



# NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2013 1st - 7th September



Melissa Hedger, Ninu Sethi and Hilary Maitland wear purple for the Shoalhaven Purple Ribbon Committee's Purple Ribbon Month for child protection.

## Paint the town purple

The first week in September is National Child Protection Week and to support this Shoalhaven Purple Ribbon Committee is going to stage Purple Ribbon Month.

The Purple Ribbon Committee is about keeping children and young people in the local community safe from abuse and neglect.

This year the national theme is 'Protecting Children Is Everyone's Business'.

The Purple Ribbon team is conducting an art competition for children and young people around the themes of keeping children safe and fun things that children like to do with their families or carers.

For more information or entries call 4429 3128.

Businesses in the Nowra CBD are encouraged to join in by creating purple window displays.

The idea is to create family and young people friendly communities.

Committee member, child and family psychologist with the Community Health Ninu Sethi said the committee wanted to raise awareness about how the members of the community can all play a part in protecting children and young people.

"Everybody needs to know what abuse is, how to prevent it, and where to go for help for ideas and assistance," she said.

During Purple Ribbon Month a range of family-friendly activities and events will be staged with the intention of encouraging community members to play their part and keep children safe.

Information about what you can do to prevent and protect children from abuse and neglect will be available.

Simple tips and ideas about how to have fun and interact with children will also be provided at all Purple Ribbon events this month.

## PROTECTING CHILDREN IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS



NEIGHBOUR

Talk to your neighbours & take the time to build relationships with families in your street, apartment, building or community.



TEACHER

Engage students & families in school activities to create a shared space where children can learn & grow.



POLICE

Be approachable & involve yourself in community events to build trusting relationships with families, children & young people.



AUNT/UNCLE

Spend time with the children in your life. Make your influence positive.



DOCTOR/NURSE

Check in with parents & families on how things are going & link them to local services.

**PLAY YOUR PART  
START A CONVERSATION TODAY**

**PLAY YOUR PART**  
TO FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR ROLE  
**VISIT NAPCAN.ORG.AU**

**NAPCAN**  
PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE

Supported By: Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

## These local businesses proudly support National Child Protection Week

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Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly

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# NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 2013 1st - 7th September



## A service which is there for you

THE Illawarra Family Referral Service (IFRS) is located in the Worrige Centre, Nowra – across the car park from The Disability Trust. The Barnardos IFRS helps families in the Shoalhaven area, offering assistance to families and young people under 18 years of age who need to be put in contact with a support service. A family referral worker can meet with you and/or your family at a location convenient to you or over the telephone from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday by calling 1800 663 863. The IFRS is a voluntary service for anyone responsible for children under the age of 18, or young people who may find themselves in challenging circumstances. The IFRS assists all families and carers including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and culturally diverse families and children in a culturally sensitive way.

The IFRS can help you link with a wide variety of services, including mental health, alcohol and other drugs, domestic violence, counselling, housing and accommodation, budgeting, playgroups, education, disability, respite, parenting, youth support, education and employment. Illawarra Family Referral Service is an initiative of the NSW government's Keep Them Safe Action Plan and is operated by Barnardos Australia. A central theme of the Keep Them Safe changes is that care and protection of children and young people is a shared responsibility. If you are a parent of a child under 18 years of age or a young person under 18, call 1800 663 863 between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday except public holidays, or email familyreferral@barnardos.org.au

**"Sam and I love baking cakes on our weekends together"**

Barnardos is seeking people to open their homes one weekend a month to care for a child in need. We provide support and training to our respite carers.

Call Amber today  
1800 663 441  
barnardos.org.au



We believe in children.



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**Finding it difficult to cope, but don't know where to turn? Call the Illawarra Family Referral Service.**



Family referral workers Renee Leslie and Brionny Doolan with team leader Deb Willick and community liaison officer Michelle Miran at the Nowra IFRS office in Worrige Street.

## Help is a phone call away

THERE is a range of services that can be contacted if you need advice or support.  
Parentline – 1300 1300 42  
Kids Helpline – 1800 551 800  
Lifeline – 13 11 14  
National Sexual Abuse, Domestic, Family Violence Counselling Service – 1800 RESPECT  
Domestic Violence – 1800 656 463  
Family and Community Services – 132 111  
Shoalhaven Family Referral Service – 1800 663 863  
Access Referral Service for access to a

range of services for adults, babies, children and families Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health district – 1300 792 755  
Family Care Centre – 4424 6460  
Violence Abuse and Neglect Service – Sexual Assault – 44239 211  
Nowra Family Support Service – 4421 5499  
Aboriginal Child and family Centre – 4428 6900  
Aboriginal Medical Service – 4428 6666  
Headspace – 4421 5388

- We can help you access support services in your local area.
- We offer face to face meetings and telephone referrals.
- We assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families in a culturally sensitive way.



Any member of a family, a carer or a parent with children under 18 years is eligible for help and support from our friendly family referral workers.

Illawarra Family Referral Service is operated by Barnardos Australia, our service is available Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm excluding public holidays.



Your link to support

Tel. **1800 663 863**

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If you live in the Illawarra, Shoalhaven or Wingecarribee regions, call us on 1800 663 863 to find out how we can help.



familyreferrals@barnardos.org.au  
www.barnardos.org.au

