

Network News

Newsletter of Safer Communities Australia Inc

September 2009

Inside this issue:

Editor's Corner	2
Successful Fundraiser!	2
Little Heroes stars	2
Welcome Aboard!	2
Looking to the Future	3
Whyalla Committee	3
Thanks to Bendigo Bank	3
First Aid Post	3
Police Remembrance Day	4
Mobile Phone Security	4
Incident Reports	4



Safety Assist
sign of a
safer
community

Safer Communities AGM



Wednesday 23 September 2009

at 7:00pm

**at the Army Museum of South Australia
Building 76, Keswick Barracks, Keswick**

Entry is gained via the main gate adjacent to Anzac Highway, Bus stop 2A.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mary Safe, mother of champion Olympic cyclist Amy Gillett. Mary's inspirational presentation, **Remembering Amy for a Reason**, will cover Amy's life, plus include goal setting, resilience in times of disappointment and bicycle safety.

This special presentation is suitable for all ages, young and old.

COME ALONG and join us. *The evening includes:*

- ◆ A brief section for the formal proceedings of the Annual General Meeting
- ◆ Special guest speaker, Mary Safe
- ◆ Tour of the Army Museum that has a magnificent display of items of significance to our State's military history
- ◆ A sumptuous hot supper in an Army tent to complete the evening

Please join us - everyone is welcome!

Board of Management Directors

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

Corporate Directors

At the AGM, a vote will be taken on the six corporate organizations which will hold positions on the SCA Board of Management for the next 12 months. The Board will recommend: **SA Police, Victim Support Service, Dept of Education & Children's Services, SA Metropolitan Fire Service, St John Ambulance and SA Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM)**.

Directors elected from membership

Three positions on the Association's Board of Management will fall vacant at the AGM. Nominations to date have been received from **John Gebbie** and **Rona Sakko**.

Please contact our office prior to the AGM if you feel that you have expertise to offer in areas such as business development, law, finances, marketing or publicity.



Editor's Corner

OUR JUNE NEWSLETTER included a request for members to ensure their **Safety Assist signs** are clearly visible and to inform us of the most appropriate intersections for their street signs. **We have been inundated with replies!** We have issued a huge number of new house and letterbox signs and we are still processing the enormous number of requests for street signs. **Please remember that it is important all signs are easily seen by anyone who might be in need of help.**

This newsletter includes details of our upcoming **Annual General Meeting** which will feature a special speaker plus the bonus of an exclusive tour of the **Army Museum** located at the Keswick Army Barracks. We have tried to make this function an enjoyable and interesting one for all, so please come along and bring family and friends.

Safer Communities Australia has an exciting future ahead as we expand and develop our programs and take a greater role in community safety.

Thank you all for your ongoing support.

Rona Sakko - Editor



Welcome Aboard!

SOME RECENT ADDITIONS to our Safety Assist business/community locations include **Kidding Around** (a children's clothing store) at Streaky Bay, the **Victim Support Service** office at Port Lincoln and the kindergarten at **Aldinga**. The latest primary schools to join our program are **Mount Pleasant**, **Stirling North** and **Bellevue Heights** schools.

Thank you all for caring about community safety.

Successful Fundraiser!

IN OUR LAST NEWSLETTER we said **THANK YOU** to our many members who helped to sell lottery tickets on our behalf in the recent **Australian Central Community Lottery**. We raised over \$4,000 which will go towards resources for our programs.

One of the tickets sold by our organization won a Harvey Norman gift card. **Congratulations to the lucky winner!**

To quote *Australian Central*:

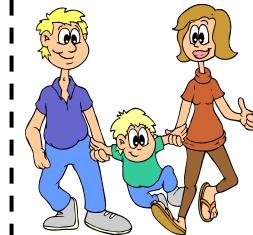
"At Australian Central, helping the community is an important part of our business. That's why we have supported the Community Lottery since 1984.

100% of the record \$1,186,702 raised in 2009 will go back to our community, helping 520 not-for-profit charities, community groups, clubs and schools in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Thank you to the organisations who participated, to our Business and Media partners and, if you bought a ticket, we also thank you for making the community lottery a huge success."

And THANK YOU, AUSTRALIAN CENTRAL!

Safety Ambassadors star in "Little Heroes"



THE CITY OF ONKAPARINGA has produced a DVD as part of the **Communities for Children Initiative** (which comes under the *Australian Government's Stronger Families and Communities Strategy*). This is one of a variety of local activities that are working towards building strong community relationships for the benefit of children.

The **Little Heroes** story aims to raise the profile of the important role that families play in society and encourages a sense of shared responsibility from all people towards maintaining child-friendly communities.

Production of the DVD entailed interviewing and filming children, parents and community leaders. They speak about what a child friendly community means and how we can all take a part in providing safe, enjoyable and vibrant places for children to play, learn and grow.

Our **Safety Ambassador program** played a key role in this project. Our student Ambassadors from **Coorara Primary School**, along with teacher **Kay Langton**, are featured in the DVD, with the Ambassadors speaking of their role in helping to keep their school communities safe.

Our unique Safety Ambassador program is now operating in almost 100 schools throughout South Australia and our 300 Ambassadors are to be commended for their outstanding work in promoting safety.



MARK THIS DATE

DON'T FORGET to mark this date in your diary:

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 23 September 2009
7.00pm
Army Museum, Keswick

Looking to the Future



IN OUR LAST NEWSLETTER we informed our members of our intention to undertake a review and planning process that would lead to the development of **Strategic Directions** for Safer Communities Australia for the next 5 years.

