



ACT Neighbourhood Watch Members Newsletter

Congratulations to Greg Blood and Clare McGrath both of whom have been awarded an OAM.

Greg's award, announced as part of the Australia Day Honours List recognises his service to sports history.

Clare's award announced in the King's Birthday Honours List recognises her service to community safety.

FROM THE BOARD

- Neighbourhood Watch is growing thanks to community engagement and great volunteers.
- NHWACT has a new President. Jude Bowman who has been the Interim President since December 2024 has now been confirmed as the new President of NHWACT. Please make her feel welcome, she is a very good choice with lots of new ideas and energy.
- Members of the Board are currently reviewing a revised Constitution. The document is expected to be circulated to members for comment by mid August. A final version will be provided to members in advance of the Annual General Meeting in mid October where a vote will be conducted.
- Save the Date** - the 2025 NHWACT Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 October at the Canberra Southern Cross Club, Woden. The meeting is open to all NHWACT members and an invitation will be sent to each member via email closer to the date.

Keep your contact details up to date.

To help us keep in touch, it is important to keep your contact information current.

If your contact details change, please let us know by emailing

Admin@nhwact.org.au

HAVE YOU JOINED YOUR SUBURB'S NHWACT GROUP ON FACEBOOK?

Are you on Facebook? Have you joined your suburb's NHWACT Facebook Group? We have 17 suburban Facebook groups covering 33 suburbs around the ACT. Over 19,000 people are currently members of one of our groups! You will see the latest crime data each month, be alerted to community issues and help people know what to do when they witness suspicious behaviour. You can also visit the NHWACT Facebook page for information.

Ainslie ☺	Aranda, Cook & Macquarie ☺	Casey	Charnwood ☺
Florey	Forde ★	Gordon	Hawker/Weetangera ★
Inner South ★	Macgregor/Holt	Melba/Spence ☺	Molonglo Valley ☺
Monash/Wanniassa ★	Moncrieff	Page	Scullin
Weston Creek - all suburbs		Inner South includes Barton, Griffith, Narrabundah, Kingston	
New Group! Thanks to our volunteers! ★		☺ We need new admins. If you can help, please contact us	

JOIN YOUR Suburb's NHWACT FACEBOOK GROUP TODAY!

- Area crime data each month
- Alert your community to issues
- Help others to connect with ACT Policing & Crime Stoppers

Find your suburb's group via the link in the article!

Can't find your suburb? Why not start a group?
Email enquiry@nhwact.org.au

You can find your group at:
www.facebook.com/NHWACT/groups

Can't find your suburb? Why not start your own group? It's easy and we'll help.
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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 and the Majura Mountain Scouts Group offered their assistance.

It was originally planned that the kits would be assembled progressively in batches of about 500 at meetings spanning several months.

Enter enthusiasm and commitment and over 2 nights, and with assistance from some parents, the Joeys Group (6-7 year olds) and their siblings and the Scouts Group (11-14 year 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.

The Group has been presented with a Certificate of Appreciation, with individual certificates for each participant. The bonus was having a UV Marker Pen Kit and some NHW window stickers to take home. NHWACT wishes to express our thanks and appreciation to the Majura Mountain Scouts Group for their willingness to assist. NHWACT has made a donation to the Group and looks forward to other opportunities to work together in the future.

Well done to everyone involved



Nominations for the NHWA Volunteer of the Year and Policing Awards are now open

Each year Neighbourhood Watch Australasia (NHWA) recognises the hardworking individuals who make up Neighbourhood Watch (Australia) and Neighbourhood Support (New Zealand). These individuals are highly valued by our communities and Police. It is important to recognise and share the good work of all our members across Australia and New Zealand.

Please take the time to nominate a community minded individual who has qualities you would like acknowledged. These qualities should relate to the work, commitment and enthusiasm they have demonstrated in making your neighbourhood a safer, connected and inclusive place to live.

- Nominations for the NHWA Malcolm Grant OAM Volunteer of the Year Award – in recognition of a Volunteer community member.
- Nominations for the NHWA Police Commissioner's Award – in recognition of a Police employee.

