

GETTING TO KNOW LILY WANG



Neighbourhood
Watch ACT

*A monthly feature on the members of Neighbourhood Watch ACT
by Emily Harding*

May 2026

Lily Wang, Treasurer
Member since 2023

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How long have you been involved in Neighbourhood Watch, what first motivated you to join and how did you first hear about Neighbourhood Watch ACT?

I've been a part of Neighbourhood Watch for 3 years since I took the role of Treasurer. I have been looking for an opportunity to use my professional skills (as a CPA) to assist not-for-profit organisations in managing financials and budget. One of my former Treasury colleagues introduced me to the role. I learnt about Neighbourhood Watch ACT at an information stall at Bunnings, where some Neighbourhood Watch members were promoting it.

What roles have you held, and what does your current role involve?

At ACT level, I am the Treasurer of the organisation. I have been managing the bookkeeping of bank accounts, collaborating with our external accountant on annual reports and providing ad hoc advice to board members relating to financial and tax queries.



What aspect of Neighbourhood Watch are you most passionate about, and why?

Working closely with ACT police and other organisations (such as Crime Stoppers) to advocate community safety measures to everyone. It is important to know that we are not solely relying on police officers to keep community safe.

What skills or experiences have you gained through your involvement?

I have really expanded my public speaking skills when attending the Royal Canberra Show in the joint booth with ACT police. This is a unique experience to me to learn how to advocate what we do at Neighbourhood Watch ACT and answer questions from public.



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What achievement or experiences in Neighbourhood Watch are you most proud of?

I am immensely proud of working with all other board members in the organisation. I can see their great passions for helping the community. It is a perfect example of how a retirement life could be.

How has your involvement in Neighbourhood Watch impacted your local community?

I talk about my involvement in Neighbourhood Watch in various Treasury internal meetings and groups. This encourages others to find any opportunities to do volunteer work to help the community outside the 9 to 5 office hours.

What advice would you give to someone thinking about joining?

Get start as soon as practical if you want to do any volunteer work – every role counts.

What keeps you motivated to continue volunteering?

I am incredibly grateful that I can use what I learnt from school to do a volunteer role (as a “Treasurer”) for a not-for-profit organisation. It is a priceless experience.

Can you share a memorable moment from your time in Neighbourhood Watch?

Talking at AGM on annual financial statements and financial position of the organisation to attendees who came from non-accounting background. Plain language is important.

What do you enjoy most about your local community?

Good support from local community. People do have innovative ideas to share with.

What do you do outside of Neighbourhood Watch – hobbies, work, interests?

Travelling around the world to experience what I have read from books.

From a NHW perspective, what are the most significant concerns in your community?

The Bondi attack is shocking to the entire nation. People realize that community safety is important to all ethnic groups.

What do you consider to be the greatest challenge(s) for NHW going forward?

The generation gap. How we can advocate the organisation to have more young people to join and volunteer for Neighbourhood Watch.

What direction/assistance from NHWACT would assist you to improve the safety and security of your community?

Listen to locals and help the community to build the trust of “neighbourhood network” for safety and security is an ongoing task.

An interview with Lily Wang - May 2026

Are you interested in volunteering with Neighbourhood Watch ACT?

We might have the role you are looking for! Email us at enquiry@nhwact.org.au or message us via Facebook @NHWACT

