

2006 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards



Winners of the 2006 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards with the then Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Chris Ellison, at Parliament House in Canberra.

The winners of the 2006 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards were announced by the then Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Chris Ellison, at a ceremony in Parliament House on 30 November. The awards are designed to encourage and assist public initiatives to reduce the incidence of crime and violence in Australia, and to help governments identify and develop practical projects which reduce crime and violence in the community.

Four national award winners each received \$10,000 and a certificate of merit:

- The Northern Territory's *Residential Beef Cattle Production Training Program* aims to have its participants gainfully employed or engaged in further education or training, and prepares past participants to act as role models for the community.

- *Make It Work* addresses educational and vocational shortfalls faced by prisoners preparing to re-enter the work force, actively marketing this client group to employers and providing post placement support.
- *Chance on Main*, a program for young people aged 14–19 who are at risk of being involved in criminal or antisocial activities, dropping out of school or training, or becoming homeless and disconnected from their families, involves mentoring by high profile community and sporting personalities, intensive individual support and counselling, and support to the families of young people involved in the program.
- The *Gove Peninsula Community Patrol* is staffed by Yolgnu women seeking to reduce the impact of alcohol abuse on the individual and the community. They do this by encouraging responsible

drinking, settling drunken conflicts and taking intoxicated people home or away from dangerous areas such as roadsides.

In recognition of police contribution to crime prevention, in 2006 awards were presented for the first time to police specific projects or initiatives. The two projects recognised were Queensland's *Homelands Partnership* and the Northern Territory Police's *Violent Crime Reduction Strategy*.

Homelands Partnership addresses homelessness in Cairns and related issues including public drunkenness, antisocial behaviours, criminal acts, and low feelings of safety by the public. The *Violent Crime Reduction Strategy* is improving the police response to domestic incidents and providing support for adult and child victims of domestic violence through an operational case management approach.

Four projects received \$7,000 and a Certificate of Merit:

- *Active and Healthy Gold Coast*
- *The Carnarvon PCYC School Holiday Program*
- Tasmania's *Designated Driver Program*
- The ACT's *Turnaround Program*.

Thirteen other projects shared \$41,000 in prize money and received a certificate of merit, while another 27 were awarded certificates of merit, and four received certificates as meritorious police projects. The complete list of projects recognised in the 2006 awards is at <http://www.aic.gov.au/acvpa/2006.html>.

New Minister

On 9 March 2007, The Hon. David Johnston, Senator for Western Australia, replaced Senator Chris Ellison as Minister for Justice and Customs, with responsibility for the AIC. The Institute looks forward to working with the new Minister.

2007 Australasian Consumer Fraud Taskforce scam survey

The AIC, as part of the Australasian Consumer Fraud Taskforce (ACFT), is working in collaboration with other taskforce members on the ACFT's 2007 scam survey. This survey will generate a snapshot of the types and extent of scams that are targeted at consumers. The survey will be conducted in March during Consumer Fraud Awareness Month and can be completed via the ACCC's Scamwatch hotline or by an online survey hosted by the AIC at <http://www.aic.gov.au/research/fraud/acft>.

Data from this survey will be used to promote discussion and awareness of the 2007 campaign, and assist in the development of the 2008 Consumer Fraud Awareness Month campaign.

Indigenous justice clearinghouse

The Indigenous justice clearinghouse is a new website that provides a single entry point to a range of Indigenous justice research resources. Developed as a collaborative partnership between the Australian Institute of Criminology and the Attorney General's Department of NSW, and endorsed by the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General, the aim of the clearinghouse is to promote discussion

and disseminate relevant Indigenous justice information to government policy makers and those working in the Indigenous justice field.

Features of the website include: an online forum for exchanging informal knowledge between decision makers, researchers and practitioners; a register of Indigenous justice resources; concise briefs on

existing research and evaluations; and identification of areas where further research is needed.

Website users are encouraged to join the online forum and share their experiences of what works in the community, and to advise the clearinghouse of other resources that are available. The website is at <http://www.indigenousjustice.gov.au/>.

Occasional seminars

The AIC regularly invites experts to present seminars on various issues in their field. The most recent was:

- **An overview of the Comprehensive Auto-theft Research System (CARS) vehicle theft research.** Paul Thomas, Acting Director, Office of Crime Statistics and Director, National CARS Project, 30 Jan 2007.

Forthcoming conference

Crime in regional Australia: lessons from the country and the city, Townsville 18–19 October 2007. This conference will be committed to providing a forum for local government and regional communities. More information on this conference can be found at <http://www.aic.gov.au/conferences/2007-RegionalComSafety/>

Farewell to Karen Collier

Last December, Karen Collier left the AIC after more than ten years with the JV Barry Library. Karen made an outstanding contribution to both Information Services' and the AIC's development, holding the position of document delivery and client services officer since 1996. As well as all her great work with the library, Karen was the hub of AIC social life, and her colleagues wish her all the very best in her new career.

