

## Preventing Community Violence among Young People

### Results Hit Hard

Community violence is thought by some to be an overwhelming issue that is out of control. However, recent research conducted by the Injury Control Council of WA (ICCWA) has shown that communities believe the problem is preventable and are eager to act on the issue.

Community violence is defined as violence between people or groups who are acquaintances or strangers, generally occurring in a public place. The Crime Research Centre reports that 12,590 offences against the person in Western Australia in 2004 took place outside the home.<sup>1</sup> This is

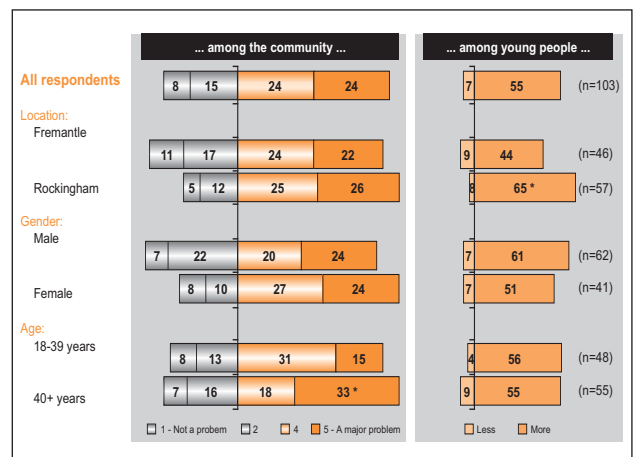
*“The purpose of this research was to identify risk factors and seek out opportunities for effective prevention and early intervention programs aimed at reducing community violence among young people aged between 15 and 24 years in WA.”*

around half of all reported offences against the person, and is approximately 20% higher than the 10,440 reported in 1996.<sup>2</sup>

In January 2005, ICCWA received funding from the Office of Crime Prevention’s Research and Development Fund as part of a government strategy to tackle violence in the community.

**Figure 1:**  
**Prompted consideration of the community violence issue**

Base: General community sample, all respondents (n=103)



Note: Mid-point is omitted

Many programs and research articles from other countries or other states in Australia point to potential solutions to youth violence, however we need to better understand the particular causal factors at play in WA before we can confidently design effective countermeasures.

# Preventing Community Violence among Young People (continued)

The project used a combination of qualitative research techniques to gain further insight into the issues surrounding community violence among young people. A series of focus groups, interviews and workshops with young people, residents, stakeholders and perpetrators of community violence were conducted in Fremantle and Rockingham. These communities were determined according to existing statistics and recommendations from current crime prevention and related literature.

Community violence is considered to be a topical issue in both Fremantle and Rockingham. Respondents were asked to what extent they consider community violence to be a problem in their local area, and whether they think it is more of a problem, less of a problem or about the same among young people.

Figure One shows that around half of respondents rated community violence as a major problem.

When asked to consider how much of a problem they believed it to be within their community, one quarter considered it not a problem. Just over half of the general community surveyed considered the issue of community violence to be more of a problem among young people. This was significantly higher in Rockingham, where close to two thirds (65%) felt the problem to be worse among young people compared to only 44% in Fremantle.

Risk factors for community violence exposure identified were consistent with those identified by international studies on the issue. Risk factors fall under five areas: community and neighbourhood; family and household; relationships with parents and caregivers; relationships with peers; and personal characteristics. Key risk factors identified by young people, residents, stakeholders and perpetrators in Fremantle and Rockingham are shown in Table One.

**Table 1: Key risk factors identified by respondents**

Contextual Domain	Risk Factor
<b>Community and neighbourhood</b>	Situational: lack of activities/entertainment Situational: high proportion of 'strangers' in the community Social disorder/lack of control Low community efficacy Economic disadvantage
<b>Family and household</b>	Family structure Family conflict High risk behaviour of family members Low socio-economic status
<b>Relationships with parents and caregivers</b>	Child maltreatment and physical punishment Low attachment to parents Low parental monitoring and involvement
<b>Relationships with peers</b>	Friendships Associations with deviant peers
<b>Personal characteristics</b>	Gender Age Ethnicity Alcohol use Hard drug use/problem drug use/poly drug use Negative life events Social cognition Academic functioning Lack of involvement in school activities Dropping out of school

# Preventing Community Violence among Young People (continued)

Study participants also discussed potential intervention strategies that they thought could reduce violence and improve safety in their local area. Spontaneously, young people consistently identified seven key areas for intervention strategies that they felt would be effective in reducing community violence among young

people. Survey respondents recommended strategies such as organised community activities and facilities; greater police visibility; safe design of public places; school-based strategies; and early intervention strategies for families and young parents. These are presented in Table Two.

