

NHWA

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OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA
INCORPORATING NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT NEW ZEALAND



Know your neighbour

**Help
the Salvos
shield those
in need.**



RED SHIELD APPEAL

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Neighbourhood Watch
Australasia Incorporated

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Patricia Leary
President

Introducing our new President

The (Honorable) Patricia Leary has been elected to the position of President of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA). Recently retired after some 28 years on the Bench, as a Member of what is now the Fair Work Commission, Patricia (Pat) said she was honoured to accept the appointment and was looking forward to continuing the good work of the organisation.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) is the largest Australasian community based crime prevention program of its kind. The organisation works across all Australian and New Zealand communities and policing jurisdictions, encouraging the pursuit of the NHWA vision of enabling safer and vibrant communities by promoting crime prevention and community safety, quality of life and social inclusion.

Pat brings immense experience to this Federal Government funded not for profit organisation. For 12 years she held the appointment of President of the Tasmanian Industrial Commission. She has also been a Member, and President, of the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal and Chair of the Australian Federal Police Board of Reference. For many years Pat was a presenter at the Australian Institute of Police Management in Sydney.

Currently Pat continues in her roles as Chair of the Northern Territory Police Arbitral Tribunal and Chair of the Tasmanian Police Review Board. She is also Chair of the Board of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Acting Chair Virtuosi Tasmania Inc, Chair of the Red Cross Tasmanian January 2013 Bushfire Distribution Committee, Chair of the Centenary of ANZAC Steering Committee and Tasmanian Secretary and Vice President of Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania Inc.

Pat is a member of the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration, Australian Association of Women Judges, Australian Labour Law Association, Industrial Relations Society, (Tasmania and NSW); International Labour and Employment Relations Association, and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Pat is committed to her belief that we all have a right to live in a community that is safe, happy and where people know one another. "That's part of what makes me proud to be Australian" said Pat.

In her spare time Pat likes to read, find and French polish beautiful pieces of furniture, enjoy good music and spoil her much loved cats, Hilary and Osama.



Ingrid Stonhill
Chief Executive Officer

From the Chief Executive Officer

This edition of our magazine reinforces the message “know your neighbour” – after all isn’t that what we at Neighbourhood Watch are all about?

As we move into autumn and on to the winter months, it will be a welcome change for many who have experienced the severe extremes of our changing weather patterns; drought, fires, cyclones, flooding and just recently too much rain. All of these natural disasters require community resilience and the capacity to have, not only the help and support of our valued emergency services volunteers, but most importantly the help and support of those that live around us, our neighbours.

This month we highlight again our Knock Knock program, of getting to know your neighbours. New Zealand shares their Good Neighbours study and the Northern Territory highlight

their work at the Palmerston Seniors Forum. Tasmania and Victoria share graffiti management projects, whilst Western Australia and New South Wales highlight successful programs and expos.

We congratulate Queensland Neighbourhood Watch as they celebrate 25 years of active community participation and engagement. We also welcome Les Bulluss as a new Board Member representing Queensland.

NHWA also welcomes the election of a new President, Patricia Leary. Pat is no stranger to NHWA and we all look forward to working with her.

Stay safe

Ingrid

“All of these natural disasters require community resilience and the capacity to have, not only the help and support of our valued emergency services volunteers, but most importantly the help and support of those that live around us, our neighbours.”



**KNOCK
KNOCK!**

**WHO'S
THERE?**



**GET SMART AND GET
NEIGHBOURLY.**

Get to know your neighbour
and we can make our suburb
a safer place for everyone!

To find out if your suburb has an active Neighbourhood Watch group or if you would like to find out more about how to get involved with Neighbourhood Watch, contact your NHW State Office representative.



**Neighbourhood
Watch**

Knock Knock



Knock Knock is a new national Neighbourhood Watch membership drive.

Successfully established and trialled in The Gap, Queensland, the Knock Knock membership drive is now available to all Neighbourhood Watch groups. The Knock Knock resources give you an excuse, opportunity and or reason, to go next door and meet your neighbours, in a non-confronting way. Simply take the first step and leave a voucher in your next door neighbour's letterbox. The membership drive has been developed to help neighbours meet neighbours and promote neighbourliness – that leads to an engaged and safe community.

Contact your local Neighbourhood Watch Office or send us an email to find out where you can get your local resources from admin@nhwa.com.au.

So come on, Knock Knock and see who's there!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS?

It's time to get to know them! Break the ice and introduce yourself simply by filling out one of the forms above and popping it into your neighbour's letterbox.

It takes a community to make a difference. Start today. Say hello to your neighbour today.

To find out if your suburb has an active Neighbourhood Watch group or if you would like to get involved, contact your NHW State Officer representative or local Police representative.



Executive Committee Introductions



Pat Leary - President

Patricia Leary is currently the State Secretary/Vice President Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania Inc. Pat has professed to recently retiring, and indeed has stepped down from being the Deputy President Fair Work Commission (and its predecessors) for some 28 years; a Member/President Tasmanian Industrial Commission some 12 years; a Member/President Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal over a 20 year period.

However Pat still serves as the Chair of the Northern Territory Police Arbitral Tribunal (since 2002); Chair of the Tasmanian Police Review Board and Member (since 2004); Deputy Chair Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra (since 2006); Chair Red Cross Tasmanian Bushfire Appeal Fund Distribution Committee; and Chair of the Centenary of ANZAC Steering Committee (Tasmania).



Bernie Durkin - Vice President

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



Ingrid Stonhill - Chief Executive Officer

Ingrid has extensive experience in local government, federal government and non government agencies. For the last 15 years Ingrid has been predominantly focused on community development, crime prevention and community engagement - within the voluntary, policing and government sectors.

Ingrid has been an elected local body politician, an advisor to a senior Member of Parliament, run her own Public Relations and Marketing business and spent two years as a volunteer in the Pacific Islands. Ingrid brings to NHWA an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the organisation as a founding member and administrator of the board. Ingrid was the inaugural National Manager of Neighbourhood Support New Zealand prior to immigrating to Australia.



