

NHWA

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OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA
INCORPORATING NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT NEW ZEALAND





Neighbourhood Watch
Australasia Incorporated

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Patricia Leary
President

From the President

This edition of our NHWA Magazine truly highlights the many and varied examples of successful police and community partnerships tackling crime in our communities. It is testament to our significant impact and influence in revitalising Neighbourhood Watch across our communities. Of bringing together our wonderful volunteers from many and varied walks

of life, who believe they have a role to play in making their communities safe. What is evident is that Neighbourhood Watch has a vital role to play in building social cohesion. It's recognised brand and understanding plays a pivotal role in building trust, and thanks to social media we can now boast a NHW reach to some 6 million homes across our member jurisdictions. As we

seek a further three years funding from the Federal Government we can proudly demonstrate the many and varied successes we have had. Some highlighted in this edition.

Pat

Pat Leary, President, NHWA

New campaign targets beach crime at Mooloolaba

Courtesy Sunshine Coast Daily

Neighbourhood Watch has branched out of the suburbs and onto the sand in a trial program aimed at reducing theft and other crime in the Mooloolaba Beach area.

Police Commissioner Ian Stewart and Member for Maroochydore Fiona Simpons joined Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA), Surf Lifesaving Queensland and the Sunshine Coast Council members to launch the Beach Watch program.

Commissioner Stewart said thieves often took advantage of people enjoying themselves in beach activities and target their valuables while they are having a swim or when they have moved away from their area.

"Most opportunistic crime is preventable and can be deterred by following simple crime prevention strategies such as keeping your valuables in a safe area and keeping a look out for suspicious behaviour," Commissioner Stewart said.

"Beach Watch aims to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour at Mooloolaba. Members of the public are encouraged to report crime and suspicious activity so there



Acting Sergeant Sandy Atkinson, from QPS Sunshine Coast, who initiated the project, with NHWA CEO Ingrid Stonhill.

is more detection, apprehension and prosecution.

"So when the surf's up we can keep crime down."

Beach Watch has been funded by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, as part of its annual Community Funding Program, with the Sunshine Coast Council providing support.

Member for Maroochydore Fiona Simpson said that the Sunshine Coast was a tourism hot spot and locals should work together to reduce crime.

"Over the summer months, opportunist-type offences tend to increase with the influx of tourists to our beaches," Ms Simpson said.

"Whilst there were some thefts on Mooloolaba beach, this new program will drive down crime for families and tourists alike.

"A lot of the thefts can be prevented if valuables had not been left unattended on the beach or visible in vehicles parked nearby."

NHWA CEO Ingrid Stonhill said their Commonwealth Government funding allowed them to partner and support local problem solving initiatives.

"Beach Watch is a wonderful initiative designed to address the issues that may arise for the many visitors and locals of the Sunshine Coast," Ms Stonhill said.

"We at NHWA, are happy to be part of promoting crime prevention here on the beautiful coast."

New 'Beach Watch' signs are being erected along Mooloolaba Beach, encouraging beachgoers to report suspicious activity to Policelink on 131 444.

Beach Watch is also exploring other options to prevent crime, including the installation of beach lockers at Mooloolaba.

Sunshine Coast Mayor Mark Jamieson said Sunshine Coast Council is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of Coast residents.

"Visitors to our region by working collaboratively with all stakeholders involved in community safety.

"Council is involved in a range of programs that help ensure the safety of Coast residents and I commend Queensland Police Service for this new trial initiative.

"I encourage the community to stay alert and report any suspicious activity so we can reduce the reported incidents of theft and other crimes on our beaches this summer," Sunshine Coast Mayor Mark Jamieson said.



Local Mooloolaba lifeguards with QPS Commissioner Ian Stewart, Queensland Government Speaker of the House Fiona Simpson, CEO Ingrid Stonhill and Sunshine Coast Mayor Mark Jamieson.

Board Member 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); 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.



Margaret Pearson - Secretary

Throughout Margaret's career she has made a significant contribution to the voluntary sector by being involved with numerous community organizations including ACT Neighbourhood Watch Association Inc. where she held a number of positions within that organisation including 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 secretary/treasurer of NHWA.



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.



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 this is a busy role. Clare is a self-professed sports lover and a one eyed Hawthorn supporter.



Roger Eynon - Board Member

Roger Eynon is from Wirral, 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.



Troy Stephens - Board Member

Troy Stephens is a Senior Sergeant in the Northern Territory Police Force, Crime Prevention Section where he is responsible for Neighbourhood Watch NT Police Staff. Troy moved to the Northern Territory in 1997 and is married with a young family. Troy joined the NT Police Force in 2001 and since then has completed several years of remote policing and also worked as a Detective in Major crime and other investigative areas before being promoted to his current role.



James Braithwaite - Board Member

Federal Agent James Braithwaite: Team Leader, High Tech Crime Operations – Cyber Crime Prevention.

James joined the Australian Federal Police in 1997 having previously served with the Northern Territory Police. He has worked in a range of areas within the AFP from Community Policing to Counter Terrorism and People Smuggling before recently taking up his current position. His team is responsible for the development and implementation of internet safety education and awareness raising programs.



Brad Shepherd - Board Member

Chief Superintendent Brad Shepherd joined NSW Police Force in 1980. He currently serves as the Commander of Operational Programs and is the Corporate Sponsor for Crime Prevention and Chair of the Australia New Zealand Police Advisory Agency Crime Prevention Senior Officers Group. A 33 year career in law enforcement has spanned several roles including General Duties, Radio Technical, Covert Technical Surveillance, Staff Officer, Counter Terrorism, Operational Communications and Local Area Commander. Brad holds a Bachelor of Business (BBus) and a Master of Business Management (MBA).



