

Network News

Newsletter of Safer Communities Australia Inc

June 2008

Inside this issue:

Editor's Corner	2
Mr B Saint with Supt Williams	2
Annual Awards	2
Kris Massie & Police Band	2
Safety Expo & AGM	3
Help needed!	3
Message from Australian Central	3
Victim Support Service	4
Thanks for Grant	4
Safety Assist signs	4
Incident Reports	4

Noarlunga East Committee in Action!

OUR **NOARLUNGA EAST SAFETY ASSIST COMMITTEE** recently held their Annual General Meeting at the Christies Beach Police complex. It was a relaxed and enjoyable evening and included a tour of the police station, from the padded cell and holding cells to the sally port, fingerprinting and many other areas.

The President of Safer Communities Australia, Mr Bryce Saint OAM, extended congratulations and thanks to the committee for their outstanding efforts in promoting the Safety Assist program and, in particular, monitoring the Safety Assist street signs in their area. The committee comprises **John Liersch** (President), **Steve Highet** (Vice President), **Kay Langton** (Secretary), **Norm Andrew** (Treasurer) and **Norm Lee** (committee member).

Guest speaker on the evening was **Troy Holmes** from the **South Coast Road Safety Group**. Troy was the victim of a shocking road crash in 2005. He suffered horrendous life-threatening injuries and is still undergoing operations and rehabilitation. Troy spoke about the drastic impact this has had on his life and he showed graphic pictures of his car after the crash plus the damage his body sustained.

As part of the Road Safety Group, Troy presents his inspirational talk to school students. He welcomes the opportunity to talk to other groups and relate his experience. *Contact our office if you would like Troy to make a presentation to any interested groups with which you are connected.*



New Guidelines Brochures

WITH A GRANT from **Community Benefit SA**, we have updated our **Safety Assist Guidelines and Responsibilities** brochure which is issued to members when they join. We now have a professionally-designed and attractive brochure that provides guidelines to Safety Assist members when someone calls at their premises for help.

One of these new brochures is included with this newsletter. Please read it and keep the brochure where it can be located easily when needed.

Remember ...

You are the first point of contact for anyone who needs help. You are not expected to solve the problem but to contact family, police, emergency services and so forth as the situation requires.

You should not invite strangers into your private premises. Ask them to wait at your front door while you make a phone call for assistance.

If you have reasonable grounds to suspect that a child or young person is being abused or neglected, you are required to report this to the **Child Abuse Report Line** on **13 14 78**.

Please contact our office if you do not have one of our magnetic **"Safety Assist Recommended Procedure"** cards. They can be placed on a fridge for easy reference.



Safety Assist
sign of a
safer
community

Editor's Corner

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER you have received our new "**Guidelines and Responsibilities**" brochure which is a valuable addition to our resources. When our new organization, Safer Communities Australia, was launched in 2003, we had little other than a few brochures. Over the past 5 years we have built up and developed a substantial range of resources and equipment to help with our work in the provision of community safety services. Our organization owes much to the businesses, local Councils and organizations who have supported us with grants and donations to produce our resources.

We also acknowledge the invaluable contribution of the **Government of South Australia** and the **Hon Paul Holloway**, Minister for Police, through whose portfolio our annual grant is administered.

Our next exciting project is the production of a Safety Assist story book aimed at young children. Author **Chris Pelly**, together with illustrator **Gaynor Hardinge**, has produced a range of safety books: **Stumpy and Friends** – a child safety series. They are working on our book which we aim to have completed by the end of this year. The book will feature our mascot, Safe T Hound, who will have a range of new friends to join him.

Are you a member of a community group in your local area? We can provide you with a supply of our brochures to place with other community information. This is one simple – but very important - way that you can help us to spread the word about our Safety Assist program.

*Finally ... don't forget to mark in your diary the date of our **Safety Expo** and AGM on 24 September.*

Rona Sakko - Editor



Safer Communities Australia President Mr Bryce Saint OAM recently met with Superintendent Linda Williams, Officer In Charge of SAPOL's new State Crime Prevention Branch. Mr Saint congratulated Supt Williams on her appointment and briefed her on the progress of our Association's community safety programs.

Annual Awards

SAFER COMMUNITIES AUSTRALIA presents awards annually to recognize deserving people and organizations that have provided outstanding service to our Association. *We are calling for nominations for the following categories:*

The Association Award – for an individual, company or organization that has assisted our Association through significant sponsorship, contributions or services at either a local or state level.

The Award of Merit – for service of an outstanding nature as a member of the Association.

Safety Assist Award for Exemplary Service – for exceptional service to the Safety Assist program.

Criteria for the Awards and nomination forms are available on request from our office. Nominations close on 30 September 2008.

Kris Massie & the Police Band

OUR SPORTS SUPPORTER, **Kris Massie** from the Adelaide Crows, will be joining the Safety Beat section of the Band of SA Police in their school visits again this year.

Kris works with the Band to spread the Safety Assist message to students.

We very much appreciate Kris's volunteer support of our organization. We'll have a picture of Kris and the Band in action in our next newsletter.



Advance Notice of Safety Expo / AGM

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Safer Communities Australia Inc will be held in conjunction with our Community Safety Expo.