Margaret Pearson - Secretary

Throughout Margaret's career she has made a significant contribution to the voluntary sector by being involved with numerous community organizations. For the past ten years Margaret has been an instrumental member of Neighbourhood Watch in the ACT. She has held a variety of positions within the organization.

Having lived overseas for a number of years Margaret returned to Canberra to work at Parliament House. Whilst Margaret has retired from full time employment, she continues to follow her great interest in local and international politics. Margaret is currently the secretary of NHWA.



Clare McGrath - Board Member

Clare is currently the Vice-President and Board Member of the ACT Neighbourhood Watch Association. Clare has been an active member of NHW since 1985, primarily in the Ainslie Suburb of Canberra where she has lived since 1962 after moving from Melbourne.

Clare is employed with the Australian Electoral Commission and although this is a busy role, she also finds time to be a member of the ACT Safety House Association. Clare is a self-professed sports lover and a one eyed Hawthorn supporter.

Executive Committee Introductions



Roger Eynon - Board Member

Roger Eynon is from Wirral in the United Kingdom. Both he and his wife moved to New Zealand together in October 2006, quickly settling in Wellington and have been lucky to integrate whole-heartedly in the Kiwi way of life.

Roger originally spent 21 years working for HSBC and then moved on to manage a community centre in Merseyside that hosted 47 service providers, a secondary care unit and a crèche. He moved to Merseyside Police as a Financial Investigation Officer in 2005.

After a brief stint with ACC, he commenced as National Manager of Neighbourhood Support New Zealand in February 2008.



Dennis Obst - Board Member

Dennis Obst hails from rural South Australia and has served as a clergy person in Cooma, Hobart, Melbourne, Barossa Valley and Adelaide. He joined NHW in 2004 to lead it's relaunch in Felixstow and now is the President of the Volunteers Association in South Australia. Dennis is a DiSC and Leadership workshop facilitator and also enjoys 'working' in the shed and home maintenance. He is an avid Adelaide Crows Supporter and has also been in love with Sandra for over 40 years.



Michael Hebb - Board Member

Michael Hebb commenced with Victoria Police in 1988, working in General Duties, Traffic Policing and plain clothes Investigations units in metropolitan & rural locations. In 2008 he joined the Northern Territory Police Force, and has been positioned in Darwin since that time. He has worked in General Duties, Violent Crime Policy Section & the Remote Policing Command. Michael is currently the Officer in Charge of the Darwin City Police Station.



Carlee Mahoney - Board Member

Carlee Mahoney is a Detective Inspector within the NSW South Wales Police Force with over 17 years experience in law enforcement, including working as a Detective in the NSW Police, a lead investigator with Australian Crime Commission and recently assisted in the development of the Social Media Policy within her role at the Professional Standards Command, NSW Police.



Les Bulluss - Board Member

Queensland Police Inspector Les Bulluss is the newest board member of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA), representing the Queensland Police Service. Les has been a police officer for almost 28 years both within the New South Wales Police Force until 2000 and now the Queensland Police Service. Inspector Bulluss is the Manager of Community Programs and Engagement for the Queensland Police, looking after a portfolio that includes crime prevention, Crime Stoppers, cultural support and the world renowned Queensland Police Pipes and Drums.

A chat with

Chief Executive Officer of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Ingrid Stonhill

With 30 years of community engagement under its belt, is Neighbourhood Watch meeting the needs of today's society?

It's a question I am often asked, which always leads me down a path of reflection. I first became aware of Neighbourhood Watch in my early 20s as a "fresh out of university", working professional, flatting for the first time. We were burgled. I remember clearly the indignation I felt by the invasion of my home and theft of my property. (can I just add here it was money, jewellery and small items, the TV and DVD in those days far too heavy to hoist quickly and none of us had dreamt, or even imagined, about something called a laptop).

The lovely community police officer who attended our call-out recommended that I consider starting a Neighbourhood Watch group. A what? Whilst I could not recall his response to that specific question I do recall his explanation as to why Neighbourhood Watch groups had taken off in the city. About a year earlier a woman had been bashed in her own home. Her screams for mercy and help had gone unaided. Her neighbours had heard her but had done nothing.

That story had a profound and long lasting effect on me.

I have always held the belief that Neighbourhood Watch started as the mechanism to give permission for neighbours to go next door and meet one another. It is based on the principle that people need to be connected to people to survive. Perhaps the original sharing of crime statistics or details of some heinous crime may have been a little scaremongering to encourage involvement. However the basic fundamental intent has always been there. We all want to feel safe in our homes, streets and communities. So knowing who is right next door to us is important in achieving that.

I took for granted what I had growing up. As a kid I did a paper round, I also did a Sunday morning papers and fresh bread run for our elderly neighbours. That's how I earned my pocket money. The local store owner knew me by name, where I lived and who my parents were. I walked to school, was part of the local youth club and played sport. All of these activities lead to natural interaction within my local community.

It's that natural interaction, that local network and knowledge that is an essential component to making Neighbourhood Watch a success.

So let's fast track 40 years, what have we got today? I don't have a local store I frequent anymore. I've done a lot of driving of my kids to and from school and sports events. I drive to the gym to exercise! Whilst I pride myself on knowing almost everyone in my street by sight and many by name, I very rarely walk the local streets.

We are a society reliant on the car. We drive everywhere. Departing and returning from our internal garages, we live in gated communities, we don't have to see, speak or wave to anyone in our street if we don't want to. To keep in touch with friends I text or use Facebook, Instagram or Messenger or even the good old email; don't Twitter. I'm a typical statistic, a 40-something female, online communicator. It's fun, quick and easy.

No one can ignore the enormous effect advancing technology has had and will continue to have on the makeup of our family and community communication structure. Where can

“You can join a Neighbourhood Watch group online. Whether engaging with your geographical community or your community of interest. It’s fast and efficient, but it begs the question – is it enough?”



you go these days to escape the mobile phone? Our obsession with being on our phones is all consuming. I don't read the paper anymore, I read the news online. I love Google, how did I live without it? (my husband feels he has now become redundant - no more questions to ponder). I have instant access to anything I want to know. Mobile phones are banned from meal times in my home, so we can actually converse with one another. I notice that my teenagers never really plan anything in detail in advance, no need, it's all instant communication. I am the same, guilty as charged!