Project ABACUS – a national survey of computer security incidents

Project ABACUS will soon be conducting the first comprehensive national survey of Australian businesses to examine the extent and impact of computer security incidents. The project is funded from the Confiscated Assets Fund under s 298 of the *Proceeds of Crime Act 2002* (Cth).

The objective of the project is to contribute to a more secure and confident electronic business environment through the identification of problems with, and

effective responses to, computer security threats. It will involve the administration of a specially designed questionnaire, developed with advice from technical and business representatives in Australia. This survey will be sent to businesses randomly selected from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' business listing. The Social Research Centre in Melbourne, the consultant company engaged by the AIC to administer the survey, will conduct both the pilot and main surveys during 2007.

The pilot phase of the survey is currently being conducted with the main aim of testing the questionnaire, including its deliverability and ease of understanding to participants. The preliminary results of the main national survey are expected in early 2008. The results will indicate the nature and extent of the problem for Australian businesses of varying sizes and in various industry groups.

APEC Anti-Corruption Task Force

The AIC helped prepare and participated in, a workshop held in Canberra in January 2007 to consider the APEC Business Advisory Council's (ABAC) report to APEC economic leaders in 2004, *Bridging the Pacific: coping with the challenges of globalization*. Also discussed were the ABAC *Anti-corruption statement 2004*, and good practice anti-corruption public private partnership principles.

Presentations were made by the OECD's Asia-Pacific Anti-Corruption Division and the World Bank on key international developments and the international standards on bribery. The AIC presented an overview of its review of anti-corruption strategies (<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/tbp/tbp023/tbp023.pdf>),

which was then circulated to senior officials from all APEC economies in attendance.

ABAC, the International Assistance and Treaties Branch of the Attorney-General's Department, Transparency International and the International Chamber of Commerce introduced the ABAC recommendations for transparency principles for the private sector and discussed other international models.

The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Investigations & Forensic Services section of PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Funding and Disclosure Section of the Australian Electoral Commission,

and the Independent Commission Against Corruption in Hong Kong, considered good practices in developing programs in the private sector to counter bribery and corruption, and considered the specific commitments of the ABAC transparency recommendations.

In addition, a number of breakout working groups were held to discuss a range of issues concerning bribery and corruption, including: the formulation of good practice principles for the private sector; the consideration of factors such as charitable contributions, gifts, hospitality and expenses, and political contributions; and the creation of effective monitoring and review processes.

Missing persons

From mid 2006, the AIC undertook a six month project on missing persons in Australia. Funded by the Australian Federal Police and the NSW Attorney General's Department, the aims were to identify groups at risk of going missing, update missing persons data, identify good practice in missing persons service delivery, develop a more networked approach, and recommend future research priorities.

The investigation involved an extensive literature review of Australian and international missing persons research, a survey of people involved in missing persons service delivery, consultations with representatives from relevant missing persons agencies, and a review of police data. The project is currently being finalised.



AIC Director, Dr Toni Makkai giving the graduation address on 15 February 2007 to 300 graduates from the Queensland University of Technology law and justice programs and their families.

National Amphetamine Type Stimulants Strategy

In December 2006, the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy agreed to the development of a National Amphetamine Type Stimulants Strategy. AIC Director, Dr Toni Makkai, along with Professor Steve Allsop, head of the National Drug Research Institute, will lead the strategy's development, which is being funded by the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing.

This strategy will form an important part of the Australian National Drug Strategy, and its development will be informed by existing knowledge and research and a comprehensive, nationwide consultation process.

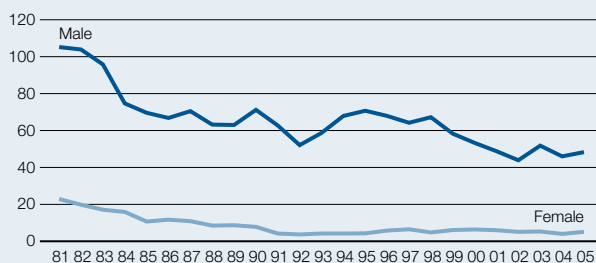
Consultation forums are being held across Australia between March and May 2007 – Sydney (5 March), Bunbury (6 March), Perth (8 March) Canberra (13 March), Albury/Wodonga (16 March), Alice Springs (27 March), Darwin (28 March), Cairns (3 April), Brisbane (4 April), Adelaide (16 April), Whyalla (17 April), Melbourne (1 May), Bendigo (2 May), and Hobart (3 May).

