

Neighbourhood Watch Hackett Newsletter



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

JUNE 2026

CHILD SAFETY ON OUR ROADS

It's fantastic to see so many local students embracing active travel by riding to and from school each day. Recently, however, there have been reports from community members of more frequent near misses involving students travelling to and from school, particularly on bikes. Let's work together to make active travel safe for everyone. It would be helpful to have a quick chat with your child about road safety, staying alert around intersections and driveways, riding predictably, and being mindful when travelling in groups.

Drivers also play an important role in keeping children safe. School travel times can be busy and unpredictable, and children can sometimes forget road rules or make sudden decisions. Please take extra care in areas where footpaths meet roads and along Maitland Street, particularly at intersections that are frequently crossed without formal crossings, such as the Newton Street entrances. A little extra patience and caution from all road users can make a big difference. Families looking for helpful reminders and tips can find resources here:

<https://www.transport.act.gov.au/travel-options/schools/school-programs/ride-or-walk>

Concerned residents in Caldwell Street

Neighbourhood Watch urges that the safety of all, particularly children and the elderly, is always a concern of all the community.

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

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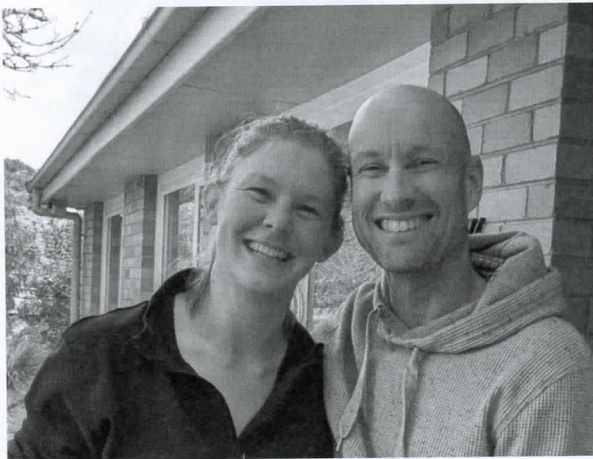
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Deadline for next newsletter
Friday 26 June

HACKETT PROFILE

Elizabeth Humphries and Dave Osmond



Dave was born in Canberra and lived in Aranda. He remembers the time when the family rode around Lake Burley Griffin and he was a 6-year-old on a kick scooter. As a youth he was often exploring Black Mountain. At the ANU he took a BSc Honors degree in Mathematics and Physics, achieving the University Medal in his Honours year. He then took a PhD in Earth Sciences (Fluid Mechanics). He worked at CSIRO for a couple of years in Wind Energy research. Then he and several of his fellows left there in 2003 to start their own company, Windlab. The company has developed wind farms in South Africa and Canada, and several in Australia. First the company looks for an area with suitable wind resource. When a landowner agrees to lease land for a wind farm, the company spends a number of years developing the project – looking at layout, energy, financial and environmental considerations. Windlab developed a wind farm in Victoria to help the ACT achieve its 100 percent renewable electricity certificate.

Dave was a skilled runner and cyclist. He was actively involved with the Canberra Running club. He competed for Australia in World 24-hour Mountain Bike Championships. He was skilful at Mountain Running, a sport that became popular Australia in the 1990s, particularly in Canberra. Dave represented Australia overseas 10 times, mainly in Europe though he once competed in a race in Reunion that was particularly spectacular. He met Elizabeth, his future partner, at a trail running event called the Brindabella Classic.