Geoff Kloot - Board Member

Geoff Kloot has been extensively involved in NHW groups in Victoria since 1985. He has held many positions ranging from Zone Manager, Area Manager, Deputy Chairman and Division Chairman. Geoff is also a member of the NHW Victoria board.

In 2007 Geoff received an Australia Day Award and NHW Victoria State Award of Honour for his services to the community. In 2010 Geoff was awarded the Sgt John Cain Memorial Award for Distinguished Service to NHW. Geoff also received the NHW Australasia Malcolm Grant Volunteer Member of the Year Award in 2013.

Geoff was also the leader of the project team that developed the Diagrammatic Brochure on Domestic Violence for NHW Australasia and which has been widely distributed throughout Australia.

In his working life, Geoff was a senior manager with a State Government agency and then a management consultant. Geoff is married with two adult children and four young grandsons. As a pastime, he enjoys photography.



Paul Stewart - Board Member

Assistant Commissioner Paul Stewart commenced his career in the Queensland Police Service in 1982. During his time with Queensland Police Service, Mr Stewart has held a number of positions ranging from the Forensic Services Branch, Acting Director of the Media and Public Relations Branch, Chief Superintendent, Project Manager of the QPRIME Project for the QPS, to Assistant Commissioner of Information and Communications Technology.

In June 2013, Paul commenced a new role as the Assistant Commissioner, Community Contact Command. This new role includes the Media and Public Affairs Group, Police Communication Centres throughout the State, the Policelink call centre and other community based areas such as the Queensland Police Citizen Youth Clubs, Crime Prevention, the Queensland Police Pipes and Drums and Crime Stoppers.



Australian Government

Now there's a place to report online crime



REPORT. PROTECT. PREVENT.

Every year thousands of Australians fall victim to online crimes such as scams, hacking and credit card fraud. Now there's a website where you can securely report online crime and learn how to better protect yourself. It's called the ACORN, a new national policing initiative to fight online crime.

Reporting is simple and quick. Go to acorn.gov.au

Developed as a national policing initiative with:



ACORN
Australian Cybercrime Online
Reporting Network

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra.

Fact Sheet



Online crime

Every year, thousands of Australians fall victim to online crime, or 'cybercrime'.

Common types of cybercrime include:

- Online scams or fraud
- Issues with buying or selling goods online
- Identity theft
- Cyber bullying
- Attacks on computer systems
- Email spam and phishing
- Illegal and prohibited content
- Online child sexual abuse material.

Tackling cybercrime with the ACORN

What is it?

The Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network (the ACORN) is an online system where people can securely report cybercrime, and find advice on how to recognise and avoid it. This national policing initiative is an Australian-first, delivered by all Australian police agencies and the Australian Government working together to combat cybercrime.

Why should I report?

If you are a victim of cybercrime and want to lodge a report with police, we encourage you to visit the ACORN. The information you provide will help to build a national picture of cybercrime. A greater understanding of cybercrime will improve our response and help to prevent and disrupt future criminal activity.



How do I report to the ACORN?

Reporting to the ACORN is simple and quick. You will be asked a series of questions about the incident, which should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete.

Once a report has been submitted, it will be assessed and may be referred to the police for investigation. Unfortunately, due to the nature of cybercrime not all reports can be investigated, however reports are taken seriously and will help to contribute to the national intelligence database, a key component of the fight against cybercrime.

Visit www.acorn.gov.au for more information or to submit a report.

Developed as a national policing initiative with:



acorn.gov.au

REPORT. PROTECT. PREVENT.



The Hon Philip Ruddock, Mr Bernie Durkin, Vice President NHWA, The Hon Pat Leary, President, NHWA, The Hon Michael Keenan Minister of Justice, Ingrid Stonhill CEO NHWA.

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia launches On Line Crime Prevention Projects Library

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) is the overarching organisation of all member Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support activities across Australia and New Zealand. With a 30 year history in Australia Neighbourhood Watch is the largest community based crime prevention activity in Australia with an estimated reach into six million homes.



Margaret Pearson, Secretary/Treasurer NHWA, Mr Luke Simpkins MP, The Hon Pat Leary, President NHWA.



Chris Hayes Chief Opposition Whip, Clare McGrath, ACT Board Member, Chief Superintendent Brad Shepherd, NSWPF Board Member.

Currently NHWA is a recipient of the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) from the Commonwealth Government. The Neighbourhood Watch portfolio sits with Commonwealth Minister for Justice, The Hon. Michael Keenan MP. On Tuesday, March 24, Minister Keenan and a number of Parliamentary colleagues including Chris Hayes MP co-chair of the Parliamentary Friends of Neighbourhood Watch Committee attended a function that officially launched the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Community Safety Crime Prevention 'On Line Projects Library'.

Meeting one of its core funding objectives, the NHWA on line Projects Library is designed to provide Neighbourhood Watch Members, from both policing agencies and community,

access to a library of information relating specifically to "grass roots" community safety and crime prevention projects. These projects have been developed and implemented through a Neighbourhood Watch Police and Community partnership,

to tackle localised community issues and prevent them from escalating into major crimes.

"We are committed to ensuring we build safe and secure Australian

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Minister Keenan with Ingrid Stonhill.

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communities" said NHA President, The Hon Pat Leary, "the establishment of this Neighbourhood Watch resource is an excellent example of Government, Police and Community working closely to co ordinate resources and strategies at a grass roots level".