Neighbourhood Watch has developed online, it has had to, to stay relevant. We have had to advance our crime prevention messaging delivery and knowledge to stay current. Being safe in your own home is not all we have to think about. I can get burgled online! If you are online, then you could also be a sitting target to new types of crime. Identity theft, relationship scams, lotteries scams, business scams – in fact there are hundreds of scams we probably don't even know about yet. We are constantly developing and updating our

website information to share quality examples and knowledge through both traditional communication methods and online methods. You can join a Neighbourhood Watch group online. Whether engaging with your geographical community or your community of interest. It's fast and efficient, but it begs the question – is it enough?

It seems life is so much more fast paced with a drive for instant gratification. We need instant access to almost everything because we are so time poor. So we develop a greater reliance on the technology that can give us what we require. But are we forgetting the most important thing here, it's not about the technology, it's about people, people, people.

There are some sobering lessons to be learned from our consuming dependency on technology. None closer to home for me than the 2011 Christchurch earthquake. All forms of technological communication failed. In survival mode, people turned to people for help. It was the traditional Neighbourhood Watch (Neighbourhood Support in New Zealand) phone tree system that came to the fore,

neighbours knew neighbours and they knew who to check on.

Neighbourhood Watch is about creating communities that are safe and vibrant. Are we relevant? Absolutely. Neighbourhood Watch today is based on that first and foremost underlying principle **People need to be connected to people to survive.** Now more than ever in our fast paced, technology-driven society, our greatest asset as an organisation is we promote and connect local community networks. We make no apology for understanding and maintaining the value of “connectedness”.

Like so many other companies, governments and organisations we strive to stay abreast of emerging issues and trends. We value technology as we work to achieve the very best in information and knowledge sharing through the latest methods. But as I reflect back, I am left with the conundrum, if I fall in my home, if I am faced with a situation that requires me to scream for help at the top of my lungs, it won't be my computer that comes to my aid – it will be my neighbour. So where should I invest my time?

ACT Policing's newest northside crime-fighting tool: Project Eyewatch

Criminals beware – ACT Policing's Project Eyewatch could mean hundreds more eyes keeping watch in the community to report crime and increase engagement with police.



Following on from the successful roll-out in NSW and Victoria, Project Eyewatch has now come to the ACT, with Gungahlin the first suburb in Canberra to benefit from the new Facebook page.

"We realised that social media has become an important and active space for people to engage with each other and share information," Chief Police

Officer Rudi Lammers said.

"For ACT Policing, it's another way we can reach out to citizens and get their input which is essential in obtaining and acting on intelligence."

Assistant Commissioner Lammers joined with Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Simon Corbell, to launch Project Eyewatch at the Canberra Show recently.

"The recent introduction of ACT Policing's Facebook page, and now the Project Eyewatch initiative means that we have a number of different social media platforms at our disposal and for the community to engage with us on," Assistant Commissioner Lammers said.

Gungahlin Station Sergeant, Donna Hofmeier, said she looked forward to the Gungahlin community



“What Project Eyewatch allows us to do, is tap into those networks and create live online forums, engage directly with key people and work through solutions in a collaborative way.”

Officer-in-charge/Station Sergeant, Donna Hofmeier

getting behind the project to ensure its success.

“For this to be successful, we need to be sharing information with the community, and encourage them to help us by sharing this with their networks.

“By spreading information, we hope that someone out there might be able to recognise the face of an offender, or shed some light on an investigation officers are looking to solve.”

ACT Policing will work closely with Crime Stoppers, Neighbourhood Watch and other community groups to engage with members about local issues – in a way that’s never been possible before.

“What Project Eyewatch allows us to do, is tap into those networks and create live online forums,” Sergeant Hofmeier said.

“These invite-only groups, allow us to engage directly with key people in that field or industry to discuss a particular issue in that area, and work through solutions in a collaborative way.

“We give locals an outlet to engage with police, and in return ACT Policing gain valuable information from the community to work through local issues.”

Based on the success of the three-month pilot in Gungahlin, Project Eyewatch could be rolled out to other stations down the track.

Project Eyewatch launched

On Friday 20 February the Minister for Police and Emergency Services Simon Corbell and Chief Police Officer for ACT Policing Rudi Lammers launched Project Eyewatch Gungahlin.

The aim of Project Eyewatch is local solutions for local problems. Working closely with Neighbourhood Watch, Crime Stoppers, community councils and local community groups, Project Eyewatch will help to assist in finding positive outcomes for the community.

ACT Policing will be undertaking a three-month pilot in Gungahlin with plans to stage a staggered roll-out across the ACT if the pilot is successful.

Project Eyewatch Gungahlin is delivered via Facebook and will contain content relevant to Gungahlin such as incidents occurring in that area, crime prevention advice and ACT Policing initiatives. It will also hold closed groups where people will be able to participate in online forums.

ACT Policing encourages Neighbourhood Watch members to show their support by ‘liking’ the Eyewatch Gungahlin page and actively engaging with ACT Policing. The easiest way to access the page is through the ACT Policing Facebook page and by clicking on the Eyewatch tab. www.facebook.com/actpolicing

ACT Policing Facebook

ACT Policing has now entered into a new world of social media by launching its Facebook page. The aim of the ACT Policing page is to engage with the community and to keep you up-to-date about what ACT Policing is doing. You can expect to see operationally-focussed content along with important crime reduction messaging. It will also feature information on our current campaigns, such as the ‘lock it or lose it’ bike theft campaign. You’ll also find a photo gallery or two on the site, showing ACT Policing members in different environments undertaking a myriad of roles.

ACT Policing would like to encourage anyone who has access to Facebook to ‘like’ the new ACT Policing Facebook page and to engage with us on that page; your comments and ideas can provide valuable insight into the communities needs and help ACT Policing better serve the public. You can find the ACT Policing Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/actpolicing



NHW NEW
SOUTH WALES

Big day out in Fairfield

Last month Fairfield police hosted Sydney's largest community engagement and awareness event.