Facts and figures 2006

The AIC will soon release the ninth edition of *Australian crime: facts & figures*. One of the Institute's most popular reports, *Facts & Figures* uses a mix of annual and trend data to describe crime and criminal justice in Australia – such as the number and types of recorded crime, the victims of crime, offender characteristics, and the operations of criminal justice agencies.

This figure from the 2006 edition, shows that between 1984 and 2005, the overall incarceration rate for juveniles in juvenile corrective institutions declined by 58 percent. A total of 605 juvenile offenders were held in juvenile corrective institutions on 30 June 2005, 52 percent of whom were Indigenous.

Persons in juvenile corrective institutions, 1981–2005 (rate per 100,000 relevant population)



In 2005, the rate for males declined to 48 percent per 100,000 from 105 in 1981, while the rate for females dropped from 23 to five, leaving an incarceration rate for males 10 times higher than that for females. The percentage of females in the total juvenile prison population has dropped from 17 percent in 1981 to nine percent in 2005.

For more information about *Australian crime: facts & figures 2006*, visit the AIC website at <http://www.aic.gov.au/>.

Recent interns

The AIC appointed six work experience interns for four weeks during February and March 2007. They undertook a range of tasks relating to: the National Armed Robbery Monitoring Program; the National Deaths in Custody Program; the precursor chemical trade in Oceania; evaluation of juvenile justice outcomes; evaluation of drug diversion programs; and writing one-page fact sheets on a range of topics for the web-based *Crime facts info* and *Crime reduction matters*.

The interns were:

- Fiona Christian, from the NSW Police, Drug and Alcohol Coordination
- Paul Nelson, completing a PhD at the University of Sydney
- Stephanie D'Apice, completing an honours degree at the University of New South Wales
- Gitana Proietti-Scifoni, completing an honours degree at Griffith University
- Jack Dearden, just completed a degree with honours at Flinders University
- Bronwyn Collier, completing an undergraduate degree at the University of Canberra.

Australia Day Achievement Medallions AIC staff members Sylvia Mackellar, Peter Levan, Maria Borzycki, Jason Payne and Rosa Ruiz were presented with Australia Day Medallions in recognition of their dedication and contribution to the Institute, and through it to the public service of the nation. | **Australia Day drinks**, hosted by the AIC, followed. Attendees included representatives from the Attorney-General's Department, Australian Customs Service, Australian Crime Commission, Australian Federal Police and ACT Justice and Community Services and the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

Recent publications

Trends & issues in crime and criminal justice

(<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/tandi/index.html>)

- **no. 328:** Armed robbery: who commits it and why?
- **no. 329:** Mobile and wireless technologies: security and risk factors
- **no. 330:** Internet purchasing: perceptions and experiences of Australian households
- **no. 331:** Consumer scams in Australia: an overview
- **no. 332:** A framework for measuring the performance of drug law enforcement

Research and public policy

(<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/rpp/index.html>)

- **no. 72:** Homicide in Australia: 2004–05 National Homicide Monitoring Program (NHMP) annual report
- **no. 73:** Firearms theft in Australia: 2004–05

Technical and background papers

(<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/tbp/index.html>)

- **no. 23:** Review of anti-corruption strategies
- **no. 24:** A discrete-time survival study of drug use and property offending: implications for early intervention and treatment

Crime Facts Info

(<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/cfi>)

- **no. 138:** Community perceptions of domestic violence
- **no. 139:** Violence in Indigenous communities
- **no. 140:** Reporting violence to police

- **no. 141:** Homicides in Australia 2004–05: weapon type
- **no. 142:** 2006 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards
- **no. 143:** Perceptions of crime
- **no. 144:** Consumer scams in Australia

AICrime Reduction Matters

(<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/crm>)

- **no. 53:** Policing domestic violence: barriers and good practice
- **no. 54:** Cost effectiveness of early intervention
- **no. 55:** Policing substance misuse in remote communities: a good practice framework

BushFIRE Arson Bulletin

(<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/bfab>)

- **no. 39:** Bushfires deliberately lit during adverse bushfire weather
- **no. 40:** The time of day of bushfires in Australia
- **no. 41:** Sentences for arson in Victoria

High tech crime briefs

(<http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/htcb/>)

- **no. 10:** Malware: viruses, worms, trojan horses
- **no. 11:** More malware: adware, spyware, spam and spim
- **no. 12:** High tech crime tools
- **no. 13:** More high tech crime tools
- **no. 14:** New methods of transferring value electronically
- **no. 15:** Online auction crime

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Publications

Publications can be downloaded from the AIC website, or purchased from the AIC with credit card authorisation or by cheque (use enclosed order form).

If you wish to be alerted to new publications, or to receive the fortnightly *Crime facts info* or monthly *AICrime reduction matters* sheet, send your email address to front.desk@aic.gov.au

Email

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