**Table 2: Spontaneous suggestions for strategies by young people**

### Activities

- Designated areas for young people to go
- Organised activities within the community – both specific to young people, and for the entire community

### Family/parenting assistance

- To assist parents of problem youth
- To promote the importance of monitoring and controlling children
- To encourage stronger family relationships

### Schools

- Encouraging student relationships with parents
- Fostering an environment that encourages young people to remain in the education system
- Educating young people on ways to deal with community violence

### Police

- Greater visible Police presence on the street – not just in vehicles
- Minority felt there could be a 'special stream' of Police trained in dealing with young people
- Police education programs on the legal and personal consequences

### Involvement of young people

- Involve young people in developing strategies
- Encourage participation in volunteering activities
- Encourage young people to organise and run their own community groups (rather than being run by institutions such as churches)

### Infrastructure

- Increased lighting (e.g. schools and parks)
- A minority mentioned provision of emergency telephone boxes

Young people and residents were also asked whether or not they would support a range of potential intervention strategies. Figure Two shows the proportion responding that they felt the particular strategy would help reduce community violence in their local area.

The strategies identified by perpetrators, young people, residents and community stakeholders in this research support those recommended in *Preventing Violence: The State Community Violence Prevention Strategy 2005* Green Paper policy framework. The findings have implications for policy makers, service providers, and entire communities that aim to reduce the harm caused by community violence among young people.

The reports produced during this project can be accessed online at [www.iccwa.org.au](http://www.iccwa.org.au) by following the Safe Communities link to Community Violence. Lauren Martin can be contacted on (08) 9420 7212 or [lmartin@iccwa.org.au](mailto:lmartin@iccwa.org.au).

### References

1. Ferrante, A.M., Loh, N.S.N., Maller, M.G., Valuri, G.M. & Fernandex, J.A. (2005) *Crime and Justice Statistics for Western Australia: 2004*. Western Australia, The University of Western Australia Crime Research Centre.
2. Ferrante, A.M., Loh, N.S.N. & Maller, M.G. (1998) *Crime and Justice Statistics for Western Australia: 1996*. Western Australia, The University for Western Australia Crime Research Centre.

## President's Report

Welcome to the August edition of the Injury Control Council of Western Australia's Newsletter. The focus of this edition is the prevention of community violence and I would like to thank all contributors including Lauren Martin on the results of the ICCWA research project and Bree van de Zuidwind from the Same Sex Domestic Abuse Group (SSDAG).

As many of you would already know, Chris Costa finished in the position of ICCWA's CEO at the end of July, after almost seven years in the job. During her time as CEO Chris has reshaped ICCWA in a profound way. When she started ICCWA had two part time staff, including herself. ICCWA now employs 12 staff. The annual budget then was \$160,000 whereas now it is almost \$2 million. When Chris started the only major project was Stay on Your Feet WA®, our falls prevention program. Other current or recently completed projects include the Youth Alcohol Project, The WA Community Alcohol Network (WACAN), the Preventing Violence Amongst Young People Research Project, Understanding and Building Resilience in the Southwest, which is a component of the National Suicide Prevention Strategy, and the WA Older Driver Case Control Study. All of this is in addition to the ongoing role ICCWA has in injury prevention awareness raising, advocacy, professional development and capacity building. Chris has achieved all of this during her time as CEO by dint of her personal energy, enthusiasm and the way she has built up a very capable and collegiate team of staff. Some of you may have had the occasion to visit ICCWA's offices in City West Lotteries House and would understand that only a harmonious group could work effectively in the space available.

Chris, on behalf of the Board, ICCWA members, staff and volunteers, I would like to thank you for your hard work, leadership and innovation. You have been the driving force in positioning ICCWA as a leader in health promotion and injury prevention. Your professionalism and energy will be missed, but be assured your legacy will endure in the dynamic organisation you leave behind.

At the same time as farewelling Chris, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome Deborah Costello to the position of CEO. Deborah commenced with



*Associate Professor  
Richard Midford*

ICCWA in March 2005 to coordinate the Understanding and Building Resilience in the Southwest project. Since August 2006 Deborah has been in a senior management role and has gradually assumed greater responsibility for running the organisation. Deborah formally took over as CEO on 1 June 2007 with Chris Costa providing support and guidance. Deborah has over 17 years experience working for a range of government, non-government and not-for-profit organisations. She has worked across the health, community care and

injury prevention sectors and has experience in areas such as partnership development, policy development and analysis, strategic and business planning, contract management and delivery and project management. Deborah also has a strong commitment to volunteering and currently holds Vice President positions on two community sector Boards of Management.

These last few months have been a very busy and successful time for ICCWA with new staff coming on board and new projects being undertaken over the next three years. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and volunteers for their hard work, team efforts and their continued commitment to ICCWA and more broadly to injury prevention.

*Associate Professor Richard Midford  
President, ICCWA*



**Department of Health**  
Government of Western Australia



**Stay on Your Feet®  
Week 2007  
Launch & Community Expo**

**Monday 24th September, 9am**

The Perth Cultural Centre,  
located between the Alexander Library,  
PICA and the West Australian Art Gallery.

See page 11 for more details.