Article courtesy of Police Monthly, October 2013





Almost 3000 people attended the third annual Police Community Engagement Day at Fairfield High School, which attracted significant local media attention.

Local Area Commander, Supt Peter Lennon said the event showcased the varied units within the NSW Police Force and provided a hands-on experience in police work for culturally diverse communities.

"Our annual engagement day provides a great opportunity to build even stronger relationships with

people from all communities and this year's event achieved all of our objectives," he said.

"It was fabulous to see people of all ages interacting with the officers and seeing demonstrations of police work in a relaxed environment.

"People from all walks of life and with different cultural backgrounds were able to speak with their local police. We can't wait for next year," Supt Lennon said.

Local police were joined by specialist units, including Traffic & Highway Patrol Command, Marine

Area Command, Counter Terrorism & Special Tactics Unit, PolAir, Dog Unit, Mounted Unit, Public Order & Riot Squad, Forensic Services Group, Public Affairs Branch and the Police Band.

This year's event also included University of Western Sydney and TAFE for people seeking career, study and skills advice.

Fire and Rescue NSW, the NSW State Emergency Service and the NSW Rural Fire Service also attended to show the community their specialised skills.

Everyone Needs Good Neighbours

Case study of Neighbourhood Support partnership in Wellington, New Zealand

Angela Rampton, Neighbourhood Development Coordinator, Wellington City Council

Productive partnership

Partnership between Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (NSNZ) and Wellington City Council has been very productive for both parties and for the Wellington community.

The reality is that many local authorities, not-for-profit organisations and community groups have had both funding and staff cut backs. All are trying to do 'more with less'. The logical solution is to 'partner' with like-minded organisations that share similar goals.

"For a long time, Neighbourhood Support New Zealand was unable to gain traction within the arena that Wellington City Council operated. This was for a lot of reasons but ultimately came down to the opinion of a few and the difficulty in accessing the decision makers. The Christchurch earthquake and the current Council's interest in community resilience added something new to the mix and Wellington City Council have made the last 18 months or so a joy to work alongside them. Outputs are tangible and we have had the chance to invest

in community alongside council. At the end of the day, the reason there is a focus on community is for their benefit." (Roger Eynon CEO NSNZ)

Wellington City Council is committed to encourage and promote the development of strong communities. This includes local neighbourhoods that have a high level of community participation, strong networks and empowered local groups.

The City Council became affiliated to NSNZ in 2013 and in that short time the support and professional advice we have received from NSNZ has been excellent and assisted us greatly. NSNZ's goals are closely aligned with the Council's Long Term Plan. Among its aims are that Wellington should be:

- A people-centred city
 - A connected city
 - And have a dynamic central city
- Support the Council has received from NSNZ to date includes:
- Professional advice and support on organising Neighbours Day Aotearoa 2014 and 'Celebrating Wellington's Diversity' project for the following year

- Funding for wallet-sized 'Neighbours cards' – to record your neighbours' details in case of emergencies
- Translation of Neighbours Day Aotearoa 2014 posters into five languages
- Input into mapping Neighbourhood Support groups on the Council's welfare GIS maps for use in civil-defence emergencies
- A partnership (also including the police) to assist a Lions Club initiative to set up Neighbourhood Support groups in apartment buildings
- General resources and UV pens, to distribute at community events, article input and linking community champions
- Advice and support into other WCC community resilience projects

Welcome to Wellington

Wellington is New Zealand's capital city, with a population of just over 200,000¹ and is the largest of a number of closely-linked cities and districts that make up the Wellington region. The city accounts for 41% of the region's population and 5% of New Zealand's overall population.

Why is Neighbourhood Support and building neighbourhood resilience in Wellington so important?

The Wellington region is in an active earthquake zone. The region is also typified by steep to mountainous terrain that limits the number of transport routes and infrastructure links. A major earthquake would likely leave Wellington City and other parts of the region isolated for days or weeks – with major utilities such as power, water, phone and gas unavailable.

In 2013 alone there were four significant emergencies in Wellington: a major landslide, a ferocious wind storm and two large earthquakes.

As part of the Wellington Regional Emergency Management's and City Council's roles in emergency management we have become aware that many people lack personal preparedness and are disconnected from their neighbours. This has meant they are not able to cope well in an emergency and need help. In one example we found an elderly woman in an apartment without power. The people in the apartment above had electricity but because the residents did not know each other, neither party knew of the other's situation.

In every street and neighbourhood there are isolated, vulnerable people or new migrants wanting to get to know their neighbours.

Neighbourhood Support

Three years ago the City Council and police started a Wellington-wide, coordinated, approach to Neighbourhood Support. As a result a number of new Neighbourhood Support groups were started. The location of Neighbourhood Support groups around Wellington was also mapped.

A Neighbourhood Development Coordinator role has been established and Angela Rampton was appointed to that challenging role. Angela is responsible for the Council's development and relationship with Neighbourhood Support groups in Wellington and with NSNZ. She is strengthening links with police community officers, police intelligence staff and regional Neighbourhood Support coordinators.

Neighbourhood Support in CBD apartments

This great project was started by Judy Tilley – a proactive resident living in



Meeting to set up neighbourhood support in inner-city apartments, from left, Judy Tilley, Wellington Host Lions Club, Jodye Tomalin, Wellington Region Emergency Management Office, Jonathan Maharaj, Wellington Host Lions Club, Constable William Williamson, Angela Rampton, Wellington City Council.

an apartment building. "I was sick and my husband was away," says Judy. "I thought that if I needed anything, I didn't know my neighbours at all. I went and got to know my neighbour, and now I know I can go to her if I need anything. Recently my neighbour was locked out of her apartment so she came over to use my phone, and we ended up having a wine together."

Judy is a member of the Wellington Host Lions Club and she suggested to the club that a great initiative would be for them to encourage central-city apartment dwellers to set up neighbours' support groups and to get to know their neighbours better.

The 2013 quakes in Wellington also helped spur the club into action.

Judy contacted police and the City Council and we set up a joint meeting

that also included NSNZ and staff from the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office to support the Lions Club initiative.

