

CHD NEWS

Contributing to
a SAFER
COMMUNITY

May 2009



News from the Directors

Some highlights from the start of 2009 include:

- We are proud to have sponsored the University of UNSW student criminology prize for excellence in the honours program. We are very pleased to have again supported this award.
- We co-sponsored (with the NSW Attorney General's Department) a seminar on Crimes Against and the Policing of Emerging Communities on 9 April 2009. This seminar, hosted by the Sydney Institute of Criminology (University of Sydney), brought together inter-state and local speakers and attracted an audience of in excess of 120 participants. We are very thankful to the speakers for giving of their time and knowledge and believe that contributing to these events is a wonderful way to further debates related to critical criminal justice and crime prevention issues.
- Garner recently presented a small session on 'Preventing Graffiti' to the newly established Community Safety Network. This Network brings together local government personnel and is an exciting development providing important support to crime prevention practitioners across Sydney.
- Mick enjoyed his recent attendance at the 40th Anniversary Dinner for the Australian Security Industry Association Ltd (ASIAL) in Melbourne. The event was a celebration of the achievements of ASIAL and their important contribution to the security industry.
- As a member of the Property and Financial Services ITAB Security Sub-Committee, Mick has been

participating in the DET NSW COAG Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) project. This project has been jointly funded by the Commonwealth and NSW governments and aims to provide effective tools and processes to meet the employability skills of security operatives. The focus of the project will be looking at LLN Benchmarks for the Security Industry and developing an effective means of RPL.

- Our endeavours to develop resources to help crime prevention and security practitioners has resulted in the development of notebook cards containing key messages from our Preventing Conflict with Young People training and a series of new fact sheets on armed robbery. We have also added a CHD Partners' Community Safety Audit Methodology package to our website. This small package can be freely downloaded from - <http://www.chdpartners.com.au/resources/resources.asp>
- Further to these resources, we expect to launch new fact sheet titles on Second Generation Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), CPTED and Parks and Employee Theft in the coming month. We have also developed an Offence Briefing Series. The first title in this series focuses on the offence of Break, Enter and Steal and provides an overview of the number of these offences in the last 10 years and approaches to prevention.
- We have been pleased to contribute in a small way to some recent media discussions about crime and its prevention. Mick was interviewed by

Hot Off the Press

Responding to Armed Robbery Posters

Following the success of our recently released crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) posters, we have commissioned a cartoonist to develop a poster to remind staff of how they should respond to an armed robbery (in the unlikely event that one occurs in their workplace). This poster helps organisations meet their requirements of providing a safe workplace and can be ordered from Mick Huggett. Contact Mick on Michael@chdpartners.com.au to order copies of this poster.

Newcastle ABC following the release of the NSW crime statistics and Garner was interviewed by a local television reporter following an address to the Taree Chamber of Commerce.

- As part of our commitment to the education of future criminal justice personnel, we have welcomed opportunities to deliver presentations to undergraduate law students at the University of Technology Sydney, to the Youth Liaison Officer (NSW Police Force) course and to the Bonnyrigg Town Centre committee and safety audit group. We are very proud of our small contribution to the education and learning of practitioners and students and look forward to continuing this important work.

**Mick Huggett and Garner Clancey
(Directors, CHD Partners)**

Beyond these internal developments, there have been numerous activities of great interest to crime prevention and security practitioners. The following are some of the highlights from recent months.

NSW Crime Statistics

The NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) recently released the NSW 2008 crime statistics. This data is now freely accessible from the BOCSAR website (www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au)

This data provides a critical context for crime prevention and security work in NSW. Some of the key trends emerging from the data for the last 24 months (January 2007 to December 2008) include:

- Significant downward trends –
 - Robbery without a firearm (down by 6.0%)
 - Robbery with a firearm (down by 31.0%)
 - Break and enter (dwelling) (down by 5.9%)
 - Motor vehicle theft (down by 8.9%)
 - Steal from motor vehicle (down by 7.0%)
 - Steal from person (down by 12.2%)
- Significant upward trends –
 - Steal from retail store (up by 7.8%)
 - Fraud (up by 15.7%)
- No upward or downward trends –
 - Murder
 - Assault (domestic violence)
 - Assault (non-domestic violence)
 - Sexual assault
 - Malicious damage to property

Armed Robbery Monitoring Report 2006

The National Armed Robbery Monitoring Program (NARMP) provides information on trends and patterns of armed robbery in Australia especially focussing on the use of specific weapons. The 2006

annual report is the fourth publication since the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) began monitoring this offence in 2003. The following provides a summary of some of the key data from the report.