## Chief Executive Officer's Report

As my first report as CEO of ICCWA I would firstly like to acknowledge the significant contribution that Chris Costa has made to injury prevention both in WA and nationally. As mentioned in the Presidents report, Chris has also done a fantastic job at building ICCWA as an organisation both in size and reputation. On this note, I feel privileged to be taking over from someone of Chris' calibre and am very lucky to have had such a comprehensive handover into the CEO's role. While I am very excited by this opportunity both on a personal level and the fact that this is a very exciting time for ICCWA, there is a part of me that is sad to be farewelling Chris. I would like to thank Chris for her guidance and mentorship since I have been at ICCWA and in particular over the last 12 months while I have been learning the ropes.

The last few months have been an extremely busy time for ICCWA with the development of various funding proposals especially in the area of alcohol related harm, the fit out of new office space for ICCWA at City West Lotteries House, the recent completion of the Preventing Violence Among Young People Research Project after two years, the coordination of the Stay on Your Feet WA<sup>®</sup> Week Grants 2007, and the development of local working groups in our South West as part of the Understanding and Building Resilience Project, just



*Deborah Costello*  
Chief Executive Officer

to name a few of our activities. Our newest staff members Beth Jackson and Rhonda Barrett-Smith have settled into ICCWA nicely and I would like to welcome aboard our new student on placement from UWA, Sarah McKerracher who will be with us for the next three months.

The next three years will also see ICCWA undertake some exciting new areas of work these being the development of the WA Falls Prevention Resource Information Centre and the provision of professional development and capacity building opportunities in injury prevention targeting rural and remote areas of WA.

There is a tremendous team of people here at ICCWA who are highly skilled and passionate about their work and deserve thanks and recognition for their fantastic achievements. As the new CEO I am really looking forward to working with and further developing our team at ICCWA.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of you who continue to take an interest in and support the important work of this organisation and I look forward to further developing our partnerships within the injury prevention sector.

*Deborah Costello*  
CEO, ICCWA

### NOTICE OF ICCWA'S

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held 3.30pm

on Thursday 27 September 2007

At City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth

### ICCWA MEMBERSHIP 2007 - 2008

ICCWA is the leading non-government body representing organisations and individuals concerned with the prevention and control of injuries and the promotion of community safety.

ICCWA works in partnership with individuals and organisations involved in injury prevention and control at both State and National levels. Injury remains a critical issue for Western Australians and ICCWA continues to raise awareness and advocate for change on community, state and national levels.

Your membership of and participation in ICCWA will help to ensure that we can continue to grow as a strong voice for injury prevention in Western Australia and work together to reduce the burden of injury on our community.

Membership fees for 2007/2008 are:

**Corporate Membership \$143**

**Individual Membership \$25**

Reciprocal Membership and Fee Negotiation with not-for-profit agencies will also be considered.

# Abuse and Violence in Same Sex Relationships

by Bree van de Zuidwind

Domestic abuse and violence in heterosexual relationships has been on the agenda of public policy for almost two decades, with an increase in advertising campaigns recently, such as the 'Violence Against Women — Australia Says No' campaign screening on television nationally. It has taken much longer however for the gay and lesbian community to acknowledge that domestic violence/abuse also affects same sex relationships, with a palpable silence still shrouding the issue.

The myth that perpetrators of violence are always men, and victims are always women, is alive and strong and undermines the experience of many gay men and lesbians in abusive relationships. It implies that women are naturally non-violent and that men are rarely victims, making it extremely difficult for those affected to report abuse without feeling stigmatized or disbelieved. The situation is not helped by mainstream anti-violence campaigns failing to include people of diverse sexuality and/or gender (DSG) within their imagery.

The fact is that the prevalence of reported violence in DSG relationships is higher than in heterosexual relationships. This was confirmed by a nation wide survey on the health and wellbeing of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (GLBTI) Australians conducted in 2005, *Private Lives*, where it was found that 32.7% of DSG people had experienced abuse from an intimate partner, a higher rate than the general population which is usually estimated to be around 25%. This means that almost one third of DSG people are experiencing abuse in their relationship.

Stereotypes of femininity and masculinity can get in the way of identifying who is enacting abuse within a same sex relationship, as can assumptions and stereotypes about butch/femme or top/bottom dynamics. There is no stereotypical profile for an enactor of abuse; a person can be of any physical build, health or strength. Individuals who behave abusively tend to exploit whatever differences in power that may exist within their relationship, including their partner's lack of family support, social isolation, economic dependency or discomfort over their sexuality. Young people who are in their first same sex relationship are particularly vulnerable to accepting an abusive dynamic as the norm, having few established

support networks within the community to use as models for healthy relationships, let alone positive role models within the media.