2025 Awards Applications are now open. Applications close on 31 October 2025.

More information and nomination forms are available on the NHWA Website nhwa.com.au/news-media/awards

Spreading the message.

In June, NHWACT was host to 25 students pursuing a degree in Public Safety and Security at *Singapore University of Social Sciences* (SUSS). In addition to meeting with NHWACT, the group also met with frontline emergency services over their 3 day visit.

Neighbourhood Watch ACT President, briefed the visitors, highlighting the close relationship NHW has with its key stakeholders ACT Policing and Crime Stoppers.

Several NHW Board members also attended the two-hour session and contributed to the discussion and question-time that followed a formal PowerPoint presentation on NHW ACT organisation and activities.

There was also a brief discussion regarding societal differences.

The Group presented NHWACT with a gift to acknowledge their visit. At the end of the event, the highlight for many was the appearance of a large kangaroo grazing on adjacent parkland.



Hawker/Weetangera NHW has launched its Facebook Group and Community Engagement Meeting

Hawker/Weetangera Facebook Group was established in June 2025 with great posts about how to keep your home, your community and yourself safe.

Their first community event was held on 24 July and what an amazing turnout! The community event attracted about 80 'locals'. It was their first face to face engagement and was held at the Belconnen Bowling Club which provided the venue free of charge.

A PowerPoint presentation provided an overview of Neighbourhood Watch and provided some statistical information about crime in Hawker and Weetangera. ACT Policing's representative was kept busy responding to questions. Residents shared their stories, provided tips and genuinely demonstrated that they are interested in making their community a better place for all to live.

The event was convened by the local Area Contact and was also attended by members of the Board of NHWACT, ACT Policing and Crime Stoppers. The information table set up by NHWACT was a popular spot to kick off the event with a selection of useful information and merchandise available.

THE CLEAR MESSAGE OF THE NIGHT WAS TO LOOK OUT FOR YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND REPORT, REPORT, REPORT!



Some of the 80 residents who attended the launch of Hawker/Weetangera NHW Group on 24 July with merchandise also available.



Volunteering is a great way to meet people and help our community, just ask NHWACT or your local NHW Group.

What's been happening and what is planned for the remainder of 2025?

Since May 2025:

- New NHW Posters provided to all ACT Police Stations
- Hosted delegation from University of Singapore
- Launched new Facebook Group Monash/Wanniassa
- New Facebook Group Inner South (Kingston, Barton, Narrabundah, Griffith)
- Rejuvenated Forde NHW Facebook Group
- New NHW Group Hawker/Weetangera

Going forward:

- Secure September
- COTA Seniors' Expo - 24 September
- NHWACT Annual General Meeting 14 October
- NHWACT Members' Forum date tbc
- NHW Annual awards for Volunteer of the Year and Policing Award close 31 October 2025

All ACT Police Stations now have a new Neighbourhood Watch Poster



Have you seen the new campaign about keeping kids safe on-line?

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia in partnership with Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) and the AFP have launched a TV and radio campaign to help keep kids safe on-line. Called **Keeping Kids Safe Online**, the campaign includes TV and Radio Community Service Announcements (CSAs) which are designed to raise awareness about the importance of online safety for children. There are 5 topics in the series covering appropriate supervision, check privacy settings, open communication, take action-report and take action-support. The series will air until 2 August.

Reporting crimes and suspicious behaviour – here's what to do:

Contact Information



Phone: 1800 333 000
Website: www.crimestoppers.com.au



Phone: 131 444
Website: www.police.act.gov.au



Emergency - Police, fire, or ambulance
Triple Zero (000)

SERIOUS AND URGENT

It is important to report all incidents of crime and suspicious behaviour. The information obtained from these reports provides ACT Policing with accurate data to inform their decisions about priorities and the allocation of resources.

Life Threatening emergencies should be reported through 000.

Non-life threatening incidents may be reported by phone or on-line.

On-line reporting portals are available at both ACT Policing and Crime Stoppers through the following links:

or