- There was a five percent increase in the number of victims compared with 2005
- Knives made up more than 53% of the weapons used
- 15% of incidents involved firearms, with 7% of all weapons identified as handguns
- Approximately 42% of robberies occurred in a retail location
- Five percent of incidents occurred in licensed venues
- Males aged 18 to 19 years had the highest rates of armed robbery victimisation
- 44% of victims were robbed in an open or public setting
- 65% of incidents occurred between 6 pm and 6 am
- Armed robberies were only 3% more likely to occur on a weekend than through the week
- The average amount stolen during an armed robbery was \$1,152 per incident.
- Around 90% of offenders were male
- 94% of offenders were under 40 years of age, with the average offender age being 23 years
- The average age of offenders varied with location, with older offenders targeting banking and financial locations (29 years) and pharmacies (31 years)

Further information and a copy of the report can be obtained from the AIC website at - <http://www.aic.gov.au/research/projects/0003.html>

Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards

Application brochures are now available for this national awards scheme. Monetary awards totalling up to \$130,000 is available. Information about this scheme and information on how to enter can be found at - <http://www.aic.gov.au/acvpa/>

Amnesty International – Stop Violence Against Women

Amnesty International is running a campaign to stop violence against women. This campaign:

- **Pushes** for the implementation of existing laws that guarantee access to justice and services for women subjected to violence including rape and other forms of sexual violence
- **Calls** for new laws to be enacted that will protect women's human rights
- **Demands** an end to laws that discriminate against women
- **Urges** the ending of violence against women perpetrated by a state and its agents
- **Works** to empower women

Information about this important campaign can be found at - <http://www.amnesty.org/en/campaigns/stop-violence-against-women>

CHD Partners has made a small contribution to this campaign and encourage others to consider supporting this campaign.

Time for Action to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children

The Australian Government recently released a number of reports and a *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women*. If there was any uncertainty as to why such a plan is needed, then the following data confirms the importance of this national approach:

- Approximately 350,000 women will experience physical violence and 125,000 women will experience sexual violence each year in Australia
- In recently released research, violence against women costs the nation \$13.6 billion and is expected to rise to \$15.6 billion by 2021.

Further information about the recently released reports and associated government plans are available at – <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/about/news/2009/Pages/TimeforActiontoReduceViolenceAgainstWomenandChildren.aspx>

Changes to the NSW Police Alarm Response Policy

There have been recent changes to the NSW Police Alarm Response Policy. The change to this policy seeks to ensure that the correct locations are provided so that police can attend the right location as quickly as possible.

Information about these changes can be found at - <http://www.asial.com.au/>

Conferences

A number of interesting conferences are scheduled for different parts of the world for the remainder of 2009. Some of those that might be of greatest interest to crime prevention and security practitioners include the following:

2009 Security Conference

The 2009 Security Conference is to be held in Sydney on the 24 to 26 August 2009. Presentations and panel discussions over three days will feature local and international experts across a range of specialist areas.

Further information about this conference can be found at - <http://www.securityexpo.com.au/page/conference.html>

6th Annual Risk Management Conference

The Risk Management Institution of Australasia is holding their 6th Annual Conference at Cairns on the 22 to 25 November 2009. The conference will have a wide range of eminent international and local speakers and provide up-to-date information on risk management strategies and techniques. This conference will coincide with an exhibition featuring the latest in risk management services and techniques. Further information regarding this conference can be found at - <http://www.rmia.org.au/Knowledge/AnnualConference/tabid/89/Default.aspx>.