The development of the Project Library has involved extensive consultation with all of Australia and New Zealand's Policing Agencies and State/Territory Neighbourhood Watch Organisations. Paramount to establishing such a valuable information resource has been the positive and enduring relationship between NHA and its Policing Agencies. NHA will ensure that

"We are committed to ensuring we build safe and secure Australian communities."

there is trust and confidence in the information placed on line which will be de-identified and accurate.

It is intended, that the Project Library will be a "living resource" and will continue to increase in size and value to the community as it is, showcasing innovative projects developed to address emerging localised safety

problems. NHA recognises that many Australian communities are facing "issues" of a similar nature and they would all benefit greatly from having a knowledge base available to refer to when looking for solutions that have previously succeeded.

"It makes perfect sense to work collaboratively in trying to find local solutions for local issues", said NHA CEO Ingrid Stonhill "sharing proven methods that we already know can assist will greatly help our often overburdened members in finding solutions to apply to their community issues".

For Further information please contact:
Ingrid Stonhill, Chief Executive Officer,
NHA, Mobile 041 592 7526

Book aims to stop indigenous truancy

A picture book that tackles truancy among indigenous children will be distributed in remote communities to help youngsters take control of their personal safety.

At School – You Decide was written and produced by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia as part of a trial. Neighbourhood Watch chief executive Ingrid Stonhill presented the book to Indigenous Affairs Minister and supporter of the initiative Nigel Scullion on Tuesday.

“(We worked) with the (Papunya) community to see what they wanted to see changed,” she said.

“It’s based on (the children’s) decision-making and it’s taken from real examples in the community.

“It’s very much a partnership between the community and the police.”



Senior NT Police, Commander Kate Vanderlaan and Superintendent Don Fry, with Senator Nigel Scullion and Ingrid Stonhill at the presentation of the new *At School – You Decide* booklet. Picture: Phil Williams. Story courtesy of Centralian Advocate, January 2015.

Police Commander Kate Vanderlaan said the book would help children make choices to hopefully steer them away from what sometimes

leads to a life of crime. “We see the benefits of school attendance in terms of giving them a chance at life,” she said.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AUSTRALASIA

Volunteer of the Year and Police Commissioner's Awards 2015

Each year, NHTWA like to recognise and celebrate the hardworking individuals who make up Neighbourhood Watch and Neighbourhood Support (NZ). These individuals are a highly valued asset for our communities and police. We want to share and promote the good work of all our members across New Zealand and Australia.

This year we will be asking for nominations for the Malcolm Grant OAM – NHTWA Volunteer of the Year Award. This award is given

to a volunteer community member.

We will also be seeking nominations for the NHTWA Police Commissioner's Award. This award is given to a police employee.

There will also be the Commonwealth Minister of Justice – NHTWA Innovation Award.

This award is given in recognition of an innovative community project, promoting community safety and NHTWA values. This award is selected through the NHTWA Community Funding Program.

Nominations for the NHTWA Awards will open on Monday, June 1, 2015 and close on Friday, July 31, 2015. Nomination forms will be available from the website from Monday, June 1, 2015.

Nominations can be completed online or can be sent in confidence to the NHTWA National Office, PO Box 12654, George Street, Brisbane, QLD 4003.

For further information check out the website: www.nhtwa.com.au. Or email admin@nhtwa.com.au

ACT Report

Clare McGrath

The coming year will be a very productive one for ACT Neighbourhood Watch. We will be teaming up with ACT Policing for many Community Events right across the ACT. Late March will be the first big event with The Canberra Retirement Life Style Expo.

We will in 2015 be aiming to make NHW even more prominent across the ACT, our website is also in the process of being updated.

We are continually encouraging our members and the general public to be alert in the Community and report any suspicious activity to Crime Stoppers.

Late in 2014 we instigated Area Coordinators Forums. These take place every two months and the feedback has been very positive, it gives all Area Coordinators the opportunity to discuss with fellow Area Co-ordinators any issues that they maybe experiencing in their particular area.



Federal Agent James Braithwaite CEO Ingrid Stonhill, Vice President Bernie Durkin.

Farewell to Board Member James Braithwaite

Working as a Federal Agent for the Australian Federal Police has many challenges. At short notice James has received advice that he is being deployed to an overseas post. Whilst his term on the board of NHWA has been

short, commencing in May 2014, James says he has learnt a great deal and has enjoyed working with people passionate about their communities.

We wish James all the best with his new position and look forward to hearing from him.

Neighbourhood Watch Information Day

Thursday, February 19, 2015

On Thursday, February 19, 2015 The Honourable Victor Michael Dominello, Minister for Citizenship and Communities officially opened the first Neighbourhood Watch Information Day that has been hosted by the New South Wales Police Force since 2007. It was held at the NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre Surry Hills.

Over 120 people attended the Information Day. There was a mix of; Police Officers, predominately Crime Prevention Officers, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators and members, and interested members of the public.

The success of the information day was a great indicator that Neighbourhood Watch is still, very much alive. The agenda on the day was developed in consultation with a group of Crime Prevention Officers and Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators. The keynote speakers were chosen to reinvigorate members and to encourage newcomers. These speakers worked in collaboration with each other in order to get community confidence and strengthen ties within the community.

The speakers included the CEO of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, Ingrid Stonhill, who emphasised the role and support that her team can provide to Neighbourhood



Watch groups. Ingrid outlined that money is available to support Neighbourhood Watch groups in the form of grants.

