 January 1916. He served in Gallipoli, Egypt and was killed in action on 8 May 1917 in France. He was buried in a military cemetery in Belgium.

It was as a result of uncovering this New Zealand connection with Fentonbury that the Bush Watch team made it a project to have the New Zealand flag available to be flown at the memorial on Anzac Day. It was seen as symbolically important that the flag should be authentic and from New Zealand. So began the process of making the objective a reality.

The good thing about engaged communities is that they know and operate through networks to make

things happen. Correspondence initiated between the President of the Tasmanian Legislative Council, Craig Farrell, and the Speaker of the New Zealand Parliament, Gerry Brownlee, realised a commitment to having an authentic New Zealand flag, hand delivered from NZ to Fentonbury, in time for Anzac Day, 2024.

The hand delivery was actually achieved via a parliamentary clerks meeting in Darwin! The flag was duly delivered and handed over by Craig Farrell to the Bush Watch President, Stefan Frazik, at a small ceremony at the Fentonbury War Memorial on 9 April 2024. This is just another demonstration of the bonds between our two nations and the good things that can be achieved through volunteers in the Neighbourhood Watch community.



Graeme presenting to the Men's Shed



Ryan Gilmour presenting on legal aspects of neighbour disputes



Neighbour Day at Port Sorell

Port Sorell NHW Embrace 2024 as a DOT (Do One Thing) Year

Port Sorell is a popular seaside town on the north west coast of Tasmania.

It is the home of one of the newest Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups in the state and to their credit, this group has been active in delivering events that provide valuable information, and just as importantly, bringing people together.

The Board of NHW Tasmania had declared 2024 as a Do One Thing (DOT) year. A DOT year challenges every member to at least Do One Thing for their community in the calendar year. Not much to ask really. However, the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) Journal is a great source of ideas harvested from the activities of groups across Australia, New Zealand and the international network. So, by sharing these activities in the NHWA Journal, others may get an idea of things that they could do in their patch.

- In early February a presentation was delivered at the Port Sorell Men's Shed to tell their members all about NHW and to advise them what the Port Sorell group hopes to achieve.

- On 31 March Port Sorell NHW participated in the Port Sorell Neighbour Day by having an information table and chatting with locals about all things 'Neighbourhood Watch'. This was a well patronised event which received healthy coverage on the local TV evening news with President Graeme Foulis being the prominent spokesperson on the value of community engagement.

Port Sorell NHW also initiated, organised, and hosted a series of three community meetings, over a period of six weeks, where presentations were made by lawyers from the North West Community Legal Centre (TAS) on topics of community interest. Two topics were covered in each session from the following list, all very relevant to being better and good neighbours:

- General neighbourhood nuisances/ Restraint orders;
- Boundary fences/ Disputes relating to trees and plants;

- Responsibilities of dog and cat owners/ Everyday law relating to easements.

These meetings had many purposes, amongst which was to get the community together with the objective of becoming more informed about basic legal aspects which come into play in everyday life. The underlying premise was that, if a dispute arises, there is more chance of community members resolving the issue amicably if they have a basic understanding of their respective rights and responsibilities relevant to the issue in question. As Graeme says, "Good neighbours make good communities."

The presentations were well received by the Port Sorell community, and they express their sincere appreciation to Senior Solicitor Ryan Gilmour and his team at North West Community Legal Centre for dedicating their time to address these meetings.

NHW WA

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Neighbourhood Street Parties Get the Community Together

Several Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups in WA hold street parties to get people together in their local neighbourhood.

Melville NHW Chairperson Atul Garg (right) celebrates with local residents in Winthrop 2023

A large number of residents look forward to such parties and are ever willing to support and help. It is a chance to have a chat about community safety issues. Also, it is great that people can get to know their neighbours, to better reduce fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.

NHW street parties have several benefits such as:

- Community Bonding:** Street parties foster connections among neighbours.
- Reducing Fear:** When people feel connected, they become more confident and supportive of each other thus reducing fear of crime.
- Promoting Social Cohesion:** Street parties build communities by supporting social cohesion across age groups, ethnic backgrounds, and cultures. Children also have a chance to play together.

During his 31 years with NHW WA, Melville NHW Chairperson Atul Garg has either participated in, or conducted a street party every year, except during



Street party in Winthrop, City of Melville in 2021

Covid. These parties have mostly been supported by the City of Melville, and with local residents bringing along a dish and their own drinks. The residents assist by taking turns to host the parties at their homes.

In addition to sharing BBQ food and water bottles, it is also an opportunity to share new NHW information material, resources, and other freebies with all participants.

When available, Mayors have attended these parties and supported the community safety work of the NHW team within the City of Melville.

There is a fair bit of work involved in planning months in advance, getting grant funding, circulating flyers, making a list of attendees, inviting the Mayor, arranging a volunteer host, buying and preserving the food and finally, actually conducting the event. However, the end result is worth it, with the event resulting in creating a safe and friendly neighbourhood!

Atul Garg would be thrilled to help anyone who would like help in conducting a street party in their neighbourhood, to get in touch visit: www.nhw.wa.gov.au/contact-us

Neighbour Day Events Engage Kwinana Community

Kwinana recently celebrated Neighbour Day in March, Australia’s annual celebration of community, encouraging people to connect with those who live in their neighbourhood.



