

Neighbourhood Watch Hackett Newsletter

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



AUGUST 2025

COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION

It's amazing what can be achieved when organisations with Community interests at heart come together even on simple activities. Recently NHWACT and Majura Mountain Scouts Group teamed up on one such activity with amazing results.



NHWACT has a range of merchandise made available to the Community free of charge. Our most popular item is a UV Marker Pen Kit which can be used to mark personal items such as mobile phones, laptops, bicycles, scooters and even tools. The kit is provided by the supplier as 4 separate components which need to be assembled.

The Majura Mountain Scouts Group offered their assistance.

Over 2 nights, and with assistance from some parents, the Joeys Group (6-7 year olds) and their siblings and the Scouts Group (11-14year olds) established a series of production lines to put together 1,700 kits. An amazing outcome which exceeded NHWACT expectations!

The Joey's motto is HOP *Helping Other People*, and the Scout's motto is *Be Prepared*. Both groups certainly demonstrated their commitment to these mottos and serving the Community. NHWACT wishes to express our thanks and appreciation to the Majura Mountain Scouts Group for their willingness to assist. NHWACT will make a donation to the Group and looks forward to other opportunities to work together in the future.

Jude Bowman, President NHWACT

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Deadline for next newsletter

Friday 25 August

HACKETT PROFILE

MARY ANN KULH



Mary Ann was born in Yangon, Myanmar, one of 5 children. Her mother was a senior internal medicine specialist at a Yangon General Hospital, her father was a civil engineer.

When she was 6 yrs, her parents decided

to leave Myanmar so that there would be better education opportunities for their children. Her father met an Australian engineer visiting Myanmar, and he sponsored the family to come to Australia as migrants. Mary Ann remembers her delight arriving in Sydney two days before Christmas to find that St Vincent de Paul had organized, in the rental house set up for them, a Christmas tree with presents for all the children.

After local primary school, for secondary education Mary Ann attended James Ruse Agricultural College, a selective school that had the best academic performance of the state. She studied the sciences, then went on to Sydney University to take a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree. She was active in the university social life, taking part in the annual medical school theatrical reviews. In year 5 of her medical degree she chose to take as an elective subject three months in a Yangon Children's Hospital. It was a chance for her to meet her extensive family. Many of the staff at the hospital had memories of her mother. By the end of her degree she had decided that she wanted to be a geriatrician.

She met Steve, her future husband, at university. He studied Economics. She had met him before when they both attended James Ruse College.

On completing her degree Mary Ann became an intern at Royal North Shore Hospital, then

a resident for 2 years, then completed her fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. She was seconded to smaller hospitals in five coastal towns in her training. She enjoyed the beach and began learning how to surf.

With one year of specialist training completed, she and Steve spent five months travelling in South America, then to the UK where Mary Ann worked as a specialist registrar in Rheumatology. She found that in the National Health Service the work hours were even longer than in Australia; some shifts were 36 hours long. She was often fatigued, and overwhelmed. She and Steve returned to Australia; the choice of Canberra was partially influenced by a look at the ANU Mountaineering Club website; Steve enjoyed rock climbing, she enjoyed skiing.

They bought their first house in Hackett, and their two children were born. Mary Ann worked at the Canberra Hospital, and completed her last 2 years of specialist training, qualifying as a geriatrician. She became Director of a new unit, Medical Assessment and Planning Unit (MAPU), set up to ensure that people presenting to Emergency with acute medical problems had specialist assessment within 24 - 48 hours of admission.

Mary Ann also set up a private practice as a geriatrician. This evolved into the practice More than Medicine, providing geriatric medicine, cardiology, respiratory and renal medicine. Steve left work temporarily to become the children's primary carer. He has introduced the children to the outdoor pursuits of orienteering, mountain biking, fishing, surfing, rock climbing and bush walking.

In 2017 Mary Ann moved to North Canberra Hospital, as Director of MAPU. She maintains her private practice. As a clinical Associate Professor she teaches medical students at the ANU. With the Royal Australasian College of Physicians she examines doctors who are training to become specialists.

In free time, between 6 and 7am, Mary Ann rides her road bike with a group called True Grit. Weekends and holidays include surfing, orienteering and mountain bike riding.

CRIME IN HACKETT AND NEARBY SUBURBS June 2025

	Assault	Burglary dwellings	Motor vehicle theft	Bicycle theft	Shop stealing	Number plate theft	Other theft	Arson	Property damage	Total
Ainslie	3					2			6	11
Campbell			1			1	1			3
Dickson	4			3	13	1	7		6	34
Downer	2	4	1	1						8
Hackett	1						2			3
Lyneham				1			4			5
O'Connor	1	1					2		1	5
Reid							2		1	3
Turner			1	1			2			4
Watson	2		1			1			4	8

Offence	Street	Date	Offence	Street	Date
Assault	Skeats Street	2 June	Other theft	Hackett Place	29 November 2024
Other theft	Maitland Street	2 June			

FRIENDS OF MOUNT MAJURA

Third Sunday working party is removing garden escapees near Hackett houses on *Sunday 17 August from 1pm to 4 pm*, meeting at the Nature Park entrance in Mackenzie St near Grayson St. We will remove plants, including Grevilleas, that are not native to our area and threaten local natives growing in the grassy woodland. We will be working in pairs, so that novice weeders will be shown how to identify, cut and daub these plants. All welcome.

Bring sun protection, drinking water, garden gloves if you have them. We provide gloves, tools and a delicious home-made cake for afternoon tea.

More information and a map can be found at majura.org

HACKETT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Did you know Lieutenant Commander Bigelow? The HCA has received a letter from someone trying to track down the relatives of the late **Lieutenant Commander Brian Charles Meredith Bigelow**. He received the Korea Medal and was discharged from the navy in 1982 – his address on discharge was in Hackett (no address is available). If you have any information that could help find his relatives, please send an email to the HCA info@hackett.asn.au.

AGM We are holding our Annual General Meeting on *Saturday 23 August from 3.00-4.30pm* in the tea-room next to the Folk Dance Canberra Hall (between Blue Gum Community School and Maitland House). We are always looking for new members to join our committee so come along.

UV MARKER PENS

Page one of the newsletter shows joeys and scouts assembling UV Marker Pen kits. If Hackett residents would like this NHWACT kit, they can obtain one by emailing Jude, at judebowman@home.netspeed.com.au, who is President of NHWACT as well as Area Coordinator of Hackett NHW

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