Central Wellington Community Constable William Williamson has spoken at these meetings and describes apartment buildings as being like 'vertical streets'. He says residents should have a Neighbourhood Support group just as they would in suburban areas. "It comes down to knowing your neighbours – and to me that is easier in an apartment building."

Liaison with community policing teams

In mid 2013 there was concern from some residents who did not feel 'safe' in their neighbourhood – the Wellington suburb of Miramar. Council staff talked



Police and local identities cooking sausages at the Miramar Community Safety Day. From left, Constable Arnold Politini, Kilbirnie Community Policing Team, rugby player Victor Vito, Sergeant James Patrick, Kilbirnie Community Policing Team, comedian Tofiga Fepulea'i, rugby star Motu Matu'u.



Wellington City Housing tenants show off their new Neighbours Cards.

with the residents concerned, along with local city councillors and the local community policing team.

Crime statistics did not back up what was being said by the residents but their concerns were taken seriously anyway.

The City Council's Community Services unit organised a community safety day in September 2013 for Miramar and Strathmore residents at the Miramar Community Centre. This community event involved police, NSNZ street coordinators, community patrol volunteers, fire service staff and Wellington Free Ambulance paramedics to highlight Neighbourhood Support initiatives. It was also a chance to promote the Council's Neighbours Cards, emergency water storage bottles and 200-litre home water tanks, other emergency resources, Neighbourhood Support resources and community support groups.

Neighbours Cards

The City Council and NSNZ have printed easy-to-use Neighbours Cards for people to record their neighbours' (or support person's) details. The cards can be stored in a wallet or bag for use in a crisis or an emergency.

In the event of an emergency the most immediate help available will be neighbours.

Immediate target groups for the cards are seniors, ethnic and migrant communities and vulnerable people in the community with disabilities and/or accessibility problems. A Neighbours Card has been sent to every tenant in the City Council's social housing sites as part of a drive to improve residents' emergency preparedness.

The cards were inspired by a Council staff member who uses a wheelchair for mobility who attended a Neighbours

barbecue phone numbers with her neighbours. During the severe southerly storm that battered Wellington last June, her neighbours were able to check on her and phoned to offer reassurance. After the quakes in July and August, her neighbours again checked on her.

"Adversity brings people together. It would be even better if our communities choose to do that before adversity touches them." (Roger Eynon CEO, NSNZ)

The cards were promoted heavily as part of Neighbours Day Aotearoa 2014 celebrations in Wellington on Saturday and Sunday, March 29 and 30.

Neighbours Day Aotearoa 2014

Neighbours Day Aotearoa (NDA) is about turning strangers into neighbours and streets into neighbourhoods. It's about thousands of New Zealanders taking the



From left, Wellington City Councillor Malcolm Sparrow - who holds the Community Resilience portfolio on the Council, Roger Eynon, CEO Neighbourhood Support New Zealand and Mayor Celia Wade-Brown promoting Neighbours Day and showing some of the translated posters.

across Wellington about being a 'good neighbour' which will be uploaded to the City Council website shortly as part of our promotion for NDA 2014.

To get the Neighbours Day message out into communities we have had promotional stalls about Neighbours Day and for NSNZ at community festivals during the summer. This has been hugely successful and we will plan to repeat the initiative next year with a stronger emphasis on using Neighbours Day Aotearoa to set up and reinvigorate Neighbourhood Support groups.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with NSNZ and to further develop the promising joint relationship we have established. Neighbourhood Support New Zealand has a fruitful relationship with Wellington City Council. Its logo and brand is evident on many shared resources.

For further information see <http://www.ns.org.nz/> and <http://wellington.govt.nz/events/events-calendar/2014/03/neighbours-day-aotearoa-2014>

Contact angela.rampton@wcc.govt.nz or roger.eynon@police.govt.nz

1 2013 New Zealand Census data, Statistics New Zealand

time to engage in small and local acts of neighbourliness to make neighbourhoods safe, fun and friendly places to live.

Wellington's Mayor Celia Wade-Brown puts such a strong emphasis on community resilience that she has selected Neighbours Day as her Mayoral Day. She says "Good neighbours are an everyday pleasure and a necessity in an emergency. It's worthwhile for everybody to know their neighbours."

Funding from NSNZ has allowed translation of posters into five languages: Samoan, Maori, Simplified Chinese, Arabic and Assyrian. A particular focus of the Neighbours Day 2014 campaign in Wellington has been to target new migrants and culturally and linguistically diverse communities to get to know their neighbours.

We have done interviews and photo shoots in some of the communities



Ben Ingram from Wellington City Council promoting Neighbours Day Aotearoa and Neighbourhood Support at the Churton Park Community Festival.

It's teamwork, says award winner

Article courtesy of Ten One, April 2014



Acting Sergeant Fiona Barker and NPT colleague Senior Constable Damian Graves with Junior Neighbourhood Support members Tatyana Davey, left, and Taufau Toleafoa at the award ceremony.



"Some of those involved had past negative interactions with police and this was a prime opportunity to create positive perceptions. One was a recidivist graffiti offender - once he saw the impact his offending had on victims, he made a commitment to stop."

As she collected a prestigious award for her commitment to community policing last month, Acting Sergeant Fiona Barker insisted the credit lay with a team effort from police and the local community.

Fiona, of Levin South Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), received the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Police Commissioner's Award from Commissioner Peter Marshall.

The award recognises a police officer or employee who has volunteered their time to empower people and communities through Neighbourhood Support.

"While receiving the award is very humbling, the NPT is a real team effort," says Fiona. "My colleague Senior Constable Damian Graves, local residents and stakeholders all played a significant role in making the community a safe and happy place to live."

Fiona and Damian have run successful community engagement projects including a recent graffiti eradication day - involving

businesses, community members, external agencies and children from Junior Neighbourhood Support - to build community pride and enhance safety.

"It was an awesome day with fantastic results," says Fiona. "Police staff and community members cleared up to 70 sites in the NPT area, then we held a celebration in a nearby park.

"Some of those involved had past negative interactions with police and this was a prime opportunity to create positive perceptions. One was a recidivist graffiti offender - once he saw the impact his offending had on victims, he made a commitment to stop."