The first stage has been to develop a **Quality Documentation Manual** which provides a framework in which to incorporate strategic and operational policies and associated procedures. This process is well underway, and will be completed by the end of September.

Our next step is to devise a **Strategic Plan**. Our organisation has contracted SACOSS (South Australian Council of Social Service) to facilitate the development of this plan.

Stages include:

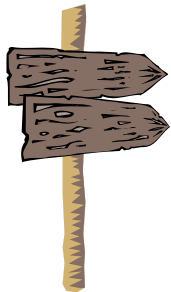
- # **A web-based survey** to assess the community's awareness and understanding of our organisation and its programs – this will be undertaken in August/September
- # **A series of workshops** with SACOSS and our Board members – to be held over the next few months
- # **Final Strategic Plan** to be available in March 2010.

Would you like to take part in the web-based survey? If so, please email our office on safetyhs@senet.com.au to express your interest. It will only take a few minutes of your time but it will provide us with valuable feedback.

Whyalla Committee - assisting the locals

WE ARE FORTUNATE to have an active and enthusiastic committee in Whyalla, with **John and Rona Gebbie** at the helm.

The **Whyalla News** recently featured an article on the work undertaken by this couple who also serve on our Board and provide a valuable regional aspect. They have been members of our organisation for almost 20 years.



The committee is currently concentrating on ensuring that there is a bright red and yellow street sign pointing to every **Safety Assist** location in Whyalla. They have also embarked on a publicity campaign to encourage more private and business premises to come on board as safety locations to help their community.

Well done!

"Picture/Photo courtesy of the Whyalla News"



*John and Rona Gebbie
- spreading the word about Safety Assist*

Thanks to Bendigo Bank



BENDIGO BANK'S COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION offers grants to not-for-profit organisations that provide benefits to the community. This is through their South Australia "Back to Grass Roots"

Statewide Community Grants Program.

We are delighted to have received a grant from the Foundation to produce **Safety Activity Booklets** that will become a valuable new resource for the use of our student Safety Ambassadors as they spread safety messages to their fellow students.

We extend thanks to Bendigo Bank for this grant. Their support is very much appreciated.

First Aid Post



HERE IS SOMETHING to keep in mind ...

SAFETY ASSIST MEMBERS in private premises may extend their volunteer community service by also participating in **St Johns First Aid Post** program.

Check this out ... you receive FREE training for your **Senior First Aid Certificate** (full costs are reimbursed after 6 months in the program) and ongoing training updates are FREE. You will also receive the FREE loan of a **First Aid Kit** for the duration of your time as a First Aid Post member.

Consider the benefits ... ideally, we all should have first aid training – and you can achieve this at no cost. Plus you will have the skills to provide first aid to anyone who is hurt and knocks on your door for help.

Here's how easy it is ... training can be undertaken at a time and location to suit your requirements. Just give our office a call and we will send you further information.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

National Police Remembrance Day Memorial Service



Tuesday 29 September 2009
11.00 am

WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

POLICE ACADEMY
Strathfield Terrace, Taperoo

An invitation is extended for you to attend the National Police Remembrance Day Memorial Service, to honour those police officers who were killed in the performance of their duty.

The 40 minute service will be followed by morning tea served in the Academy Mess.

Parking will be available in the Academy Gym Car Park located immediately to the right, after entering the main entrance.

In case of wet weather, the service will be relocated to the Academy Auditorium, located upstairs in the Mess Building.

Enquiries to SAPOL Special Events Officer, telephone 820 42229.



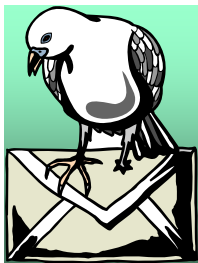
Mobile Phone Security

CONTACT YOUR NETWORK CARRIER, then the police, if your mobile phone has been lost or stolen.

- Keep your mobile phone out of sight when not in use.
- Ensure your mobile phone has the following activated:
 - The Personal Identification Number (**PIN**)
 - The **Security Code**, which is built into all mobile phones. When this code is activated, the phone will not work with another Sim card. Ask your network carrier for further information.
- Never leave your mobile phone unattended in public – especially in a pub, club or café.
- Your **IMEI** (International Mobile Equipment Identity) number is unique to your phone. Press ***#06#** to display the number. Note the number down and keep the details in a safe place for future reference. Networks can use this information to block your phone if lost or stolen.

Information courtesy of SA Police.

I'm
10!



Incident Reports

PLEASE REMEMBER TO NOTIFY US of **every incident** where someone has sought help at your **Safety Assist** business or private premises. This helps us to monitor our program and its effectiveness out in the community.

Some recent reported incidents have included:

August 09 – **Rostrevor**

6.00pm: Young woman sought assistance after being threatened by her boy friend. Crisis Care contacted and arranged emergency accommodation.

July 09—**Kurrulta Park**

5.00pm: 98 year old gentleman on gopher had lost his way. Safety Assist people ensured his safe return home.

July 09 – **Lockleys**

4.50pm: Elderly lady fell over on the pavement in wet and slippery conditions. A neighbour alerted the Safety Assist location (also a First Aid Post). Lady suffered deep laceration to her forehead. First Aid given and ambulance called. Local neighbours assisted, holding umbrellas over the lady in the drizzling rain while waiting for the ambulance.

July 09 – **Adelaide**

Early morning: Two teenagers sought help for one who had a badly cut hand.

June 09 – **Black Forest**

Evening: Lady knocked on the door seeking help after she had tripped over on the pavement. It was dark and she was quite shaken and needed time to recover from the shock.

PATRON:

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