

GETTING TO KNOW DAVID HOLLY



Neighbourhood
Watch ACT

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

March 2026

***"I'm very proud to be part of the
Farrer community"***

David Holly – Area Coordinator for
Farrer
Member from 1997 to Current

How long have you been involved in Neighbourhood Watch, and what first motivated you to join?

I started as a pre-teen in Weston Creek, helping with newsletter drops with my parents. I moved to Farrer in 1997, stayed connected and then became more actively involved in 2022 by joining Farrer's great NHW Committee. I enjoy contributing to community cohesion and keeping the suburb safe.

How did you first hear about Neighbourhood Watch ACT?

My parents were involved in Weston Creek and as a pre-teen I'd help deliver newsletters with them.

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

Newsletter drops as a pre-teen and have been involved as a committee member in Farrer NHW since 1997. I became more actively involved in 2022 by joining Farrer's great NHW Committee. In 2025, I became the Area Coordinator for Farrer.

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

I'm most passionate about empowering households with the tools and knowledge they need to feel safe and secure in their own homes and in Farrer.



This includes practical information – such as, who to call, what resources are available, and how to respond to different situations online – and helping residents clearly identify their homes as part of NHW through signage, stickers, and logos. These visible cues reinforce safety through deterrence, building confidence and connection.

Beyond that, I'm passionate about bringing these households together around a shared goal: creating a safe, connected, and supportive community. Events like the Farrer Family Fun Day, held during Neighbourhood Watch Week, is an example of how we can connect with our neighbours, welcome new residents, and explain the benefits of being involved in NHW.

It's also about partnering with the school, local businesses and community organisations, ACT Policing, NHW ACT and NHW Australasia to broaden and strengthen connections beyond Farrer on safety and security matters.



<https://nhwact.org.au/>



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What skills or experiences have you gained through your involvement?

NHW has provided ongoing learning opportunities that have strengthened my understanding of community safety and engagement.

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

I'm most proud of being part of Farrer's NHW Committee, and working together on activities, like the Farrer Family Fun Day, which focuses on supporting community cohesion and security awareness.

In 2025, we had more than 300 people attend our 21st Family Fun Day, held at the Adventure Park in Farrer with the support of Farrer Primary School, Farrer Residents Association, the Tuggeranong Arts Centre, NHW ACT and ACT Policing. Free activities included a sausage sizzle, Giggly Wiggly Balloons, face painting, cardboard house crafts and live music from the Tuggeranong Valley Band. We also held a "Lucky Neighbour" raffle, kindly sponsored by local businesses like Peak Health, Fox & Bow, Brava Pizza, IGA, Mustang Restaurant, Metro Petroleum, Farrer Cafe & Takeaway, and GG's Florist.

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

I am proud to continue Farrer's strong association NHW - from delivering our quarterly newsletter, to organising community events, to collaborating with the local school, shops and community organisations - working towards our common interest of the safety and security of all who live and visit Farrer.

What advice would you give to someone thinking about joining?

I'd encourage anyone to join. Even if you're not a member, NHW offers a wealth of information on safety, security and handling situations. Joining NHW signals your commitment to your community's safety and security.

What keeps you motivated to continue volunteering?

It's the people - I'm fortunate to work with a passionate, motivated Committee and NHW ACT towards our shared security awareness goal. I'm very proud to be part of the Farrer community.

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

The Farrer Family Fun Day and the incredible community engagement it brings with a focus on safety and security awareness.

What do you enjoy most about your local community?

People giving a friendly greeting, taking the time to engage with each other, and genuinely caring about living in Farrer.

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

Of the concerns discussed in the neighbourhood, safety and security is usually in the top five. While our suburb has a comparatively low crime rate, residents want to feel safe and are keen to know how to respond if they feel threatened. NHW partnerships with ACT Policing and Crime Stoppers go a long way to addressing these concerns.

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

It would have to be a drop in awareness that NHW is still active in the ACT. People often say to me, "I wish NHW was in my area." We're fortunate to have a dynamic NHW ACT President working with the Board to raise awareness and strengthen NHW's engagement in the ACT.

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

Farrer NHW is very grateful of the ongoing support from NHW ACT and NHW Australasia, and continues to work with both to continue to share the message of safety and security awareness.

An interview with David Holly, March 2026