Indigenous Young People, Crime and Justice Conference

The Australian Institute of Criminology is hosting a conference in Sydney between 31 August and 1 September 2009 on Indigenous young people, crime and justice. Further information about this event will be made available soon at the following website – <http://www.aic.gov.au/conferences/>

University of Sydney – Distinguished Speakers Program

Professor Mariana Valverde (Director, Centre of Criminology, University of Toronto) is in Sydney in October. During this time, Professor Valverde will give a presentation on “How we came to see cities as collections of land uses”. This presentation will be between 5 and 8pm and is free. Further information is available at - http://www.law.usyd.edu.au/news/distinguished_speakers2009.shtml

Interesting Websites

There are a number of interesting crime prevention and security related websites that are worth reviewing periodically. Some of these include:

- The International CPTED Association <http://www.cpted.net>
- The Australian Security Industry Association <http://www.asial.com.au>
- Standards Australia <http://www.standards.org.au>

Notable Publications

There are a host of new publications and books that should be of interest to crime prevention and security practitioners. Just some publications that might be of interest are listed here.

Argyrous, G. (ed.) (2009) Evidence for policy and decision-making – a practical guide, UNSW Press.

It is difficult to escape the frequent discussions about evidence-based policy (or perhaps more appropriately, evidence-informed policy) these days. The collection of chapters compiled by George Argyrous covers various issues

relevant to our understanding of evidence-informed policy. A particular highlight of the book is the chapter by Leo Dobes on ‘Using consultants to gather evidence’. This chapter reviews the issues associated with engaging consultants and provides an accessible overview of how both consultants and agencies utilising consultants can anticipate and overcome potential problems.

Pieterse, E. (2008) City Futures: Confronting the Crisis of Urban Development, UCT Press

This interesting book provides an analysis of international urban development trends, including the UN Habitat agenda. Pieterse provides a simple summary of some of the key movements driving urban development, with particular sympathy for the plight of the in excess of 1 billion people living in slums globally. Pieterse also advocates a form of contested local political engagement to urban development, recognising that consensus models do not reflect the realities of pluralistic societies. This book provides some interesting insights into urban development in developing nations and challenges the reader to look beyond their immediate circumstances.

Violence in Public Places Report

The Violence in Public Places report (released 2009) was commissioned by Victoria Police and is based on an expert roundtable held late last year. It was written by Mr Richard Eckersley, a founding director of Australia21 and a visiting fellow at The Australian National University, and Australia21’s Executive Officer, Dr Lynne Reeder.

The report suggests that Australian States have seen a recent upsurge in antisocial behaviour, including violence, in public places.

The roundtable participants came from a range of relevant disciplines including Victorian Government departments and agencies with responsibility for policy development and implementation.

The participants compiled a range of possible solutions including-

- Increased policing of randomly selected licensed premises at random times, and more targeted policing of problem premises.
- Training bar staff in managing all aspects of aggressive behaviour, not just drunkenness.
- Holding organisers of public events more responsible and accountable for the social and health costs of these events.
- Considering the development of a peer court to allow young people to be involved in the court process.
- Developing targeted programs in schools to enhance the social and emotional wellbeing of all students. These include enhancing conflict management skills, developing empathy, and managing students' own emotional needs.
- Investing in increased parent education on parenting from birth to adolescence.
- Recognising the contribution of media and communications technologies to violence, and acting to minimise these impacts.
- Providing the necessary focus, support and resources to tackle violence, as has been done successfully with road safety.

Information about initiatives linked to these targets can be found at – <http://www.australia21.org.au/pdf/Violence%20in%20public%20places%20report.pdf>

Waples, S.; Gill, M. and Fisher, P. (2009) 'Does CCTV displace crime?', *Criminology and Criminal Justice*, Vol. 9(2), 207-224

The authors of this research article seek to answer the commonly posed question – does CCTV displace crime? Through the evaluation of 13 CCTV systems in the United Kingdom, the authors concluded that "results concur with current literature in that spatial

displacement of crime does occur, but it was only detected infrequently". The article should be of interest to researchers and practitioners not only because of the findings, but because of the research methods adopted to measure displacement.