Other speakers addressed current issues and concerns of the Neighbourhood Watch members:

- New South Wales Office of Fair Trading who provided information about the benefits and obligations of being an Incorporated Association, and what the community needs to know about scams and trickers.
- Australian Federal Police on Cyber Safety and Security which is a pertinent reminder for everyone.
- New South Wales Police Eyewatch Team presented an engaging information session about the use of social media and how the program



gives an on-line delivery of local crime issues and events, giving the community a forum to participate in crime prevention.

- Philip Brown, NHW Coordinator and Senior Constable Paul Cleary, Crime Prevention Officer, presented case studies on how to sustain NHW Groups and smart ways to engage your community.

Chief Superintendent Mr Brad Shepherd, the New South Wales Police Corporate spokesperson for Crime Prevention stated, "The day provided a platform to build relationships, and to develop and promote activities for community participation. Nothing surpasses the networking opportunity of being able to share what works and what doesn't."

Chinese Senior Community and Neighbourhood Support New Zealand: A Partnership in Action

The Chinese Senior Community Incorporated (CSC) is a charitable organisation, which was set up in September 2007, with the aim of helping Chinese seniors to settle in New Zealand and to contribute to New Zealand society. The seniors came here to join their adult children who themselves came to New Zealand as skilled migrants to boost the New Zealand economy. With the assistance of CSC, the Chinese seniors are now enjoying their lives and playing an active part in New Zealand.

The set up and running of CSC telephone tree is an important project for us and aims to help in

this challenge. We partnered with Neighbourhood Support New Zealand and as a result, CSC has set up an emergency support and networking system for Chinese seniors who can only understand Chinese, have limited social connections and have expressed a need to be supported in emergencies such as earthquakes, tsunamis, typhoons etc. At the same time, they have also expressed a wish to contribute to keeping themselves and their communities safe.

Two years on, the telephone tree has become a strong network with 4 large groups, 22 small groups with a total of 268 members. It not only helps in

contacting the seniors in emergency situation but has also become an important network for CSC to keep in normal contact.

At the same time, we organise group visits to elder people who have little or no family to make them feel included and cared for. These visits also include Chinese New Year and Christmas time. Neighbourhood Support helps us a lot on this project. It not only supports us with funds but also contacts with us from time to time to discuss how to develop this network better. Supriya (NSNZ Community partnerships and Development Manager) often emails us the updating of community information and to offer assistance when needed. For example, she heard that we were looking for a venue to host our drop-in centre. She introduced us to the Chair of the Paparangi Marae in Wellington, as it was perfect for our planned activities. She also introduced us to the NSNZ Massey University Project which has led to us becoming involved in more community activities and as a direct result we have a closer working relationship and understanding of other communities.

Recently, we celebrated Chinese New Year, the year of the sheep. There were a series of celebrations in Wellington region. Chinese Senior Community organised and participated in many activities with other communities and





we celebrated together. For example, we organised a Chinese New Year celebration for all Chinese tenants of Wellington City Housing on February 14, 2015. It was supported by Wellington City Council, Chinese Embassy in New Zealand and other communities in the Wellington region. The entertainment was provided by Chinese performers throughout the day including performances by well known Chinese artists in the Taichi sword, the Mulan Fan dancing, Solo and Chorus. We offered delicious Chinese food too.

New Zealand Police National Headquarters also organised a celebration for the Chinese New Year

on February 17. The Chinese Senior Community was invited to the event and performed chorus with Upper Hutt Chinese Community. We like to participate in such events, because we feel more united and connected. Furthermore, we often visit some rest homes to perform. After all, the New Zealand society gives us lots of support and we contribute to the society to make New Zealand more friendly and harmonious.

CSC, through various activities, encourages Chinese seniors to share cultural experiences with other ethnic groups and to educate local Kiwis about Asia. CSC also helps educate people about Kiwi values,

such as strong community networks and voluntary activities. Bringing the Chinese seniors together means they are no longer isolated. They can become a strong community, and this helps develop strong and secure family, home, neighbourhood and community connections. Helping the seniors to settle well will also be beneficial to skilled migrants' settlement, which is important to New Zealand's immigration/economic development goals.

Tom Hong is the Chair of Chinese Senior Community Inc.

An Active NS Group in 2012

Oxford Street Neighbourhood Support Hokowhitu

Hern Teo-Sherrell

Sandwiched between two well-known inner-city student streets, Oxford Street has a diverse mix of residents – young families, retirees, professionals, and a sprinkling of highly responsible students. Within 41 houses are approximately 100 residents.

Since 2002, I have been the lead Neighbourhood Support Coordinator, assisted by two experienced street Coordinators, Veronica Fieldsend and Peter Middleton. Credit must also be given to Pat Lanigan, who led the team for many years until 2001.

Without our combined effort as a team, and other neighbours in the street, we would not have maintained the resident cordiality and atmosphere we now enjoy.

Currently in my tenth year as a Neighbourhood Support Coordinator, I am committed to ensuring that residents are safe, and considerate towards their neighbours. Apart from knowing virtually all residents in the street, I keep in constant contact with residents through face-to-face interactions, email notices, and regular updates such as the *Oxford Street Newsletter*.

New residents are warmly welcomed to the street with a smile, fresh produce, vegetable seeds or baked goods. Information about the street, its coordinators, a street code on promoting neighbourliness, contact numbers and procedures for noise control and reporting traffic problems are included in an *Introductory Pack* that all residents receive. Street get-togethers are sometimes organised for residents to mingle and socialise.