DSG people are more likely to have been exposed to sexism/misogyny, genderism (discrimination because of gender expression) and homophobia, and these negative experiences may be played out within intimate relationships. A person enacting abuse may take advantage of their partner's internalized homophobia, or use the reality of a heterosexist society as a tactic for manipulation and control. For example,

- Threatening to 'out' their partner to their family, work colleagues or ex-partner which in turn may be perceived as a threat to their security or custody of their children;
- Threatening to take children away from a non-biological mother or father;
- Associating or blaming a person's sexuality or gender expression for their maltreatment, playing on critical comments made by parents, ('What did you expect to come from this kind of lifestyle');
- Normalizing or justifying abusive behaviour as a part of gay culture (engaging in *non-consensual* BDSM (bondage & discipline/dominance & submission/sadism & masochism), or non-monogamy without prior agreement);
- Isolating their partner from social support by making contact with the gay community difficult through constant jealousy or accusations of infidelity; and
- Discouraging contact with family or help from mainstream services by playing on the fear of a homophobic response.

The *Private Lives* Survey in 2005 found that of those people who had admitted experiencing abuse from an intimate partner, only 1 in 10 had reported it to the police.

The service provision for people experiencing same sex domestic is a long way from ideal. Some women's shelters may not be sensitive to the needs of a lesbian seeking shelter from an abusive partner, failing to take the necessary precautions to ensure their partner doesn't attempt to access the same shelter under the guise of being a victim herself. Gay men who are experiencing abuse

# Abuse and Violence in Same Sex Relationships

(continued)

have nowhere to seek refuge aside from friends and family (if possible) or a homeless men's shelter, which, again, is freely accessible to their partner.

People within abusive relationships will not feel comfortable enough to speak out unless the silence within the GLBT community around the issue of domestic abuse is broken. This would be greatly facilitated by the inclusion of DSG people within mainstream advertising campaigns and a greater inclusiveness of diverse families within services. Too often heterosexuality is assumed within agencies, and the simple mistake of using gender specific language such as asking a woman in a same sex relationship about her husband, can decrease the likelihood of disclosure of relationship abuse.

The Same Sex Domestic Abuse Group (SSDAG) have developed a training workshop for service providers in any health/ social service field (police, refuge workers, social workers, GP's etc.) to improve their response to people of diverse sexuality and/or gender experiencing abuse in a relationship.

If you are interested in registering as a service provider for SSDAG workshops, please call the project manager Bree van de Zuidwind on 9227 9802 or 0422 789 344 or visit the website: <http://www.ssdag.org.au>

For a referral list of DSG friendly refuges and other services please call GLCS on 9420 7201

Or visit the Opening Closets website: [www.openingclosets.com](http://www.openingclosets.com)

## Managing Workplace Violence and Bullying

In Western Australia each year, on average over 600 workers' compensation claims for time off work arise from workplace violence and bullying. However, this figure is only the number of employees who have claimed workers' compensation, and it is likely that many more incidents occur without being reported.



recruiting and training new staff, providing mediation and counselling, compensation claims and possible legal action, there can be lost productivity that occurs when people are absent from work or not working to full capacity. Individuals can suffer injury and depression, loss of confidence, incapacity to work and reduced quality of family life.

Many jobs involve possible exposure to violence and aggression from external sources such as customers, patients, and members of the community. Workplace bullying can take place between staff members or between workers and the customers, patients, students, contractors or visitors that they are dealing with. It may involve managers and supervisors and other workers, or it may involve co-workers. Bullying can escalate into incidences of violence and aggression.

The Commission for Occupational Safety and Health in Western Australia has developed a Code of Practice and Guidance Note which provide practical guidance on ways to reduce risks at workplaces associated with violence, aggression and bullying, including identifying circumstances in which violence, aggression or bullying may occur and responding to incidents. More information is available from WorkSafe on 93278777 or online [www.worksafe.wa.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au).

Violence, aggression and bullying can disrupt work to the extent that action has to be taken to restore order and confidence. Workplace violence and bullying should be treated in the same way as other safety and health risks at work. The most effective way to deal with these problems is to develop and implement appropriate prevention and management plans.



There can be considerable direct and indirect costs for organisations and individuals if violence, aggression and bullying are ignored. For organisations, in addition to the direct cost of

# Building Resilience in South West Communities: community action plans

The *Understanding and Building Resilience (U&BR) Project* is making steady progress in the south west of WA, with action plans currently being developed with the communities of Bunbury, Busselton, Margaret River, Collie, Bridgetown-Greenbushes and Manjimup. Funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing via a National Suicide Prevention Strategy (NSPS) grant, this multi-faceted suicide prevention project focuses on what communities can do to prevent suicide – with community resilience being the central theme of the project.

We are very pleased to welcome our recently appointed part-time project officer, Dr Beth Jackson. Beth has a Doctorate in Community Psychology and has previously worked in community-based roles in the south west. She brings her extensive knowledge, expertise and well established networks to this Project and – along with her natural and personable style – she will be a wonderful asset.

It is also pleasing to report that many community members and local support service providers have now committed to join working groups in each of the six communities. Each working group has at least ten members – most have more – and all are keen to participate and contribute to the success of the U&BR project.

