

Safety On The Shore

Newsletter Number 2
July 2005



Welcome to the July edition of the ShoreSafe newsletter.

This month has been a time of planning, follow up from the Vision Day and preparation for the first meeting of the ShoreSafe Coalition that will oversee our progress towards accreditation.

This newsletter has some information about Safety NZ Week which is coming up in August. There are some great competitions and ways that your organisation can be involved. Check out the website, www.safetynzweek.co.nz or contact me if you would like to know more.

Please feel free to contribute to the newsletter by contacting:

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SHORES SAFE PERSON OF THE MONTH

Each month ShoreSafe would like to acknowledge an individual or organisation who has contributed significantly to our injury prevention or safety promotion efforts.



This month we would like to acknowledge the work of Warwick Robertson.

Warwick is Team Leader Environmental Protection North Shore City Council and was proactive last year in launching the Make It A Safe Summer Campaign. The Campaign promoted safety in a range of issues from pool safety to prevention of dog bites and food poisoning. Warwick was also a driving force behind hiring summer Beach Patrol officers trained in surf lifesaving. His efforts paid off, with one of the beach patrol officers pulling someone out of the water last summer.

Warwick has been a key person in progressing pool safety and is active in developing training for pool safety inspectors. Warwick's perseverance and passion have been a wonderful contribution to ShoreSafe. We look forward to working together on a summer based safety programme again this year. Thanks Warwick – we really appreciate your efforts.

For more information on the Safe Summer campaign planned for this year, call Bridget Farmiloe (09) 9138856.

GET INVOLVED IN SAFETY NZ WEEK – 7-13 AUGUST

Each week 20 New Zealanders are killed and more than 2000 are injured at home, at work, on the road or on our sports fields. Safety NZ Week is designed to put a spotlight on these grim figures and encourage us to learn more about how to keep ourselves and our colleagues, team mates, families and communities safe.

Running from 7-13 August, the week will include community and workplace activities throughout the country. Activities will range from child car seat checks, falls prevention seminars and tai chi demonstrations for older people to workplace safety seminars, Fire Service workplace checks and ATV safety promotions. Details of local activities and more information are available at www.safetynzweek.co.nz.

Check out the site and get involved by:

- Attending a local activity (or helping to organise one)
- Contacting your health and safety officer at work to help organise activities at your workplace
- Doing a home safety check (visit www.acc.co.nz/injury-prevention for the Home Safety Kit brochure)
- Organising a home fire drill and checking your emergency survival kit
- Checking the tyres on your car and any child car seats to ensure these are safe
- Doing a first aid course (contact your local Red Cross or St John Ambulance office for details of local courses)
- Getting active during the week – organise a touch game, a workplace fun run or a family excursion (and remember to warm-up and cool-down!).

*****THESE GUYS WILL PROBABLY NOT BE WINNING ANY SAFETY NZ WEEK
COMPETITIONS!!!!!!*****



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Dealing With Family Violence The North Shore Way

A fantastic initiative in Family Violence is up and running on the North Shore after plenty of hard work and collaboration between key community partners including NZ Police, North Shore City Council, Safer Families Network, CYFS, WINZ, Living Without Violence, Ministry of Justice Anger Management Trust, CADS, Te Puna, Victim Support and Strengthening Families

The new initiative benefits all the family members with a stronger focus on children than ever before. Traditionally a domestic violence incident has resulted in support/intervention for the adults involved but children present in the house have not been offered services. The major intention of this initiative is to link children into a network of support, therefore offering a multi-agency approach to the whole family and working to break the cycle of family violence.

Police are the only agency who can go into a home uninvited when a domestic violence incident is reported. North Shore City Council have now provided funding for a coordinator to process family referrals coming from Police attending an incident. The position, based at Safer Families Network (Refuge) now means a family can be contacted within 12 hours and linked into a wide range of services including WINZ, budgeting, family planning - whatever the family needs. Community Services on the North Shore are linked to the coordinator, supporting families, and assisting with referrals. Since beginning the project, North Shore Police are now responsible for 50% of referrals to CYFS as this is automatically done if a child is present at a domestic violence incident.

This project is particularly important as it demonstrates how community providers have identified a need and pooled resources to address it rather than working in isolation. The North Shore is often regarded as having low numbers of social problems and not funded for some national initiatives. Local community workers have identified a need to address the whole family following a domestic violence incident and have worked hard to set up a network that will be able to provide this.

There are now third generations of domestic violence on the North Shore - young people in these families pick up the same skills and patterns of behaviours. Since 2004, there has been a major reduction in the number of offenders with high incidence of repeated domestic violence related offending.

Without collaboration, this project would not have been possible and it is a fine example how when working together, $1 + 1 = 5!$ For more information on this project, you can contact Senior Sergeant Bruce Wood, ph: 488 6254 or bruce.wood@police.govt.nz