First Placemaking meeting.



Neighbours.

More recently in August 2012, four residents and I formed a Placemaking team. Together we have started to create a common space for neighbours to interact and take ownership of the street we all live in. This is a work in progress – we hope that the activities

would engage residents in developing and maintaining neighbourliness, thereby improving the quality of neighbourhood connections and relationships.

Being part of Oxford Street Neighbourhood Support is more than merely updating lists of names and reducing crime; it's about providing opportunities for neighbours to meet and know one another well enough so that in the event of need, we can all be confident that someone in the street will be there for us. More importantly, gaining the trust of neighbours and having time for others in light of a changing society can only foster a caring and understanding community that we all wish to live in.



L to R: Raewyn Fisher, Inspector Glyn Rowland and Roger Eynon.

Neighbourhood Support New Zealand demonstrates why their thinking is streets ahead

NSNZ CEO Roger Eynon talks about the journey to securing the future of provision good-quality information of community partners.

I've referred to this topic in the past and the conversation I had with both Commissioner Bush (then Deputy Commissioner) and Superintendent Bruce Bird (then National Manager, Prevention). It was an important one because redesigning crucial elements of partnership working is hard enough – but when it crosses over into Police operations (to an extent), it becomes quite a challenge.

On paper, the challenge was simple but in reality it amounted to how to replace a service that was largely personality based and had little consistency to it? Also, how best to provide a robust level of information provision which was low on risk.

Neighbourhood Support New Zealand recognised that part of our legacy and current service is the provision of information to Neighbourhood Support groups that comes from Police. It was important to consider how to secure that relationship for the future and also to manage expectation. We also recognised that other community service partners would benefit from the outcome of this project.

Finding the push off point was something that left us firmly at the starting blocks. We had support and desire. What came next was the insight provided by Inspector Glyn Rowland. He highlighted an existing tool (Smart Client) that could be utilised in a way that had not been explored. After that, considerations began in earnest.

Moving on 18 months or so, the end result has been rewarding and also timely. We gained support from intelligence experts in Police and with the added expertise of Lead Intelligence Analyst Raewyn Fisher, who developed the application, moved the challenge into resolution. The tool allows Police employees to produce a map plotting incidents of certain types of crime in a given area over a given time. This can be used by community-based organisations to compare on a week-by-week basis and plot trends as they emerge.

Inspector Glyn Rowland, Manager of Community Services, says the information is limited to certain categories of volume crime, for example burglary, thefts from shops

and from or of vehicles, vehicle interference or damage to property. Individual properties are not identified and the exact locations of offences are not specified. That was important to all parties.

The value lies in the consistency and reliability of the information. It gives an accurate illustration of a geographical area and the types of crime happening there, which is very useful for partners in those areas. The map is created by a local employee with access to Smart Client. Raewyn has written a step-by-step guide to steer staff through the process.

"The first time you use it you might find it takes a while, but after that you can bookmark it which will make it much easier in future," she says.

The map is produced as a PDF and is easy to share as is. The promotion of the tool has commenced. NZ Police Ten One magazine is a running an article to highlight the new resource.

Thanks to Steve Matthews for the photo and content contribution.

NHW NORTHERN TERRITORY

A different country meant different laws; it also means different rights and responsibilities. Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer Senior Constable Tracy-Dale Middleton took the opportunity to speak to the new students about safety in Darwin and the role of Police in the Northern Territory.



John Dowd CDU Security with Senior Constable Tracy-Dale Middleton.

Charles Darwin University International Students Orientation Week presentation by Neighbourhood Watch NT Support and Liaison Officer, Senior Constable Tracy-Dale Middleton and John Dowd, Manager of the Charles Darwin University Security Team.

On Friday, February 20, 2015, international students from the 'on campus' accommodation at International House Darwin, at the Charles Darwin University, were given a short presentation on Safety & Security in the campus grounds by John Dowd.

The students were very interested in learning more about Police and their roles as they have had such varied experiences in their home

countries. The students were very happy to learn that the NT Police mission is Keeping People Safe and Neighbourhood Watch NT works in partnership with Police to help create safer communities.

On Wednesday, February 25, 2015, as part of orientation week, Nigel Brenton from Charles Darwin University Security teamed up with Tracy-Dale for a similar presentation to a much larger

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NT

MARK YOUR TERRITORY DAY

Get your UV Marker Kit on Neighbourhood Watch's 'MARK YOUR TERRITORY DAY' and protect your property.

- Get your marker kit
- Mark your valuables
- Pass the kit on

If Police recover your valuables they'll check it with their UV torch and get in contact.

(08) 8999 0847

WWW.NHWT.ORG.AU

GET YOUR KIT BETWEEN 11AM - 2PM

FRIDAY 27 MARCH
Smith St Mall DARWIN

SATURDAY 28 MARCH
CASUARINA Square
PALMERSTON Shopping Centre
Tjapenger Shopping Centre ALICE SPRINGS
KATHERINE Central
Endeavour Square RHULMBUY
Transit Centre TERNANT CREEK (8.30am - 12noon)

Neighbourhood WATCH NT

Mark Your Territory Day flyer.



Senior constable Tracy-Dale Middleton with John Dowd from CDU Security.

group of International Students in the Mal Nairn Auditorium at the Charles Darwin University.

The new NHWNT UV Marker Kit was an extremely popular item with students and staff very eager to take it home to mark their property and share with their friends and neighbours.