Robinson, G. (2008) *Australian Risk Roundtable*, Brolga Publishing.

The Australian Risk Roundtable: AND Risk Thinker's Guide 2nd Edition by Gerry Robinson provides Essays from 10 risk management specialists in Australia.

Gardner, D, (2008) *Risk: The Science of Politics and Fear*, McLelland and Stewart.

Dan Gardner's book Risk: The Science and Politics of Fear identifies that humanity has never had it so good. Most people around the world are better off and will live longer than their ancestors. If we could hold on to that perspective, we would all be much more relaxed. But we aren't relaxed. We are anxious and stressed. We are scared that bad things will happen to us: nuclear war, cancer, child abduction. The book challenges the beliefs of fear post September 11, 2001 and people's fear of flying. Post September 11, people stopped flying due to the fear of terrorism yet 12 months later they have returned to their cars. The road toll the proceeding year in the US was 1,595 people, more than half of the fatalities of September 11. It is actually safer to fly than drive. This book will challenge the risk manager's views of likelihood in the risk management process.

The Youth Justice Board for England and Wales – Various Reports

The Youth Justice Board (YJB) was established in the late 1990s. The YJB oversees the youth justice system in England and Wales. The YJB works to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people under the age of 18, and to ensure that custody for

them is safe, secure, and addresses the causes of their offending behaviour. Specifically, the YJB:

- advise the Secretary of State on the operation of, and standards for, the youth justice system
- monitor the performance of the youth justice system
- purchase places for, and place, children and young people remanded or sentenced to custody
- identify and promote effective practice
- make grants to local authorities and other bodies to support the development of effective practice
- commission research and publish information.

The YJB has produced a number of interesting reports, including some of the following titles:

- Girls and Offending – Patterns, Perceptions and Interventions
- Female Health Needs in Young Offender Institutions
- Update on the Strategy for Secure Estates for Children and Young People
- Key Elements of Effective Practice
- Crime Prevention Projects

These reports and other very useful resources are available at - <http://www.yjb.gov.uk/publications/Scripts/default.asp?eP=>

Project in the Spotlight

Assessing Security Risks and Schools (Written by Michael Huggett)

CHD Partners was recently contracted to conduct a security risk assessment of a private school in Victoria. The school has approximately 600 students (95 boarding students) and approximately 160 staff. During the security risk assessment, a total of twelve individual site audits (covert and overt, day and night) were conducted. Further to these site audits, a total of 41 people were interviewed (individually or in groups) including students, dormitory staff, maintenance staff, contractors and management staff. A number of documents were reviewed and the security and cleaning contractors were observed. Crime data for the local government area provided by Victoria Police were analysed, incident data from the school reviewed and a small literature review of crime and security issues in schools was also undertaken. A number of recommendations were made to assist the school build on their strong commitment to providing a safe learning environment for students and a safe workplace for staff.

In response to the security risk assessment report compiled by CHD Partners, the school has now commenced development of a security management plan and standard operating procedures to guide security practices at the school.

Policy and Practice Ponderings - Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) in NSW (Written by Garner Clancey)

In April 2001, NSW guidelines for safer by design were released. These guidelines outline four key elements of CPTED (i.e. access control, natural surveillance, territorial reinforcement and space management). Accompanying the release of these guidelines was a training program developed and delivered by the NSW Police Force. Many hundreds of people have been trained in Safer by Design since the introduction of the guidelines. In many respects, the NSW approach provided the impetus and standard for other jurisdictions to follow (and perhaps exceed in more recent years).

