





## Sir John Hackett Essay Competition

All young people living in Hackett and in school years 5-12 are invited to enter this competition.

The topic is:

***“The person after whom your street in Hackett is named”***.

Prizes and certificates will be offered for the best essays.

Entries will close in early August.

The competition is being held by the Hackett Community Association with the support of local schools and the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

Essays should be:

- 250-500 words long for Years 5-6;
- approximately 600 words for Years 7-8;
- 900-1000 words for Years 9-10 and
- 1000-1200 words for Years 11-12.

The contact for the competition is the HCA Chair, James Walker, who can be contacted on 6247 0951.

Details are also on the Hackett Community Website:  
<http://northcanberra.org.au/suburbs/hackett/>

**SCAMwatch is warning consumers to continue to be wary of unsolicited emails** that appear to come from well-known businesses or agencies. Scammers trick unsuspecting victims into providing personal details so that they can steal your money or your identity!

We have received several reports about consumers receiving unsolicited emails supposedly from McDonalds. This bogus email offers 'McDonald's customers a \$50 bonus for filling out an online 'customer satisfaction survey'. Below is a copy of the text from the email:

*Dear McDonald's Customer,*

*We are planning big changes for 2009 at McDonalds AU chain of restaurants and because your opinion is very important to us, we invite you to take a short Customer Satisfaction Survey that will help us improve the quality of our food and services.*

*We know your time is valuable, so we will give you a \$50 bonus just for taking our quick 7 question survey. The entire process will take no more than 5 minutes.*

*[link to survey]*

Once the survey is completed, the scammer will request the consumer to provide their credit card/bank details to receive the \$50 payment. Instead, the scammer will use these details to steal money or commit identity fraud.

If you receive this email or any other unsolicited email that appears to come from a company, banking institution or agency, do not follow any of the links in the email as this can result in an unwanted download on your computer. Remember that reputable companies and banks will never ask you to provide your banking details via an email.

### **Protect yourself**

\* Never send your personal, credit card or banking details over the phone in response to unsolicited emails or enter it on any website if you are not certain it is genuine.

\* If you receive unsolicited emails delete them immediately!

Don't open any attachments, click on any links or reply to these emails.

\* If in doubt, always contact the business, government agency or bank to verify that the request is genuine. Never rely on contact details provided in unsolicited emails. Instead, find these contact details independently.

\* If you provided your banking details as a result of this email, report the incident to your banking institution immediately.

**Report:** You can report the matter to the ACCC Infocentre on 1300 302 502 or report a scam through the SCAMwatch website.

## **NRMA Insurance ACT Volunteer of the Year Awards 2009**

Congratulations to Waltraud Pix who won the award of ACT Volunteer 2009 in the Environment Category.

Waltraud Pix convenes the Friends of Mount Majura parkcare group, one of the most active landcare groups in the ACT. Her work provides environmental and social benefits to the ACT community and an inspiration to the broader landcare and parkcare movements. Importantly, it gives members of the community the information and opportunities needed to contribute to debates on key environmental issues and preserves the aesthetic and recreational value of Mount Majura. Waltraud balances her work with FoMM with other commendable volunteering activities in the ACT.

From Dorothy Mackenzie with details provided by Laura Turnbull, who attended the award announcement ceremony.

## Reporting on Dangerous Driving

### Advice from Sergeant Bob Muir

The correct phone number to call is **131444** not '000' unless it is very serious or life threatening.

The person calling should pass onto the member in ACT Police Operations any observations and details of the vehicle (colour, make and any distinguishing features), description of driver and any occupants (clothing, hair colour if possible).

If people want to remain anonymous they can call Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 but preferably if they feel strongly enough they should give the Operator on 131444 their details and if necessary provide police with a statement - Police will act on any calls to 131444 and the offender will be prosecuted.

**Note:** Do not try and apprehend, detain or speak to the driver and if driving don't follow - just provide us with the details.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF HACKETT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The AGM of Hackett NHW was held at Sports House on 20 May, and was attended by eight Hackett residents, plus two guests from ACT Neighbourhood Watch: Mrs Margaret Pearson and Mrs Clare McGrath. This is an abbreviated account of proceedings.

The chairman's report outlined activities of Hackett NHW over the last year, and thanked its supporters, including people who deliver newsletters, the newsletter editors, and sponsors. She acknowledged other community organisations that cooperate with NHW, and thanked them for working to make Hackett a safe and pleasant suburb. The Treasurer's report noted that most NHW finances relate to the newsletter; there is a monthly invoice of \$209 from Xibit for printing 1,400 newsletters, and income every quarter from advertising by sponsors. The newsletter currently generates a small surplus so NHW was able to make donations to charities and non-profit organisations totalling over \$600. In recent years, NHW's bank account has remained reasonably stable, varying between \$2,000 and \$3,000. It currently stands at \$2,126.

Margaret Pearson, Secretary of ACTNHW Association, gave an update from the central body.

- ACT NHW wants to generate a higher profile for the association by advertising, and increasing its area of activity. To assist NHW, ACT Police paid for "bin stickers" for zone leaders. Anecdotal evidence suggests that burglars avoid homes that display NHW signs.
- At the last election, the ACT Government promised to pay NHW \$20,000 over four years, most of which will go to paying for accident insurance. To be covered, people distributing newsletters must be registered members of NHW. Application forms can be obtained from the NHW web site ([www.nhwact.com.au](http://www.nhwact.com.au)).
- The 30th Anniversary of ACT NHW will be celebrated by a dinner at the Helenic Club on Wednesday, 23 September, (\$30.00). Everyone is invited, especially long standing members, and it is hoped that groups will make up tables and go together.
- The Annual General Meeting of ACT NHW will be held on 13 August at the Ainslie Football Club. The agenda will include adoption of a new constitution.
- Communications between NHW and police are good. Recent experience has shown that police generally react quickly to solve issues brought to their attention by ACT NHW.

In discussing the role of NHW, Margaret said it should concentrate mainly on issues relating to the safety of people and their property, and this should also be the main subject covered in NHW newsletters. She said there is a lot of material for articles available from websites. In addition to "traditional" subjects, newsletter articles might also cover new areas, like Internet fraud, and programming of emergency numbers into phones. It was also agreed that the Hackett newsletter should continue to report on other activities in the suburb; residents want to hear this type of news, and the NHW newsletter is the best way of disseminating it.

Two other matters were discussed. First, residents are concerned about traffic problems at the intersection of Philip and Majura Avenues, where some city-bound drivers are not giving way as they should, but rather are making right hand turns into Majura across oncoming traffic. The intersection will be watched, and advice sought from police. Second, was the issue of persistently barking dogs. Residents who can't resolve this problem with the dog owner can contact Canberra Connect and ask for a "Noise Abatement" form.

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