Elizabeth was born in Melbourne. Her first 15 years were spent there. She was an active runner, with both 'Little Athletics' and 'Little Cross-Country'. At her high school, grandparents organized weekly training sessions. When she was 15, her family moved to Denmark for 3 years. Her

final years of schooling were at the International School in Copenhagen, a school for children of visiting diplomats and professionals. Her PE teacher there organized after-school running training. On Sundays, hundreds of people in Copenhagen joined an organized run. Elizabeth ran with a group of similar skill. The school subjects were limited; Elizabeth enjoyed Anthropology. When the family returned to Australia she came to Canberra (her grandmother lives here) and took a BA Honours degree in Anthropology and Geography at the ANU. A Diploma of Education at the University of Canberra followed, then she taught Geography at Telopeia High School and then a range of subjects, including Sociology, Psychology and Geography, and provided student support, at Narrabundah College.

She competed in road running and mountain running; in mountain running she competed nationally and internationally. Through this she met Dave.

For many years Elizabeth and Dave have run together on Mount Majura. They were very happy to be closer to the mountain when they moved from Dickson to Hackett a year ago. They have 2 daughters. They enjoy running and cycling, but no longer compete at an elite level.

A year ago their eldest daughter became ill with an autoimmune disease. Thanks to the excellent public health system she is improving and she receives excellent support at Hackett NAPS Preschool.

POLLUTION BY WOOD HEATERS

A disabled Hackett resident writes to say that she suffers terribly during winter because of smoke pollution.

A 2024 report showed that, in the Australian Capital Territory, wood heaters contributed an estimated 13–25% of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) air pollution; 11–63 premature deaths each year are attributable to PM_{2.5} emitted by wood heaters.

You could be eligible for a rebate of \$500 to help with the costs of removing a wood heater if you are a homeowner in the ACT. You could be eligible for a rebate of \$1,250 to help with the costs of removing a wood heater if you hold a concession card.

CRIME IN HACKETT AND NEARBY SUBURBS April 2026

	Assault	Burglary dwellings	Motor vehicle theft	Bicycle theft	Shop stealing	Number plate theft	Other theft	Arson	Property damage	Total
Ainslie	1					1			3	5
Campbell				1			1		2	4
Dickson	2	1	2	2	16	2	3		7	35
Downer	3						2		3	8
Hackett	1			1			3		3	8
Lyneham	1	1		3		1	7		2	15
O'Connor	1	2	1						3	7
Reid	1		1	1		1	2		4	10
Turner	1		1	1			3		3	9
Watson	1		1	1		1	3		1	8

Offence	Street	Date	Offence	Street	Date
Other theft	Haddon place	4 March	Bicycle theft	Rivett street	16 April
Other theft	Haddon place	24 March	Property damage	Gilruth street	18 April
Property damage	Haddon place	24 March	Property damage	Rivett street	18 April
Assault	Stanley street	9 April	Other theft	Rivett street	20 April

FRIENDS OF MOUNT MAJURA

Winter Solstice Mulching: *Sunday 21 June, from 1pm to 4pm.*

Meet at nature reserve behind Rivett St / French St, near Hackett water tank. Wear gardening clothes & bring drinking water. We provide tools and equipment.

This is a family friendly working party - no experience necessary.

Note: It will be cancelled if it rains.

For more information and a map www.majura.org

Winter Bird Walk and talk with Peter Miller *Sunday 14th June 8am (sharp) to 10am*

Meet at gate in Mackenzie St carpark, near Grayson St. The walk will be on gravel roads and may include some dirt tracks, so wear suitable shoes. If you have them, bring camera, binoculars, bird ID app or field guide. You are welcome to donate a 'gold' coin for a bird list.

For more information www.majura.org or FOMMnaturewalks@gmail.com

No bookings required

HACKETT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

AGM We are holding our 2026 Annual General Meeting on **Saturday 29 August** from 2.00-5.00pm in the tea-room next to the Folk Dance Canberra Hall (between Blue Gum Community School and Maitland House). We are planning to have a guest speaker and will provide more details nearer the day. If you would like to join our Committee please send an email to info@hackett.asn.au and we can provide you with details. And check out our website to see the wide range of activities we have done since we started in 2002 to help improve our great suburb <https://hackett.asn.au> and our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HackettCommunity>

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