While the guidelines and the training provided an excellent starting point for considering crime risks in building developments, there is a need to review the efficacy of the guidelines in light of their use and in light of progress made in this area. Given that many of the developments assessed for crime risk are conducted locally, there has been very little state-wide learning about how CPTED has been applied or helped prevent crime. There has also been limited analysis of the relevance of these (first generation) CPTED principles to the development application (DA) process. For example, there is frequently little information at the time that a DA is submitted regarding space management practices and procedures. Space management tends to refer to how are facility will be maintained post completion and this is frequently not considered at the time a DA is submitted.

Similarly, with the development of second generation CPTED principles (including connectivity, community culture, threshold capacity and social cohesion), there is merit in considering refreshing the guidelines to move beyond a narrow design-centric approach to CPTED. Moreover, with the advances made by other jurisdictions across Australia, it is timely to consider how the existing NSW guidelines can be improved. For example, the Victorian Safer Design Guidelines (available at - <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/DSE/nrenpl.nsf/LinkView/CA9798F0F6911DB3CA256DC20025341764FD95D0012A85C8CA2572DA007EA7AB>) provide both more complex considerations such as urban structure and more detailed guidance on landscape gardening, lighting and design of specific facilities. The advances made in Victoria and other Australian jurisdictions could be incorporated into the NSW approach.

Thus, while the NSW guidelines have provided an excellent starting point and have been utilised to positively influence many thousands of developments across NSW, it is time for a review of the guidelines. A review into the use, benefits and limitations of the guidelines could contribute to the development of a more expansive approach to reducing crime risks through the built environment in NSW.

A Selection of Current CHD Partners' Projects

Title	Project Description
Security Risk Assessments	CHD Partners are currently engaged in a number of security risk assessment projects (including for a shopping centre, a hospital, a council central business district and a school). These projects are for diverse (intentionally unnamed) organisations. These projects employ a methodology to security risk assessment developed by CHD Partners based on AS/NZS 4360:2004 Risk Management and HB167:2006 – Handbook: Security Risk Management provisions.
CCTV Project	The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) has contracted CHD Partners to work on the development of guidelines for the use of closed circuit television (CCTV) systems in public places.
Certificate IV in Security Risk Assessment	We currently deliver the Certificate IV in Security Risk Assessment in conjunction with another training organization. We are currently running courses for security personnel to assist them gain the Certificate IV qualification.
Young People as Victims of Crime	CHD Partners and the Youth Affairs Council of South Australia (YACSA) were jointly successful in a proposal to develop a peer education package for young people. This package will seek to equip young people with appropriate knowledge and information to help them avoid becoming a victim of crime and to report instances where they are victims of crime.
Bonnyrigg Town Centre Audit	Fairfield City Council has contracted CHD Partners to provide training on community safety audits to members of the Town Centre Committee and other interested people and to conduct an audit of the Town Centre.
Crime Risk Assessment	An initial crime risk assessment was undertaken of a proposed development in the Hunter Region in 2008. The original development application was rejected for this development. We are currently reviewing the new plans and developing a report highlighting any potential crime risks for this development.
Evaluation of an Arts-based Intervention for Young People	We have been contracted by the NSW Department of Community Services (DoCS) to evaluate a new intervention for young people in northern NSW. This project, which has only recently commenced, will require considerable interviewing of key stakeholders and reviewing the processes adopted to establish this arts-based intervention.
Vietnamese Offender Transition Program	DAMEC has contracted CHD Partners to evaluate a transition program from prison to the community for Vietnamese offenders. This evaluation involves analysis of crime data and interviews with program participants and project personnel.
Granville Suspended Schools Project - Evaluation	We are evaluating an initiative designed to help young people at-risk of dropping out of school in the Granville area. This project involves establishing and analyzing various survey instruments and providing reports at various points to the funding body.
Campbelltown Perceptions of Crime Survey	Campbelltown City Council received some national funding for various crime prevention initiatives and we are assisting them to determine if these initiatives have any impact upon people's perceptions of crime through the use of an on-line survey.
Review of Dubbo Whole of Government Group	We are working with Sydney Leadership (Benevolent Society) on a review of the Dubbo Whole of Government Group and the Dubbo 2020 Vision.

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