U&BR Project Officers are currently facilitating these working groups to develop action plans for their communities. The action plans are being developed around the U&BR Project objectives, the community 'road maps' (information collated in the action research phase of the U&BR Project) and best practice information and programs. Added to this, working group members are contributing their local experience, knowledge and expertise, ensuring that action plans will address local issues in a realistic and achievable way and that selected strategies are 'a good fit' for the community.

When developing the action plans with local working groups, we have been guided by a process outlined in the draft CommunityLIFE document – 'A Framework for Effective Community-Based Suicide Prevention' (Commonwealth of Australia, 2005).

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. *Facilitate intersectorial collaboration to develop and promote strategies for building community resilience*
2. *Build the capacity of local communities to address service gaps and access existing services*
3. *Develop local strategies to facilitate opportunities for people to connect with their communities (particularly for those tending to be excluded from community)*
4. *Build the capacity of communities to recognise and respond appropriately to people at risk of suicide*
5. *Build community capacity for help seeking by increasing community awareness and knowledge of referral and support services.*

1. **Identify key priority issues** – based on local knowledge and input, information from Community Road Maps and the current situation.
2. **Determine target population** for each issue/strategy, keeping in mind 'at risk' groups within each community.
3. **Choose strategies and activities** based on the best available information, research and local knowledge/ experience.
4. **Build evaluation** into activities.
5. **Develop a package** of relevant, coordinated and collaborative resilience building activities that take into account existing activities and how to link in with them; take a multiple strategy approach; and include activities that have been evaluated as effective.
6. **Consider time, duration and intensity** – for each activity/ strategy, including development, implementation and community involvement.
7. **Create a suicide prevention activity plan** involving those who will be implementing the activities.

## Building Resilience in South West Communities: community action plans (continued)

Information from facilitated sessions will then be set out in an easy-to-follow action plan format used by the Act-Belong-Commit Mentally Healthy WA Campaign.

To this point, members of the Project working groups have enjoyed working collaboratively to identify some shared and common goals. Project Officers are grateful for their contribution and commitment towards advancing some strategies to build resilience and prevent suicide in their local community.

### CONTACTS

#### Marina Johns - Project Coordinator

Based at Bridgetown District Hospital

Phone: (08) 9782 1222

Email: marina.johns@health.wa.gov.au

#### Beth Jackson - Project Officer

Phone: (08) 9720 2846

Email: bjackson.iccwa@bigpond.com

### EMERGENCY CONTACTS

If you are concerned about anyone at risk of suicide, please contact one of the following help lines.

<b>South West 24</b>	<b>1 800 555 336</b> (in South West of WA)
<b>Lifeline</b>	<b>13 11 14</b>
<b>Kids Help Line</b>	<b>1 800 55 1800</b>
<b>Psychiatric Emergency Team</b>	<b>1 300 555 788</b>

### MEDIA REFERENCE GUIDE

In order to prevent harm, ICCWA strongly recommends that media persons please refer to the MindFrame quick reference guide before reporting any of this information.

<http://www.mindframe-media.info/downloads/copies.php>

### FURTHER INFORMATION

The full report of the U&BR Project is available on the ICCWA web site – [www.iccwa.org.au](http://www.iccwa.org.au).

## World Suicide Prevention Day

### September 10th 2007

“Preventing Suicide Across the Lifespan: Dreams and Realities” - is the international theme for World Suicide Prevention Day in 2007.

World Suicide Prevention Day is about bringing together communities, researchers, practitioners and politicians, clinicians and those in government, individuals with lived experience and

those bereaved by suicide, to demonstrate a commitment to reducing the incidence of suicide in Australia, to raise awareness of this significant national challenge and to share information about ways to effectively take action as individuals and a community.

More information can be obtained at [www.suicidepreventionaust.org/](http://www.suicidepreventionaust.org/)



The office of Crime Prevention is coordinating the RAC Community Safety Month (CSM) for the fourth year this October.



The themes for 2007 are:

- Crime Prevention;
- Road Safety;
- Emergency Services;
- Injury Prevention;
- Water Safety; and
- Work Safety

"It always takes a bit of time to get a new program off the ground, but we have made clear progress every year. From some 100 events registered on the CSM calendar in 2004, we had well over 300 events last year, and with more than one hundred participating organisations. That is very encouraging", said program coordinator, Ms Barbro Dowding. "We also have RAC as naming right sponsor for the third year, which is great", she said.

"CSM is about showcasing all the very good safety and prevention programs that already exist out there in the community, to engage people to participate and to make WA a safer place", she said.

In addition to the six themes there will be another two focus points on alcohol-related harm and injury, and seniors' safety, which fit with most of the CSM main themes.

The CSM committee is encouraging organisations and individuals to participate by attending or organising an event during October, and remember to register any event or activity on the CSM website [www.communitysafetymonth.wa.gov.au](http://www.communitysafetymonth.wa.gov.au).