The Mark Your Territory Day campaign is to be launched in Darwin on Friday, March 27, 2015. NHWNT volunteers will be handing out free kits to the public in the Darwin Mall on the day and at other locations on Saturday, March 28, in Casuarina, Palmerston, Nhulunbuy, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs. Property Crime areas within the NT Police will be issued with UV torches to assist in identifying owners of property.



UV Pen, Torch & Sticker (kit).

Inaugural Neighbourhood Watch Queensland Advisory Committee meeting

**Elvis Guzic,
State Coordinator, NHWQ**

The first meeting of the newly formed Neighbourhood Watch Queensland (NHWQ) Community Advisory Committee was held on March 14, 2015.

NHW members representing each of Queensland's 15 police districts met in Brisbane to workshop a number of strategic issues that will impact the future of the program. The main topic of discussion was the NHWQ Strategic Plan with a specific focus on mission and aims of the NHWQ for the next three years and beyond. A number of actions were prioritised by the Advisory Committee and preliminary drafts will be presented to NHWQ State Office in the coming weeks for consideration.

Delegates also discussed the use of social media in contemporary society and how it can enhance the NHW program, attract new and diverse participation, and help deliver the NHW message to all Queensland communities. Delegates unanimously agreed that social media is and will be a very important engagement tool but also stipulated that this must work in conjunction with face to face contact.

There was a lot of two way discussion between the group, facilitator and staff from the Crime Prevention Programs Unit (CPPU) on a range of topics



and the delegates represented their districts with candour and professionalism. Representatives from Palm Cove and Mount Isa also delivered presentations on how their respective districts were implementing NHW and the positive impact these groups had in their community.

The inaugural NHWQ Advisory Committee meeting was a huge

success and delegates were inspired to return to their respective districts and work with local NHW groups on shaping the future of the program.

The NHWQ Advisory Committee will meet again during the year and then report on their outcomes at the annual NHWQ State Conference in September 2015.

The Changing Face of Neighbourhood Watch

Jan Dunsby, State President

Imagine Neighbourhood Watch Groups across the Nation often ponder the future for their own groups. The number of volunteers continues to diminish and those involved tend to be older members of the community who have the time to devote to their respective groups.

If you were to analyse these volunteers I bet the majority of them are also involved in other community groups and associations in their local area. It just goes with the giving nature of our volunteers. They often utilise these networks to assist in the running of Neighbourhood Watch activities and vice versa.

Finding a way to make the volunteering opportunities easier for these wonderful people is starting to see new members for Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania. Combined Community Groups, Progress Associations and Community Precincts are all starting to embrace Neighbourhood Watch as part of their core business. The volunteers can consolidate their monthly meetings to one (often the thing they enjoy least)



and then use the combined energies and resources to run the activities and events that are the flagship for these combined groups.

Some activities that have occurred in Tasmania over recent times include involvement with the Volunteer Fire Brigade, shared stands at community events, house numbering on kerbs, social and fundraising events, and the list goes on. The energies are shared with like minded volunteers whilst the messages about community safety and crime prevention reach new ears.

The other changing face in Tasmania is the new structure we have adopted at State level. A new Board of Management made up of new and old faces will shortly be announced. Some of the new members will bring diverse



skills that will energise the continuing members – just as is happening at the Watch level as mentioned above.

Several long serving members of Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania have chosen this time to end their association and volunteering at State Management level. We will hold functions in each of the three districts in coming months to acknowledge the enormous contribution of these wonderful volunteers.

Sometimes thank you does not seem enough – without the efforts of these people Neighbourhood Watch Tasmania would not even exist today. Yet I am sure not one of them does it for praise or reward, they are just the fine people we have come to know that value their community.

Broadening the Role of Neighbourhood Watch

Geoff Klood

An important function of NHW is to support the Police in their fight against crime. Traditionally, this support has concentrated on educating the public on crime prevention, and providing a conduit between the Police and the public on matters related to crime and its prevention. However, is this the extent to which NHW can support the Police?

Recently, on the Sunshine Coast, the Queensland Police have trained 19 “Volunteers in Policing” (VIPs), to undertake a number of police support functions which don’t need the technical training and the skills of a “sworn officer”. Some of the roles to be performed by the VIPs include support and assistance for the victims of crime, the conduct of home security assessments, assistance to police with customer service, and help with school-based crime prevention projects.

In the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, the Manningham Police are concerned that senior citizens incorrectly perceive that the area is unsafe. The situation is made worse after the media gives extensive publicity to a violent crime elsewhere in Melbourne or beyond. Anecdotal evidence suggests that older folk find this publicity upsetting



Scene from the Department of Justice Videos Used in the Presentations. (The full videos can be seen at: <http://helpyourself.vic.gov.au/>)

and even become reluctant to leave their home.

At the request of the Police, NHW has been running a series of presentations for senior citizens

providing factual information on the relatively low crime rate in Manningham. The opportunity is also being taken to remind the seniors of the standard crime



150 Members of the Chinese Senior Citizens Club at their Presentation.

"At the request of the Police, NHW has been running a series of presentations for senior citizens providing factual information on the relatively low crime rate in Manningham."

prevention and home safety techniques. The presentations take about 45 minutes and are followed by question time. At the end of the session, the attendees are given a card containing the key points from the presentation as a reminder.

The presentations to those seniors' clubs where many of the members do not have English as their first language, make use of interpreters to

ensure that all attendees understand what is being said.

