

Welcome to the 3rd Edition of the Neighbourhood Watch NT newsletter for 2017!

Play your part in creating a Safer NT!

According to the NTPFES Crime Statistics (see Crime Statistics on the right hand side) crime against the property has increased by an overall 11% in the last year across the NT. The Police do a fantastic job at keeping us all safe, however we can all do our bit to help create a safer NT.

NHWNT actively promote reporting suspicious behaviour, but how do we identify suspicious behaviour? What is the definition of suspicious behaviour? And how do we know if what we are reporting is actually a crime?

Well, the good people at Neighbourhood Watch Australasia have created a fantastic brochure that provides an informative overview of what to look for and how to report information effectively. You can check it out here;

[Download Suspicious Behaviour Brochure](#)

In addition to knowing what to look for it's important to know that there are many options for how you report a crime or suspicious behaviour. You can call the Police directly on 131 444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 and now you can even report anonymously online by following this link;

<https://nt.crimestoppers.com.au/crime-stoppers-information-report#main-content>

Current trends show that Facebook has many community pages for residents to express their concerns on crime or security issues in their area and it is a wonderful tool for communities to connect with each other. It is important to remember that Facebook is not an official reporting mechanism and we ask that our members remind the NT public just how easy it is to report suspicious behaviour officially when you come across these posts.

Let's all work together to create safer communities in the NT!

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NT Crime Statistics

Stats based on 01/07/2016 – 31/07/2017 (compared to the same period last year)

House Break ins	37.6% Increase
Motor Vehicle Theft	-10% Decrease
Property Damage	11% Increase

Did you know that the NT Crime Statistics are available to review online?

The kind folk at NTPFES even split it into regions and it is very user friendly and an interesting read.

[Click here for a direct link.](#)

Are you Scam Savvy?

According to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) Scam Statistics for July 2017 there were **99 reports in the NT over the month** with a reported financial **loss of \$30,490**. Nationally, the stats demonstrated that phone based scams had the highest number of incidents and financial loss closely followed by internet based scams. Interestingly whilst the financial amount lost was very similar to that of phone scams the reported incidents were significantly less, indicating that people are more willingly to hand over greater sums of money over the net.

A recent ACCC article is warning the public that a reported \$28,000 has been reported lost as a result of scammers impersonating NBN.

The ACCC deputy chair Delia Rickard said:

“NBN will never phone you out of the blue to try to sign you up to a service over its network. NBN is a wholesaler meaning they don’t sell direct to the public. If you get an unsolicited call like this, it’s a big red flag that you’re dealing with a scammer. NBN will also never call you to remotely ‘fix’ a problem with your computer, or to request personal information like your Medicare number or your bank account numbers. Don’t listen to the reasons they give you for needing this information.”

Scammers are constantly evolving and finding new ways to con you. Come to the NHWNT AGM to find out more about different scams and what to look out or visit: <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/>

A farewell to Ingrid

Ingrid Stonhill, Neighbourhood Watch Australasia’s (NHW) Chief Executive Officer has resigned from her position. Ingrid has been a driving force of NHW Australasia since it was founded in 2005, firstly as a volunteer then in 2011 she secured the position of National Manager, being appointed CEO in 2013.

Throughout her service Ingrid has driven the success of many crime prevention strategies and resources that have had a significant impact in the NT and beyond. Whilst she is leaving, her legacy will live on through these fantastic resources!

She has had a particular passion for the NT and as such has not only been a pillar of wisdom, support and guidance for NHWNT but has also been out in the Territories remote communities “getting her hands dirty” and developing relationships in regional areas. It’s safe to say that Ingrid has fallen in love with the Territory and has actually made the decision to relocate from the Sunshine Coast to the NT.



*Pictured;
Ingrid Stonhill,
Former NHWA CEO*

NHWA Community Grants

Each year NHWA open a community grants round for NHW groups to fund projects that will engage and strengthen local communities in relation to crime prevention and community safety, promote the exchange of information and further build partnerships between the police, local communities and government and enable safer, connected and inclusive communities.

Out and About with NHWNT

This year has been a cracker of an event season and NHWNT have been out and about at a wide range of community based events, providing the public with simple yet effective personal safety and security information.

We are also pleased to report that Jenny Duggan has now been elected as the Katherine Regional Coordinator.

If you would like to become more involved with NHWNT please contact the NHWNT Office at nhwnt@nhwnt.org.au

For any inquires relating to local matters please contact your Regional Coordinator:

Barkly Region hwntbarklyregion@gmail.com

Katherine Region hwntkatherineregion@gmail.com

Northern Region hwntnorthernregion@gmail.com

Southern Region hwntsouthernregion@gmail.com



Host your own NHW Week Event!

Annually NHW Week takes place between the 2nd – 8th October 2017. The National event aims to raise public awareness of NHW and the benefits of belonging to a local Neighbourhood Watch group. The aim is to increase membership of and encourage participation in Neighbourhood Watch programs.

Neighbours can be your number 1 crime prevention tool, so this year we invite all our members to host an event for their street or suburb. By hosting these events we hope you will feel more connected in your Neighbourhood. We will provide you with information brochures and free merchandise to giveaway as part of your event, plus a voucher to assist with the catering. Get in touch with us today to register your interest or for more information at nhwnt@nhwnt.org.au



Useful Resources

Click on one of the links below or visit www.nhwnt.org.au to view

Protect Your Home

– Maximise your home security.

Protect Your Vehicle

– Maximise your vehicle security.

Protect Yourself

– Maximise your personal safety.

Owner Absentee Form

– Use this to advise NT Police of your absence.

Knock Knock Brochure

– Use this tool to introduce yourself to neighbours.

Australian Competition & Consumer Commissions Little Black Book of Scams

– A great tool that provides an insight into current scamming trends and what to look for.

Membership Update

The NHWNT membership across the NT currently stands at;

940 NHWNT Members

180 Safety House locations

Upcoming Events

Don't forget to check out our online events calendar to find out where NHWNT will be in the coming months. If you would like to get involved in any of the listed events please get in touch at nhwnt@nhwnt.org.au

<http://www.nhwnt.org.au/pages/Calendar-of-Events.html>

NHWNT AGM and Member Information Session

DATE: Thursday 19th October

TIME: 6pm – 8pm

LOCATION: Rydges Palmerston

As a valued NHWNT Member we would like to extend an invite to you for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Members Information Session.

You should have received a formal event invite with a link to the AGM guidelines, which provides our members with full details on the available Board Positions and how to nominate as well as what to expect on the night.

Remember as a NHWNT member you are entitled to vote at the AGM, even if you can't make it in person you can still register another member to vote on your behalf (*See Appendix B – Proxy Form in the AGM Guidelines*).

In addition to the AGM we are also hosting a members Information Session with the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission featuring as keynote speaker. They will provide an overview of how to recognise a scam, how to protect yourself against them and where to report them.

Never been to an AGM before? That ok - download a copy of the AGM Guidelines at the following link: http://www.nhwnt.org.au/365_docs/attachments/protarea/NH-ea7c4169c0.pdf

You can register your attendance at the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/nhwnt-member-night-agm-tickets-37591009722>

Alternatively, please email nhwnt@nhwnt.org.au or call **08 8999 0847** to register your attendance, detailing any dietary requirements.