Remember, that no step is too small in making our community safer!

## Launch of Armadale Shopping City Mall Walking Group

The Armadale Shopping City Mall Walking group is set to relaunch on **Friday 2nd November**. The group was first launched in 2004 by Alannah Mac Tiernan MLA, however was temporarily postponed in late 2006 due to renovations at the centre. The launch will take place at 8am and will conclude with morning tea. A free show bag containing vouchers, t-shirt and water bottle will be given to everyone who registers on the day.



The group will start walking in September prior to the Launch and will walk every Tuesday and Friday from 8am to 9am. The program includes a warm up, stretching, the walk and a cool down, and is lead by trained volunteer walk leaders.

The group is free to join and there are different routes within the centre to cater for all ability levels, and ample seating for walkers to rest on. The walking group primarily targets those aged over 50, however everyone is welcome to join! Many of the walking groups hold regular social activities which include guest health presenters, morning teas or other social events.

ICCWA also has walking groups at Belmont, Garden City and Karrinyup.

Flyers are available on request for health professionals and interested walkers.

For more information about the launch or any of the walking groups please contact ICCWA on (08) 9420 7212.

# Join us for the 2007 Stay on Your Feet® Week Launch and Community Expo

## 23rd-29th September

On Monday 24th September, the Injury Control Council of WA will host the launch and

**ICCWA**  
Injury Control Council of Western Australia



Department of Health  
Government of Western Australia



expo for Stay on Your Feet® Week 2007 at the Perth Cultural Centre. The aim of the expo is to raise awareness about the seriousness of falls and the simple steps people can take to reduce their risk. With one in three people aged 65 years and over falling each year, falls are an important issue for many people; however falls are not a normal part of ageing.

provide information about health conditions, safe footwear and foot care, healthy eating, ways to be physically active and much more! Entertainment on the day will include Celebrity Chef Dale Sniffen and Tai Chi demonstrations.

The Perth Cultural Centre is located between the Alexander Library, PICA and the Art Gallery. It is only a few minutes walk from the Perth train and bus station.

We hope to see you there!

The expo will bring together a range of health professionals and community organisations to



*Tai Chi demonstrations*



*Cooking advice from Chef Dale Sniffen*

## Community Events on during Stay on Your Feet® Week

To coincide with Stay on Your Feet® Week 2007 (23rd – 29th September), community groups in regional and metropolitan areas have been provided with funding to run events which promote the Nine Steps to Stay on Your Feet®. Events being held during the week include bush walking, Tai Chi lessons, mini health expos, cooking demonstrations, health information sessions and much more!

Most events are open to the public and are free to be involved in. To find out if there is an event on in your area, visit [www.iccwa.org.au](http://www.iccwa.org.au). For further information, please contact the Injury Control Council of WA on (08) 9420 7212.



*Join a bushwalking group*



*Have your walking and feet assessed*

## Safety in Schools Week 2007

**S**afety in Schools Week (11th to 15th June) has just wrapped up for another year. This annual event is coordinated by Kidsafe WA and aims to develop the capacity of schools to focus on child injury prevention by linking them with relevant organisations. Specifically, promoting injury prevention to children; developing partnerships between schools, organisations and the community; and promoting injury prevention resources. It also encourages schools to address safety in a holistic manner, addressing the various areas of the Health Promoting Schools Framework.

This year's theme was '*Safety for you, safety for me, let's work together to be injury free*', a message

that focuses on the fact that we not only need to consider our own safety, but also the safety of our friends and family.

Eleven organisations actively participated in the launch this year, hosted by West Leeming Primary School. After the official proceedings, students took part in a tabloid of activities offered by the participating organisations, thoroughly enjoyed by all. A special thanks to the staff, students and wider community at West Leeming Primary School who assisted the hosting of a memorable event.

For more information, visit [www.kidsafewa.com.au](http://www.kidsafewa.com.au).



*Students enjoying the activities in Safety in Schools Week*



**I**njury Free (IF) Day (17 August 2007) is a national campaign delivered by the KIDS Foundation in proud partnership with the Alcoa Foundation and the Australian Government. IF Day provides an opportunity for schools and businesses across Australia to raise awareness about safety and contribute to reducing the incidence of childhood injury.

In addition to raising safety awareness in schools and the wider community, participation in IF Day helps support the KIDS Foundation injury prevention programs in schools as well as maintain services

and facilities for the care of children seriously injured in accidents.

For more information on Injury Free Day contact: [ifday@kidsfoundation.org.au](mailto:ifday@kidsfoundation.org.au), or visit: [www.kidsfoundation.org.au](http://www.kidsfoundation.org.au) or phone: 1300 734 733



## Lunchtime Forums

### Drugs in Sport: Getting up to speed with the problem

The May Lunchtime Forum examined the issue of drugs in sport, in particular illicit drugs and alcohol, with a view to what clubs can do to help remedy the problem. Over the years, Sports Medicine Australia has coordinated a number of programs that aim to address issues arising from drug & alcohol use within a sport setting at an elite level, as well as within a community sporting context. These programs include The WA Drugs in Sport Strategy, Drug Free Sponsorships and the Health Club Sponsorship Program.