Roger Eynon, Neighbourhood Support New Zealand chief executive, says Fiona was chosen over eight Australian nominees. "That's hugely encouraging and shows the quality of work in this country.

"The deciding factor was the wealth of community support - not only does Fiona do a great job but people know she does a great job."

Senior Constable Tracy-Dale Middleton, NT Police

Neighbourhood Watch targets shoppers



NHWNT board
members at their
2014 Planning Day.

Despite the rush and bustle of modern life, NHWNT volunteers handing out “show bags” with safety information in shopping centres find that most people will take a bag – and sometimes stop to exchange a few words.

The volunteers found that most people are aware of Neighbourhood Watch and believe it to be a “good

thing” in the community – even if they are not fully aware of what it does.

In recent months, NHWNT volunteers have set up stalls at Casuarina Shopping Square, the Karama Shopping Centre and at Palmerston in both in the Palmerston Shopping Centre and the Oasis Shopping Centre.

Plans are now being made to set up stalls in other shopping centres around

Darwin, targeting areas that have not really been covered to date.

The presence of NHW in shopping centres provides a “face” for our organisation, with much of our work these days being done online.

Having a “real person” representing NHW often leads to a question about safety in the suburbs and helps spread the message about “watching your neighbour’s back yard”.

Palmerston Seniors' Forum



Sue Fraser-Adams, Di Smith, Marion Hancock, Judy Troy, Senior Constable Tracy-Dale Middleton & Bob Watt at the Palmerston Seniors Forum on March 10 2014.

Neighbourhood Watch had a stand at the Palmerston Seniors' Forum, sponsored by the City of Palmerston, on March 10 this year.

About 70 seniors attended the forum, which kept the five NHWNT volunteers quite busy, handing out "show bags" of goodies, including vital information about how NHW works and about keeping the home safe.

The volunteers even had an application from a man willing to

make his home a Safety House.

The forum, which ran for about three-and-a-half hours from 9am, was conducted in the very comfortable council chambers of Darwin's satellite city, concluding with lunch provided by the council.

Behind the forum was the Seniors Advisory committee,

whose input was acknowledged by Palmerston Mayor Ian Abbott.

Among those attending were NT Administrator, the Hon Sally Thomas, and Minister for Senior Territorians, and the Hon Peter Styles, who had some personal words of praise for the NHWNT volunteers, saying: "Keep up the good work."

One presentation which brought a lively round of questioning (and some personal experiences of "scams" by the seniors) was that of the NT Police Fraud Squad's Detective Sergeant Jason Blake.

DCO Family Expo

2014 DCO Expo with Kate Worden NT Chief Minister Hon Adam Giles Jessica Steinhardt and Marion Hancock.



On February 15, Neighbourhood Watch NT had a stall at the Defence Community Organisation's Welcome to the Top End Family Expo.

Volunteers handed out over 300 hundred bags with goodies and important information about Neighbourhood Watch, Safety House and community safety.

The morning started with just a few people wandering though for the first hour and then there were hundreds of

people everywhere!

We also had IMA the Safety House mascot meet and greet the families, getting photos with kids and telling the Defence families who were new to the Top End the importance of Safety Houses, and that if their kids are ever in trouble and see the Safety House sign they can go into

that house and get help. A lot of the families weren't aware of the Safety House program or what it does for our community.

By all accounts it was a very productive day and made quite a lot of families aware of Neighbourhood Watch and Safety House programs in the Top End.

Gray community group



“It was recognised that social media would help in ways never envisaged by early members of NHW.”

Background - where it began

Last year, a small group of very energetic people started a group on Facebook called Bellamack Community. As a coincidence, another small group of energetic people were investigating ways in which to revitalise Neighbourhood Watch in Palmerston. 20 years ago NHW had a very visible presence in Palmerston, but with the large turnover of population and so many new suburbs, membership dwindled and Safety Houses changed hands.

The two groups met and a public meeting was arranged to open the lines of communication and share concerns about issues in the neighbourhood. About 50 people attended, including reps from Palmerston City Council and NT Government. It was recognised that social media would help in ways never envisaged by early members of NHW. Good publicity was given both before and after the meeting via NT News and Channel 9. Membership of Bellamack community increased dramatically to over 120 members and it is predicted that it will very shortly exceed 200! Concurrent membership of NHW is encouraged. These days news travels at the speed of a computer from one end of Bellamack to the other!

A new group - Gray community

A request was made at the meeting by one of the participants that they wanted to see the start of a similar group in Gray, the suburb in which they lived. Peter Kafkas, who set up Bellamack's program, agreed to set up a group on Facebook for the Gray Community. Sue Fraser-Adams, resident of Bellamack, who is the new VP of NHW, offered to assist, and because I made the request, I've agreed to help launch our endeavours. I wanted the Gray community to have the same opportunities as those in Bellamack, taking advantage of the new social media. It is designed for members of our community to communicate and share concerns about issues in our neighbourhood. Bellamack residents are enjoying the benefits.



Celebration of 25 Years in NHW



This page, top: Sen Sgt Steve Hollands (OIC, Upper Mt Gravatt) presenting certificate to Alex Wright, Area Coordinator, Mansfield NHW (Holland Park 1). Above: Councillor Krista Adams, Sen Sgt Steve Hollands, Alex Wright (HP 1), Christine Fraser (HP 3), Paul Bunney (UMG 1) and Jim Renshaw (UMG 22), cutting the birthday cake.

Right, top: L'il Squirt fire truck, with Const Clancy Koala and some local children. Bottom: Birthday cake supplied by local Woolworths store.



Five NHW groups in the South Brisbane District, combined to celebrate their 25 years of NHW on Saturday, October 19, 2013, at the Broadwater picnic grounds, Mansfield. A community afternoon of fun and games was held, followed by a movie in the park. The movie "Rise of the Guardians" was provided by local City Councillor, Krista Adams.

The groups celebrating the occasion were Holland Park 1 and 3, together with Upper Mt Gravatt 1, 2 and 22. Several other local groups joined in with the activities on the day. Local Woolies store provided a birthday cake.