Historically, any presentations to seniors' groups on crime and how to prevent it, have been provided by Police Crime Prevention Officers. Whilst the Police like to interact with the public, having a fully trained officer engaged on perhaps 20 of these presentations is a heavy drain on the Police specialist resources. As with the VIP scheme

in Queensland, using experienced NHW volunteers to make these presentations allows the Police to direct their efforts to the more critical aspects of their role in community safety.

The Manningham Safety and Security for Senior Citizens Program is being funded by a \$5,470 grant from the Department of Justice under the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program.

A new way of engagement - thinking outside the square

The Shire of Capel is committed to engaging all residents of our community in the identification of community safety issues and in the formulation of activities to address these issues.

One of the ways we engage our residents is via locality Facebook pages. These Facebook pages are excellent forums for raising awareness about community safety. The community keep each other informed about recent criminal activity and the Shire keeps the community informed about upcoming Neighbourhood Watch meetings and the correct methods for reporting crime. Locality Facebook pages are therefore one of the ways we identify and respond to community safety issues.

One issue recently identified was safety for seniors. There was a spate of burglaries in the Shire and in one incident an elderly lady was attacked in her home and robbed. Incidents such as this impact on the whole community and affect feelings of safety. Seniors are an absolute asset to our communities in terms of volunteering. The work of senior volunteers is invaluable to both our communities and all community members. Participating in community life allows retired seniors to continue to exercise their competence, to enjoy respect and esteem, and to maintain or establish supportive and caring relationships. Seniors are, however,



hesitant to continue participating in community life when they don't feel safe in their community.

The Neighbourhood Watch WA Strategy was discussed at the Capel Neighbourhood Watch meeting in July 2014. Discussion took place about Neighbourhood Watch having community spirit and community capacity. Neighbourhood Watch members were asked to think about the community they live in, and to think about how their Neighbourhood Watch group contributes to their community. They were then asked if they have any 'big ideas' that relate to Neighbourhood Watch that they would like to turn into a community based project. One of the ideas raised



was to run a self-defence course for seniors to help them feel safer in their homes and community. The aim of the seniors' self-defence course was to teach seniors how to defend themselves in a variety of situations. Seniors learnt the basics of how to quickly disable an attacker so they can escape from harm.

The Shire was successful in receiving \$800 funding from the Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Community Funding Program to run the self-defence course for seniors. The course ran for 6 weeks and was facilitated by Justin Harrison from Capel Goju ryu Karate. We had an excellent response from seniors and the course was very successful.

"Close the Door on Crime" Program by the City of Gosnells and NHW Gosnells

Our "Close the Door on Crime" program aims to reduce crime against older and vulnerable members of our community and help them to feel safe at home by having the support of a nominated neighbour when unannounced callers visit their home.

The program is based on the Neighbourhood Watch principles of neighbours looking out for one another by requiring the support of an able neighbour.

The program was developed when we received a telephone call from a concerned resident of a local lifestyle village alerting us that salesmen were operating in the area trying

to sell expensive mechanical beds and chairs to elderly residents using pressurised sales techniques. In the past we had received similar reports from community members of this type of activity occurring and offenders targeting vulnerable people in other areas within the City of Gosnells.

We then did some research to find out if there was any crime prevention programs in existence to help

support our seniors and vulnerable people. The City of Gosnells Safe City Initiative designed the program based on Scotland's Beat Doorstep Crime Initiative. Gosnells District Neighbourhood Watch agreed to run the program and sought grant funding through Neighbourhood Watch Australasia and Neighbourhood Watch WA to produce the necessary resources.

The City of Gosnells Seniors & Disability Services promote the program to their clients.

The program works by encouraging seniors and other vulnerable people to approach a neighbour and ask that they provide support by dealing with callers to the home as and when required. Seniors are provided with an explanatory brochure and a postcard to show to callers advising them to go and collect the nominated neighbour who will return and provide support. The nominated neighbour is provided with a brochure explaining their role. The program provides support to seniors and other vulnerable people to deal with unannounced callers, give them the confidence to say no to pressurised sales people and reduce door to door crime.

The program was successfully launched in January 2015 and is receiving positive feedback. Residents have commented that they now feel more prepared to deal with salesmen when they call unexpectedly. The program will also encourage younger neighbours to look out for the seniors in their community and promote neighbourliness.





ThinkUKnow

Being safe and secure when using the internet is much like trying to stay fit and healthy; at different times throughout the year we need to protect ourselves from different challenges. As spring approaches, we prepare for hayfever and when it's summer we take steps to protect ourselves from sun damage. Likewise, the challenges we face from internet and mobile scams are heavily influenced by current events and yearly occurrences.

When it is time for us to complete our tax returns, we are more likely to receive scams claiming to be from the Australian Tax Office. When a major disaster or tragedy strikes, we are confronted by those who claim to be charities offering a means to support victims, when in fact they are simply defrauding well-meaning citizens. We can see this currently in the aftermath of the Malaysian Airlines MH17 tragedy with people using fake social media pages to take money from people who wish to support families of the victims.

So how do we overcome these challenges? Just as we would take steps to maintain a healthy lifestyle, we need to cultivate good habits in ourselves and the children we care for to prevent falling victim to online and mobile scams. In this issue of the ThinkUKnow e-newsletter, we will cover some good practices to develop in our regular routine of technology usage.

Think before you click

Modern technologies have dramatically improved our ability to communicate with others, but it's important to

make sure that the speed of those technologies does not bypass our sense-checking abilities. Rather than let our emotions guide us, we need to pause and think before we click on any links in emails or social media posts. It's much safer to cut and paste, or type the URL into the browser to make sure we end up at our intended destination.