Nadine Hendry and Fiona Boys from Sports Medicine Australia co-presented this forum. For more information please contact Sports Medicine

Australia on (08) 9285 8033 or email Nadine@smawa.asn.au or Fiona@smawa.asn.au



*Nadine Hendry and Fiona Boys*

### Community Violence among Young People

The focus of ICCWA's June Lunchtime Forum was the results of the Community Violence among Young People Research Project, presented by ICCWA Project Officer Lauren Martin.

The Forum presented the results of the focus groups, interviews and workshops done with young people, community residents, stakeholders and perpetrators



*Lauren Martin*

of community violence in Fremantle and Rockingham.

For further information see main article in this newsletter or contact Lauren Martin on (08) 9420 7212 or [lmartin@iccwa.org.au](mailto:lmartin@iccwa.org.au). To access the reports online, go to [www.iccwa.org.au](http://www.iccwa.org.au) and follow the Safe Communities link to Community Violence.

### "Speaking Out" – Same Sex Domestic Abuse

The July Lunchtime Forum was presented by David Cain from The Same Sex Domestic Abuse Group (SSDAG). This group is a non-



*David Cain*

government agency that aims to raise awareness of relationship or family and domestic abuse amongst people with Diverse Sexuality and/or Gender (DSG). A recent study that looked at the health of DSG Australians found that 32.7% of respondents reported their partner was abusive. This is higher than heterosexuals, which is approximately 25%. David gave a brief background to the project and discussed factors that impact on the health and wellbeing of our same sex community and the barriers faced accessing services.

For more information contact Bree van de Zuidwind at [ssdag@hepatitiswa.com.au](mailto:ssdag@hepatitiswa.com.au).

## Conferences/Seminars

### World Suicide Prevention Day - Community Forum

10 September 2007  
Melbourne Town Hall, Melbourne VIC  
[www.suicidepreventionaust.org](http://www.suicidepreventionaust.org)

### Emerging Researchers and Policy Makers in Human Capital - Investing in the Value of People

10 September, Brisbane QLD  
[www.eidos.org.au](http://www.eidos.org.au)

### Community development in an age of individualism

12-13 September, Sydney NSW  
[www.lcsa.org.au](http://www.lcsa.org.au)

### Working Out What Works

#### 16th Western Australian Drug and Alcohol Symposium

18-19 September 2007  
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle WA  
[www.woww2007.com](http://www.woww2007.com)

### National Environmental Health Conference 2007

19-21 September 2007  
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle WA  
[www.envirohealthaustralia.com.au](http://www.envirohealthaustralia.com.au)

### 2007 Protecting human rights conference

25 September 2007, University of Melbourne VIC  
<http://cccs.law.unimelb.edu.au>

### Conference Collaborative Youth Strategies - Linking Policy to Service Delivery

3 - 4 October, Sydney NSW  
[www.iqpc.com](http://www.iqpc.com)

### Crime in regional Australia: lessons from the country and the city

18-19 October, Townsville QLD  
[www.aic.gov.au/conferences/2007-RegionalComSafety/](http://www.aic.gov.au/conferences/2007-RegionalComSafety/)

### Communities & change: research partnerships and collaborations in education and social work

22-26 October 2007, Sydney NSW  
[www.edsw.usyd.edu.au/research/events](http://www.edsw.usyd.edu.au/research/events)

### Childhood Trauma: Shaping connections throughout the Lifespan

26-27 November 2007  
Convention Exhibition Centre, Perth WA  
Email: [sarah.landy@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:sarah.landy@health.wa.gov.au)

### Are powerlines and mobiles a health risk?

30 November, Melbourne VIC  
[www.swinburne.edu.au/lss/seminars/doubletake2007.html](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lss/seminars/doubletake2007.html)

### Developing connections: Rural and Remote Mental Health Conference 2007

5-6 December 2007  
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle WA  
Email: [Carolyn.ngan@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:Carolyn.ngan@health.wa.gov.au)

### Crisis and Emergency Management Conference 2008 Strategies for the future

6-7 February 2008  
Novotel Langley Hotel, Perth WA  
[www.verticalevents.com.au](http://www.verticalevents.com.au)

## Websites

### ICCWA

[www.iccwa.org.au](http://www.iccwa.org.au)

### Drug and Alcohol Office, WA

[www.dao.health.wa.gov.au](http://www.dao.health.wa.gov.au)

### Farmsafe WA Alliance Inc

[www.farmsafewa.org](http://www.farmsafewa.org)

### Mental Health and Well Being

[www.mentalhealth.gov.au](http://www.mentalhealth.gov.au)