Certificates for the occasion were presented to each Area Coordinator by Sen Sgt Steve Hollands, OIC Upper

Mt Gravatt Police Station.

Activities during the afternoon included a jumping castle, face painting, sausage sizzle (Lions Club), Constable Clancy Koala, and L'il Squirt fire truck for kids' rides.

Over 300 residents attended during the afternoon and about 150 stayed on for the evening movie under beautiful weather conditions.



NHW TASMANIA

Derwent Valley Preventative Graffiti Education Program



In August 2013 the first stage of a 3 year graffiti education program, initiated by Neighbourhood Watch was delivered to all primary and secondary schools in the Derwent Valley area.

The early intervention program was delivered by Warner Awareness Education and funded by New Norfolk Neighbourhood Watch, Derwent Valley Council and Neighbourhood Watch South.

Strategically developed to deter youth from travelling down the graffiti path, the Program is designed to challenge the thinking of children and adolescents during a time in their life when they are experimenting, forming attitudes and beliefs and being influenced. It does this by:

- creating awareness of the criminal, physical and emotional consequences of undertaking graffiti (in particular tagging), for the individual, their family, their school and the community;
- encouraging students to problem solve via facilitating likely consequences of choices;
- encouraging responsible action by identifying the best course of action to take;
- offering alternative legitimate avenues of self expression on a local level
- reinforcing life skill curriculum already delivered in schools around civic pride and social responsibility; and



- providing self help and peer help options and strategies.

A key component of the Program was a 45-minute in-school presentation, delivered by a Warner Awareness Education presenter highly experienced in working with youth in the graffiti area. The need to build rapport and engage students throughout the whole session was fundamental to maximising the educational value and retention of message and was achieved through:

- creative and entertaining acting and role play;
- student interaction; and
- guided facilitation.

Retention was further aided by a "ready to go" reinforcement package, including all materials and lesson planning for a teacher facilitated reinforcement session with students after the presentation

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The catchy slogan "It takes more than a rag, to clean up your tag!" was promoted across student materials and reinforced the Program's key messages.

Included in this report are details of the Program's student and teacher survey results.

The surveys were designed to measure the Program on the following criteria:

1. Facilitation content is in line with the funding organisations and other stakeholder requirements.
2. Needs of the schools receiving the program are met.
3. Delivery maximises engagement and involvement of all students.
4. Clear communication of the criminal, social and economic costs of graffiti - to the individual, their peers, their family, their school and the community.
5. Reinforcement of the program messages is provided through the teacher reinforcement package.

6. Awareness of the impact of graffiti, criminal liabilities for doing graffiti and community graffiti prevention and removal strategies are promoted to the parents of students participating in the program.

Summary

The Derwent Valley Graffiti Education Program has been successfully delivered to 6 primary and secondary schools, impacting 563 students.

The presentation has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from teaching staff and students.

Students:

Indicators measured shows the Program has received:

- extremely high levels of enjoyment
- extremely high levels of engagement
- strong understanding and retention of desired key messages on the understanding of the consequences of graffiti
- strong understanding and retention of valuable life skill messages and strategies.

Teaching staff:

Teachers report high levels of satisfaction with the organisation, delivery and content of the Program; and have provided some valuable comments that supports the program delivery methodology.

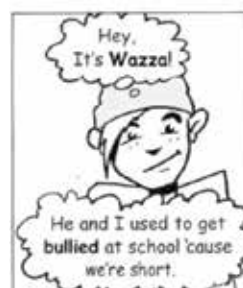
Parents/Community:

Importantly, there has been a high level of take up of reinforcement materials which will further amplify the impact of the presentation beyond the classroom. Together with the use of the Parent Information Leaflet this ensures a significant ripple effect out from the classroom, into the home and ultimately into the community has been started.

Moving forward

Based on the success outlined above, we believe a continuation of the existing program in 2015 will prove to have strong attitudinal and behavioural impacts on students, which ultimately will translate into reduced levels of new graffiti being undertaken within the Derwent Valley community.

Right: Student comic for teacher facilitated reinforcement lesson



It takes more than a rag to clean up your tag



It takes more than a rag to clean up your tag



It takes more than a rag to clean up your tag

Graffiti Management Partnership with Victorian State Government



Graffiti comes in all shapes and sizes and has been linked with creating a lesser perception of safety in the community. The State Government has a Graffiti Management Strategy that includes graffiti prevention and removal. The prevention and removal projects are supported by the Department of Justice, Community Crime Prevention Unit.

The prevention and removal strategy includes three main areas:

1. Community Correctional Services removal program

This uses teams of supervised offenders to clean up graffiti hotspots that have been identified by community partners.

2. Graffiti Prevention and Removal Grants

This funds councils to partner with stakeholders to remove and

prevent graffiti. Maroondah NHW has been involved with their council helping to operate the council's graffiti removal trailer. This is used to clean up quite large areas of graffiti.

3. Portable Graffiti Removal Systems

These are smaller units made up in a wheelie bin and are available to community groups.

The State Government has given 13 of these units to a number of NHW groups across the state.

The prevention and removal strategy aims to:

- Remove and clean up existing graffiti
- Prevent graffiti recurring
- Enforce graffiti laws and use technology to help deter and detect graffiti offenders.

This is done through cleaning the graffiti off or painting over it.

The portable systems consist of a 110l wheelie bin that is fully stocked with:



"This is an exciting project for NHW Victoria as it provides a very visible activity that will contribute community safety and crime prevention."

- Instructional DVD with safe operating procedures
- High pressure cleaner, trigger gun, spray lances and manual
- Tap and hose connections
- Electrical extension cable
- Wire basket for smaller items
- Face shield and nitrile safety gloves
- 12 x 000 steel wool pads
- Bucket and brush for applying cleaning agent
- 2 x 2 litre 'Smart Green Graffiti Remover' & 'Smart Green Multi Safe' and Material Safety Data Sheets
- 2 x white rags.