Premier Roger Cook and City of Kwinana Community Safety Officer Sinead Gilligan celebrating Medina Neighbour Day



Amelia, Jack and Ella Stewart at Medina Neighbour Day

Five Neighbour Day events planned by community groups offered people a range of ways to connect and share food together in local parks within the City of Kwinana.

Medina, Wandi, Apsley, Bertram, and Leda hosted some fabulous events! Each event provided tips to help people connect to their community, as well as Community Safety packs and Neighbourhood Watch resources. Local performers entertained the crowds, and children enjoyed various fun activities and games.



Ella Stewart enjoying a pony ride at Medina Neighbour Day

It’s never too late to host your own Street Meet in Kwinana! You could earn up to \$150 to host your own community activity. Head over to the City’s website to find out more: <https://www.kwinana.wa.gov.au/community/community-development/funding-and-grants/neighbour-day-and-street-meets>

Serpentine Jarrahdale NHW Celebrates Youth and Promotes Community Safety

The Serpentine Jarrahdale (SJ) Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) volunteers, together with Armadale District Police Officers, Shire Rangers and Community Safety Officers, joined forces to attend a vibrant celebration of youth at the SJ Youth Fest 2024.



Youth completing the community safety quiz with the help of local police officers



Prize table filled with safety prizes, including bike helmets and torches



Young people took advantage to take some photos in the police car

Hundreds of young people flocked to a local sporting oval to enjoy the free event, with activities including inflatable games, ice cream, face painters and hair braiders, lawn games, crafts, a DJ spinning tunes, live music and of course bubble tea to keep everyone hydrated.

The NHW team took the opportunity to engage in a positive environment, providing resources and education on community safety and crime prevention.

Young people eagerly completed a short quiz to have a spin of the prize wheel. Questions included how to contact police, eRider rules, cyber safety tips, and even challenging them to spell their name using the phonetic alphabet.

The prizes were safety based, with prize winners taking home enduro bike helmets, mini torches, U-locks and tool kits for bikes, as well as NHW merchandise. Police officers were on hand to assist with any of



NHW prize wheel

the questions, and of course take fun photos in the police car.

The annual event had a fantastic turnout, and the popularity of the prize wheel proved invaluable in captivating the attention of festival goers to equip them with crucial knowledge and resources.

NHW Volunteer Jan Booth said, “It was a unique opportunity

to engage with young people and share a positive message about Neighbourhood Watch, that impacts their community”.

Residents also praised the event, and plans are already underway for future collaborations with youth in the Shire to enhance community safety and increase the profile of NHW.



Community BBQs are great for kids and families to meet their neighbours



Serpentine community BBQ, feeding the locals



The dedicated volunteers have cooked more than 650 sausages!



Mundijong Police attend Keysbrook Community BBQ

Serpentine Jarrahdale NHW wraps up a successful series of community BBQs

Serpentine Jarrahdale Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) have run a series of free community BBQ's since 2013.

Each event takes place in a different suburb to reach residents in an easily accessible and informal setting.

As one of the fastest growing local government areas, the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale is constantly welcoming new residents to the community, and the NHW volunteers are continuing to foster community connection by hosting free local BBQs.

Each BBQ takes place in a central location and attracts around 100 members of the community, who chat with volunteers, receive crime prevention information, engage with Rangers and local Police, and most importantly, meet their neighbours and local community. The Bushfire

Awareness Team also attend to provide invaluable information and resources to the residents on being prepared for a bushfire emergency and the importance of having a bushfire action plan.

This year we added yard games, glow sticks and other activities to the BBQs to provide interaction for kids whilst parents chatted to the volunteers and service providers.

NHW volunteer Rosie, said "The community BBQs are great for members of the community to meet up and mingle, and for people to meet like-minded friends. This is especially important for people with young families, so they can build our next community."

The volunteers have cooked over 650 sausages and registered over 150 residents to the electronic crime prevention newsletter, eWatch. The team of volunteers regularly look for opportunities to provide residents with timely, and relevant information, correct methods of reporting crime and suspicious activity, and most importantly, encouraging the Neighbourhood Watch philosophy of neighbours looking out for neighbours.

None of these events would be possible without the ongoing efforts of our incredible volunteers who actively participate and commit to the series year after year.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia

Merchandise Shop

Outfit your Neighbourhood Watch group with some great polo shirts and merchandise from the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Shop

Take a look at what's on offer at the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia shop



Mens (Unisex)
NHW Polo Shirt
\$35 Each



Womens
NHW Polo Shirt
\$35 Each



Satchel /
Laptop bag
1 for \$32 2 for \$42



Water Bottles
Stainless Steel
1 \$20 2 \$30 3 \$40



LED Mini
Torches
5 for \$35



Rain
Ponchos
10 for \$30



NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH
AUSTRALASIA

www.nhwa.com.au/nhwa-shop





Bathing Buddha Holy Ceremony brought Hobart community members together to celebrate the 2568th birthday of the Great Holy Sakyamuni Buddha. Guests assumed the role of giving birth to Buddha as Mahamaya Diva, or acted as Buddha of Multiple Heavens to decant holy waters from the nine nagas on Crown Prince Siddhartha. It was a simulation of the great act of attaining Buddhahood within the current lifetime, and bringing good fortune to the nation through this event.