### Ministerial Council for Suicide Prevention

[www.mcsp.org.au](http://www.mcsp.org.au)  
[www.suicidepreventionaust.org](http://www.suicidepreventionaust.org)

### Office of Road Safety

[www.officeofroadsafety.wa.gov.au](http://www.officeofroadsafety.wa.gov.au)

### RAC Community Safety Month 2007

[www.communitysafetymonth.wa.gov.au](http://www.communitysafetymonth.wa.gov.au)

### Royal Life Saving WA

[www.lifesavingwa.com.au](http://www.lifesavingwa.com.au)

### School Drug Education and Road Aware

[www.sdera.wa.edu.au](http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au)

### The Office of the Public Advocate

[www.justice.wa.gov.au](http://www.justice.wa.gov.au)

### Worksafe WA

[www.worksafe.wa.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au)

## Research Links

### Used Car Safety ratings 2007

[www.atsb.gov.au/publications/2007/Used\\_car\\_safety\\_ratings\\_2007.aspx](http://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/2007/Used_car_safety_ratings_2007.aspx)

### World Health Organisation

[www.whohelmets.org/headlines/](http://www.whohelmets.org/headlines/)

### National Suicide Prevention Strategy

[www.livingisforeveryone.com.au](http://www.livingisforeveryone.com.au)

### Injury Prevention Literature Update

[www.safetylit.org](http://www.safetylit.org)

### Australian Network for Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention for Mental Health

[www.auseinet.com/index.php](http://www.auseinet.com/index.php)

### Accident Research Centre (Monash University)

[www.monash.edu.au/muarc/](http://www.monash.edu.au/muarc/)



CITY WEST LOTTERIES HOUSE
2 DELHI STREET WEST PERTH WA 6005
TELEPHONE: (08) 9420 7212 FAX:(08) 9486 7955
EMAIL: iccwa@iccwa.org.au
INTERNET: www.iccwa.org.au

APPLICATION FOR 2007/2008 MEMBERSHIP

I/We wish to apply for a financial year 2007/2008 Membership of the Injury Control Council of Western Australia (Inc.)

TAX INVOICE
ABN 16 423 380 886
GST Registered

If you wish to discuss the benefits of an ICCWA Membership, please contact our CEO, Deborah Costello on (08) 9420 7212 or email iccwa@iccwa.org.au for further details.

New Membership [ ] or Renewal [ ]

Title: ..... First name: ..... Last name: .....

Occupation/Position: .....

Organisation: .....

Mailing Address: .....

..... Postcode .....

Phone: ..... Fax: ..... Email: .....

Injury Prevention (IP) area of expertise/interest .....

.....

I am happy to be a contact/spokesperson for IP issues: Yes / No OR

(Name) ..... (Ph #) ..... can provide IP information to ICCWA.

Outline additional IP expertise/advice provided by your agency. ....

.....

Please send your organisation's pamphlets/reports/information sheets/website link for the ICCWA resource library.

On being elected a member, I / We hereby agree to abide by the rules of the constitution of the Injury Control Council of Western Australia (Inc).

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Please tick the appropriate box:

- [ ] Corporate Membership \$143.00 (including GST)
[ ] Individual Membership \$25.00 (including GST)

Reciprocal Membership and Fee Negotiation with not-for-profit agencies will also be considered.

Please charge my (please circle): Bankcard / Mastercard / Visa Amount \$ .....

Card number \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Expiry date \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ Name on card .....

Signature .....

OR Please make your cheque payable to the Injury Control Council of WA and send it to:

Injury Control Council of WA, City West Lotteries House,
2 Delhi Street, West Perth. WA 6005.
PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT - THANKYOU

# ICCWA STAFF 2007



**Sally Baker**  
*Administration  
Officer*



**Rhonda Barrett-Smith**  
*Project Officer  
Volunteering*



**Anita Busacca**  
*Accounts Manager*



**Deborah Costello**  
*Chief Executive  
Officer*



**Beth Jackson**  
*Project Officer,  
South West*



**Sarah Jaggard**  
*Manager,  
Alcohol Projects*



**Marina Johns**  
*Project Co-ordinator,  
South West*



**Lauren Martin**  
*Project Officer*



**Mavis Paskulich**  
*Data Manager*



**Suzanne Ralston**  
*Manager,  
Falls Prevention Programs*



**Holly Scott**  
*Project Officer*



**Lisa Wheatley**  
*Project Officer*



Injury Control Council of Western Australia

Information and opinions expressed at this forum do not necessarily reflect the views of the Injury Control Council of Western Australia (Inc)

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter, by way of an article and/or photos,  
please contact:

**INJURY CONTROL COUNCIL OF WA Inc**

City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth, WA 6005

Telephone: (08) 9420 7212 • Facsimile: (08) 9486 7955

Email: [iccwa@iccwa.org.au](mailto:iccwa@iccwa.org.au) • Web: [www.iccwa.org.au](http://www.iccwa.org.au)