This is an exciting project for NHW Victoria as it provides a very visible activity that will contribute community safety and crime prevention. The removal of graffiti puts pride back into a community and enhances the feeling of safety. NHW groups are actively pursuing activities that target hotspots and support police

activities. The targeting of hotspots is being applied to all new NHW projects in order to better use volunteers' time. The NHW groups receiving these Portable Removal Systems will photograph graffiti before removing it and provide the information to police to allow any future prosecution of offenders and also keep a record of how much graffiti they remove. This will allow NHW to quantify this project and calculate the value added by NHW volunteers to the local community.

The first two systems were presented to NHW Victoria and the Cardinia NHW group at an event in Pakenham. The presentation was made by the Minister for Crime Prevention Edward O'Donohue. The other groups taking part in this project are Banyule, Bayside, Braybrook, Carlton Estate, Cobram, East Gippsland, Greater Geelong, Manningham, Murtoa, Nillumbik, Point Cook and Wellington.



Neighbourhood Watch WA
conference attendees.



NHW Western Australia update

On Thursday, November 21, 2013, Neighbourhood Watch WA (NHW), the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and the WA Police hosted the annual NHW Conference at a function centre on the Swan River in Perth. The conference was titled "Setting our Future Direction".

The conference was an opportunity to reflect on the experience from the 2012 annual conference where the NHW State Office implemented significant changes to the NHW program in WA. These changes were twofold and included the introduction of ewatch, an email-based newsletter system that connects residents with their local

police and council on crime trends, statistics, safety initiatives, emerging issues and events that are specific to their area. The second change was the disbanding of traditional NHW groups across the state. This change was in response to a survey that was conducted across the state which revealed the following responses:



Mr Bernie Durkin, State Director Neighbourhood Watch WA, 2013 Volunteer of the Year Award Finalists, Dawn and Neville Raxworthy, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr Laurie Panaia.

- NHW groups are predominately female – 50%
- 60 years of age or older
- 70% advised that their groups had no clear outcomes or direction
- 61% of respondents are currently using the traditional NHW hierarchical structure (suburb managers, area coordinators, street reps) and 38% have established their own less formal system
- 89% feel that the traditional structure is unsuccessful in promoting growth and accessibility
- Survey respondents advised that they would primarily prefer to communicate with their NHW group via email.

The program needed a transformation in order to survive and maintain a synergy with the changing nature of the Western Australian social, technological and economic landscape.

The resulting fallout by volunteers from the 2012 annual conference was

severe with a march on Parliament, objections by NHW volunteers through local newspapers, radio interviews and numerous ministerials.

In early 2013 the NHW state office received advice by the Minister of Police, Road Safety, Small Business and Women's Interests to continue to support traditional NHW groups.

The 2013 annual conference was an opportunity for NHW groups to vent any residual feelings they still carried over from the previous year and collectively, including WA Police and local government representatives to build a foundation to move NHW WA into the future.

Overall the conference was a great success. There were 97 people that attended, including WA Police personnel, NHW volunteers and local government and WALGA representatives.

The conference was facilitated by a strategist and facilitator, Rebecca Cotton, who provided a

fantastic energy to the day, guided and managed the group to come up with some great outcomes from the conference. These outcomes have provided a foundation for State Office to move into 2014 and beyond and include six key areas to focus on – a new strategic plan; evaluation plan; communications plan; support of NHW groups; strengthening partnerships; and updating our documents.

As a result we have a number of different NHW models emerging in WA. The NHW groups are breaking down the barriers of the traditional formal structure of NHW and exploring new ways of engaging with their local community. The space we are in as a state is very new however, it is very exciting to watch groups starting to explore and test the new boundaries they are finding themselves in. State Office is confident that NHW in WA will emerge as a fresher, innovative and solid program into the future.

Neighbourhood Watch promotion at City of Melville events

The Neighbourhood Watch team plays an important role at the City of Melville and is included formally as part of the City's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan which collectively builds and supports a Safer Melville.

Crime prevention is all about encouraging and fostering stakeholder cooperation and creating a collective approach as a community that is dedicated to improving the overall feeling of safety in the City's neighbourhoods.

Each year the Neighbourhood Watch Team looks for the most efficient ways to promote its principles within the City of Melville and actively participate in city-organised events to provide an important information point for the wider community. Issues like crime and perception, enhancing effective communication, building a safer community by developing strong community spirit of belonging and mutual support are addressed.

The NHW team supports the Safer Melville Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan by promoting the following key messages:

- Get to know your neighbours – look out for each other and each other's property
- Report suspicious behaviour to police on 131 444
- Take simple precautions to protect your home and vehicles and avoid being a target



- Make individual community members aware of crime prevention initiatives through the distribution of available NHW resources.

Throughout the year, the City of Melville organises several free entertainment events for the general public. The most popular events among these are the Point Walter Concert and the Limestone Concert series.

As always, City of Melville's flagship entertainment event was the Point Walter Concert on Sunday, March 2, 2014. Following an evening of music, activities and entertainment, the popular Point Walter Family Concert exploded with fireworks on the beautiful Point Walter Foreshore from 4.30pm to 8.30pm.

Another very popular free event is when the City of Melville's buzzes with music in summer during the Limestone Concert Series from January to March 2014.

This is well and truly the best live music as the sun sets and provides some great free entertainment on a balmy summer's evening. Residents are encouraged to bring along a picnic and settle in for a night of entertainment the whole family can enjoy.

At each of these events, a NHW stall is manned by the NHW team of volunteers. In addition to NHW promotional material, fresh fruit and water bottles are also provided free to the community. Several items provided by the NHW State Office were very popular with the members of the public. They came back again for the wrist bands, erasers, pens, NHW flyers, fridge magnets, balloons and police cars. The NHW team also made sure to promote ewatch and NHW brochures too. The attendance at the Limestone Concerts was more than 300 people each time and at the Point Walter Concert was well above 5000 people.



Blue Light brings police and youth together to provide young people with positive lifestyle alternatives and strategies to avoid becoming an offender or victim of crime. Visit www.bluelight.org.au and www.bluelight.co.nz for more info.

The underlying factors governing all Blue Light activities is that they must be:

- Free from alcohol
- Free from drugs
- Free from anti-social behaviour
- and FUN!



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