When: Wednesday 24 September 2008 at 7.00pm

Where: SA Police Barracks, Port Rd, Thebarton

Further details will be included in our next newsletter. *Mark this date in your diary now!* Our Safety Expo will follow the successful format of the past 2 years, with displays, demonstrations and speakers on fire and personal safety.



Calling for nominations for Board positions

THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT of Safer Communities Australia Inc comprises 12 Directors – 6 elected from membership plus 6 corporate Directors.

Member Directors

DIRECTORS serve a 2-year term on the governing body. Three positions will be declared vacant, with retiring Directors being eligible to stand for re-election.

Do you believe you have skills that will be beneficial to the Board? Contact our office for an application form and information on the role of a Director.

Corporate Directors

AT THE AGM, members will vote to decide the 6 organizations that will be represented on the Board for the following 12 months. Current representatives include SA Police, Department of Education and Children's Services, SA Metropolitan Fire Services, Public Transport Division, St John Ambulance and Victim Support Service.

You are invited to nominate any organizations that you believe will assist our Association.

Nominations for corporate and member Directors close on 15 August 2008.

Community Lottery

We still need your help!

WE HAVE MORE LOTTERY TICKETS that we need to sell before the end of June.

This is our annual fundraiser. *The more tickets we sell, the more money we raise.*

Give us a call if you can help to sell these tickets which are \$2 each and come in books of 10. Prizes include cars, holidays, home theatre systems, computers, shopping sprees ... over 113 fabulous prizes valued at over \$186,000. Yes, you read that right. At only \$2 a ticket, this has to be one of the best value lotteries around.

Buy your tickets now!



A Message from Australian Central

AT AUSTRALIAN CENTRAL, we're proud of our contribution to the community through our sponsorship of the Community Lottery.

Since 1984 we have distributed close to \$4m to charitable organizations, clubs and community groups and our 2007 Community Lottery was recognized with a prestigious Abacus Mutual Banking Industry Award as the best community project in Australia!

The 2008 lottery is bigger and better again, aiming to return over one million dollars to the 430 participating charities, schools, clubs and community groups. The number of prizes has doubled and the prize value has soared.

The Community Lottery is a tangible way in which we, as responsible members of the community, can work together to help those organizations who want to help themselves.

Safer Communities Australia extends thanks to Australian Central and its business and media partners for this wonderful support in picking up the entire costs of conducting the lottery and providing the prizes. As a participating organization, we receive 100% return for EVERY \$2 ticket we sell.

Business partners include: Misubishi Motors, Harvey Norman, Bunnik Tours, Great Southern Rail and Toshiba.

Victim Support Service

HAVE YOU BEEN a victim of crime?

There is help available through **Victim Support Service**.

Professional staff provide a comprehensive range of services for adults who have suffered as a result of a criminal offence. This could range from assault or home invasion to robbery or homicide. Support is provided for individual crime victims, their families, friends and the wider community. You do not need to have reported a crime to access the services which include information about your rights, counselling, assistance with court matters, support groups

and resource centre.

Services are confidential and free of charge. There are offices in the main regional areas as well as Adelaide.

Speakers are available to present community talks about victims of crime and the support offered through Victim Support Service.

Contact details: ph 8231 5626 or info@victimsa.org or www.victimsa.org



Thanks for Grant

THE CITY OF TEA TREE GULLY has given our organization a grant of \$2,000 towards the purchase of Safety Assist street signs for the Council area.

As well as funding the cost of many of the signs, Council will also erect the signs and provide the required brackets.

We extend thanks to the City of Tea Tree Gully for this valuable support.

Safety Assist Signs



SAFETY ASSIST SIGNS are vital indicators for anyone who is lost, hurt, bullied, frightened or feeling unsafe for any reason. They point the way to places where reliable help is available to any one, any age, any time.

We ask that you ensure all your signs - house, letterbox, business and street - are clearly visible and not faded or vandalized.

Give our office a call if you require replacement signs.



Incident Reports

EXAMPLES OF RECENT INCIDENTS INCLUDE:

1/4/08 – **Evanston**

7.15pm: Lady requested use of telephone to report an incident to police – she had witnessed a possible assault. She was able to give police details of car registration and descriptions.

27/3/08 – **Whyalla**

5.30pm: Man sought help for injuries to arm and knee. Safety Assist resident (also a First Aid Post location) gave first aid treatment.

21/3/08 – **Bellevue Heights**

11.30am: A doctor was seeking the home of a patient but he was unsure of house number in street. Phone book checked and address given.

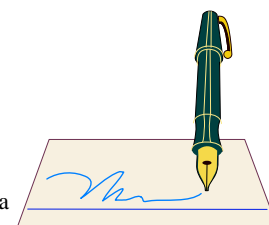
17/3/08 – **Keswick**

Daytime: Truck driver had dropped off delivery to the premises but Safety Assist resident became concerned when truck was still parked outside some time later. Driver was vomiting due to a reaction to medication for broken ribs. Safety Assist resident aided him.

14/3/08 – **St Georges**

7.45pm: Elderly lady was directed to Safety Assist location as she had become lost while going for a walk. She was distressed, hot and suffering from memory loss. Residents provided drink and contacted family who came to collect her.

Has someone knocked on your door seeking help? Please notify our office by phone, fax or email. It is important that we are informed of incidents so we can monitor the effectiveness of our **Safety Assist** program.



PATRON:

His Excellency
Rear Admiral Kevin
Scarce
AC CSC RANR
Governor of South
Australia