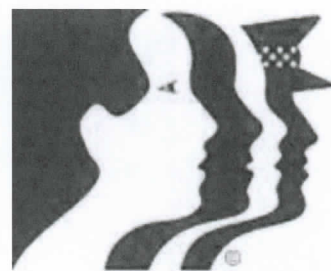


Neighbourhood Watch Hackett Newsletter

Electronic copies of the newsletter
www.nhwact.org.au



JUNE 2025

PATRICK MCNAMARA 1947 - 2025

We mourn the passing of Patrick McNamara

Pat was Treasurer of the Hackett Neighborhood Watch since its inception in 1986. He was a staunch supporter of the Hackett group, and was always assisting sponsors of the newsletter. In 2001 he was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for his extraordinary contribution to his community and Australia.



(L)Bob McMillan, local federal MP (C) Pat McNamara

Pat was born in Sydney, one of four brothers. On leaving school he worked at the Commonwealth Bank while studying for an Economics degree at the University of New South Wales. Next he obtained a teaching diploma. He taught at several country schools in New South Wales, then moved to Canberra in 1972 to join the Commonwealth Public Service. There he worked mainly in the transport area there, retiring in the 1990s. He continued working as a contractor, with the Commonwealth and other bodies, and with associations in the transport sphere.

He was a great reader with broad tastes, but particularly in the area of transport; he enjoyed long conversations about his readings. He walked around Hackett regularly, in recent years with the aid of a stick, and knew his neighbors well. He was a well-known figure at Siam Twist. As well as being Treasurer of Hackett Neighborhood Watch he acted as Treasurer of the Transport Association for many years.

His funeral will be held at 11 am on Tuesday 10 June at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Watson

Emergency 000
Attendance 131 444
Crimestoppers 1800 333 000
Inquiries 6256 7777

Chair

Jude Bowman 0412 711 508
judebowman@home.netspeed.com.au

Editor

Barbara Inglis 0413 135 845
inglisjb37@gmail.com

Deadline for next newsletter

Friday 27 June 2025

HACKETT PROFILE SAMARITAN HOUSE



Elizabeth Carr
Co-ordinator

Emily Schenk
Case Manager

Samaritan House has provided crisis accommodation for 30 years; it was developed by the St Vincent de Paul Society. It began as Hackett House, giving accommodation to both men and women. Now it provides accommodation for 13 homeless men as Samaritan House. Men can stay until they feel that they are ready to live back in the community. The usual length of stay for a resident is about 12 weeks. He is advised by a case-manager; food for breakfast and lunch and a cooked hot evening meal, are provided; there is a community space for socializing, and a vegetable garden. He can regain confidence in himself and his ability to maintain his independence. He is helped to find training and employment, and finally accommodation. When he leaves, he is provided at the Goodies Junction, also run by the St Vincent de Paul Society, with what he will need to set up a home. If he wishes, he can be an outreach client of Samaritan House as long as he wishes.

The House receives a small yearly grant from the Commonwealth Services Directorate, and receives support from the St Vincent de Paul Society. The men pay an accommodation fee of around \$100 per week, based on their ability to pay. The house has 2 full-time staff and 10 part-time staff. Many of the part-timers have worked there for many years; the pay is not great, but they have great satisfaction working there. The House is always staffed, night and day.

Elizabeth Carr is the Co-ordinator of the House. She trained as a nurse in Sydney, then as a Social Worker. She worked in centres in coastal New South Wales, and has now come to Canberra to be near her son and his family. Elizabeth provides warm, understanding support to the men in her care, many of whom

have been long-term homeless and unused to consideration and support.

She is very appreciative of the strong support of the community. Elizabeth was shopping locally for food: the couple behind her in the queue asked what her staple needs were, and brought a box of such food to the House. Someone who saw what the House achieved donated a large sum for the purchase of sporting equipment. A resident lost his wallet locally; it contained a card showing where he lived, and the wallet was returned with nothing missing. An older man in the community comes frequently in the evenings to provide friendly company for the men. The men are shown respect in the local community, helping to restore their self-esteem.

The men themselves react to the kindness shown to them. Each winter homeless men come to sleep in the front lawns of the House. Residents have been known to share their clothing with these men. Samaritan House will share what it can, for instance blankets. There is a waiting list of 39 men wishing to enter Samaritan House.

It is an inspiring place.

NEED FOR A NEW TREASURER

As advised elsewhere in this Newsletter, the Treasurer of Hackett NHW, Pat McNamara, died unexpectedly earlier this month leaving the Treasurer's position vacant.

The Treasurer's tasks are not complex; they are:

1. Payment of the monthly printer's invoice
2. Sending invoices twice a year to the advertisers in the newsletter
3. Acting as one of 3 authorized signatories on the Hackett NHW bank account
4. Monitoring the Hackett NHW bank account
5. Providing a brief financial statement annually to the ACT NHW

If interested in undertaking this role, please contact Jude Bowman via email at judebowman@home.netspeed.com.au

CRIME IN HACKETT AND NEARBY SUBURBS April 2025

	Assault	Burglary dwellings	Motor vehicle theft	Bicycle theft	Shop stealing	Number plate theft	Other theft	Arson	Property damage	Total
Ainslie	2	3	1			1	6		3	16
Campbell	2		2							4
Dickson	1	2		6	9		4		4	26
Downer	3	1	1				1			6
Hackett	1		1	1			2		1	6
Lyneham	3	2		2		1	3		2	13
O'Connor	5	1	1				4		2	13
Reid	1						2		1	4
Turner	2	3		3			3		1	12
Watson	3			1		2	3	1		10

Offence	Street	Date	Offence	Street	Date
Bicycle theft	Hackett Place	4 April	Property damage	Haddon Place	12 April
Other theft	Prell Street	9 April	Assault	Dunlop Street	21 April
Other theft	Skeats Street	12 April	Motor vehicle theft	Prell Street	21 April

FRIENDS OF MOUNT MAJURA

Third Sunday working party: removing garden escapees in Hackett on *15 June 1 – 4pm* meeting at the Mackenzie Street Nature Park entrance, near Grayson Street, to remove woody weeds, mainly garden escapees, such as Grevilleas, growing near the Hackett houses. All welcome, no experience necessary.

Bring sun protection, drinking water, garden gloves if you have them. Gloves, tools and a delicious home made cake for afternoon tea are provided.

For more information and a map visit www.majura.org.

ONLINE CRIME REPORTING.

Some years ago, ACT police introduced an online service for reporting property damage and vandalism. This was expanded to include reporting of dangerous driving. Now the service is expanded again; **retail theft** (e.g. theft of clothes or alcohol from a retail outlet) and **personal theft** (e.g. theft of tools from the tray of a vehicle or a bike theft) can be reported to ACT Policing via its website.

Following submission, a response acknowledging receipt of a report will be sent, followed by an assessment outcome within 48 hours. If a report is accepted, the assessment will include an ACT Policing reference number which can be used when contacting police in relation to an incident.

ACT Policing Chief Police Officer Scott Lee said online reporting had freed up police resources allowing officers to focus on significant and time-critical matters by handling non-urgent incidents online.

police.act.gov.au

VOLUNTEERS

Thanks are due to those who responded to our request for newspaper deliverers. 9 people volunteered to take on delivering newsletters; your response is greatly appreciated.. This month there is another need for a few volunteers. Contact Jude if you would like to assist.

DAVID MCREYNOLDS

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