Many scams rely on us responding straight away and may pressure us to do this by creating a sense of urgency. There is always time to read the fine print or ask someone for advice before responding.

Do a bit of background research

Before submitting personal information or sending money online, it is important to make sure that the organisation is reputable and the site is secure. First make sure that if you are donating money to a charity it is one that is registered and has legitimate contact information. If you can only find information about it in the email or message you have received, chances are it doesn't really exist.

Before putting sensitive information into a web form, such as credit card or bank account details, make sure that it is hosted on a secure server. This is indicated by https at the beginning of the URL, and a padlock or green tick depending on your browser. Forms hosted on a secure server encrypt the information transmitted so that it cannot easily get into the wrong hands.

Monitor your accounts

A good habit to cultivate is to routinely check any bank accounts

for suspicious transactions.

With many of us now paying bills through direct debit and receiving statements online only, we can overlook any small discrepancies in our transactions. Regularly looking over statements and making sure they correspond with transactions can help us to identify any unauthorised payments which may indicate that our account details have been used by others without our permission.

It's also helpful to monitor our own social media and email accounts as they too may have been compromised if we have fallen victim to a scam. Some social media accounts allow you to see which devices and locations have been used to log into the account and can help identify if some unauthorised person has accessed the account. It's also a good practice to regularly change the passwords to accounts and make sure we use different passwords for different accounts.

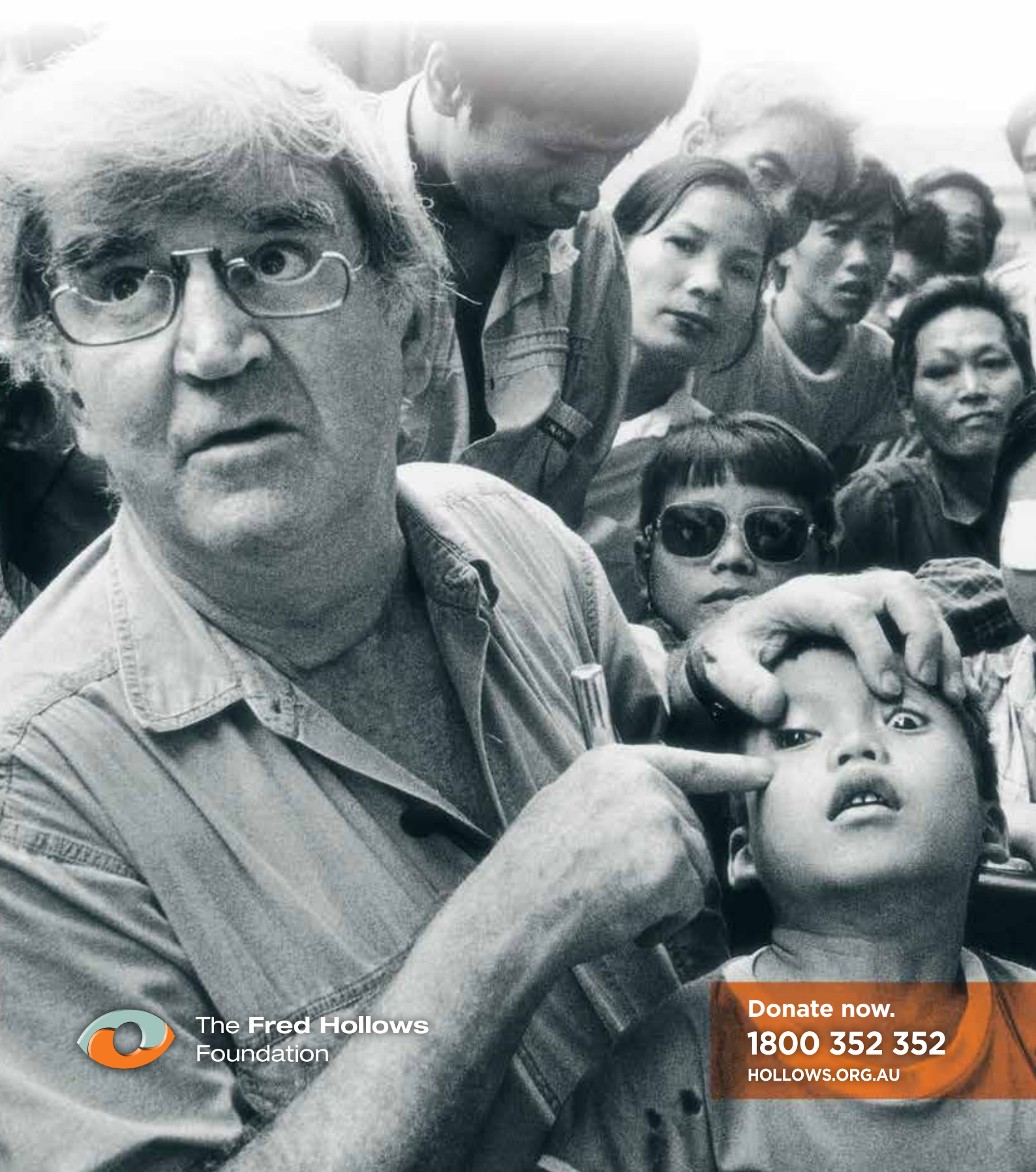
Give yourself a cyber safety health check

- Do all your devices have reputable anti-virus software installed and maintained?
- Do all your accounts have strong passwords?
- Are you aware of how your bank will contact you and how you will receive bills electronically?
- Do you regularly monitor your accounts and statements?
- Do you and your family regularly discuss cyber safety and security?

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