

Crime Stoppers Tasmania Media Release

Crime Stoppers reaches out to Chinese community

The media is invited to the fourth and final event as part of Crime Stoppers Tasmania's Dob in a Dealer Campaign:

WHEN:	Monday, 25 February, 2019
TIME:	10.30 - 11:00am
WHERE:	ABC Building, 1-7 Liverpool Street, Hobart (back courtyard)
SPOKESPERSONS:	- Mr David Daniels, Chair Crime Stoppers Tasmania
	- Senator The Hon Eric Abetz

- Xin De Wang, Patriarch Master Holy Tantra Jin-Gang- Dhyana Buddhism

The Chinese community in Hobart have thrown their support behind Crime Stoppers Tasmania, in terms of reporting information on crime and reducing the supply of illicit drugs.

Crime Stoppers Tasmania has produced material accessible to the state's growing Chinese community in a bid to encourage them to help report and reduce crime, as part of Crime Stoppers' current Dob in a Dealer Campaign. Crime Stoppers is keen to ensure that cultural and language differences are no barrier to interacting with law enforcement agencies for all ethnic groups living in Tasmania.

The campaign, which has been running for almost three months, has seen events held all around the State to encourage people to contact Crime Stoppers with their information about suspicious behaviour, especially the manufacture and supply of drugs.

Crime Stoppers and the Tasmanian Chinese community will come together for the fourth and final event in the campaign to encourage the reporting of information that could help police tackle drug dealing.

The Chinese population in Tasmania is increasing, with China now the third most common country of birth outside Australia, behind England and New Zealand (2016 Census). There are over 7,000 people living in Tasmania who have Chinese ancestry and approximately 5,000 of these are located in Hobart.

Crime Stoppers Tasmania Chair David Daniels said:

"We want to engage with all Tasmania's diverse communities and encourage them to help make Tasmania an even safer place to live.

"Sometimes people from diverse cultural backgrounds may feel reluctant to contact police, and Crime Stoppers provides an alternative avenue for them to provide information about any criminality. "We're engaging with the Chinese community about the differences between calling triple zero in an emergency, calling police on 131 444 when it's not time sensitive and when to call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 to provide anonymous information that could help police solve a crime that has been committed," added Mr Daniels.

"It's important that everyone is encouraged to contribute to a safer Tasmania, and that includes stopping the supply of illicit drugs through the national Dob in a Dealer campaign," said Mr Daniels.

Crime Stoppers has reached out to the Chinese community to better understand differences in culture, language and traditions and is promoting positive relationships with law enforcement agencies.

Representatives of the Chinese community have expressed their strong support for tackling crime in Tasmania by supporting the Dob in a Dealer campaign and are equally concerned around the number of Tasmanians dying as a direct result of illicit drugs.

"Crime Stoppers has produced brochures in Chinese Mandarin to help share the message on how the Chinese community can report drug dealing activity anonymously," said Mr Daniels.

"Drug dealers know no cultural bounds.

"Regardless of your cultural background, drugs have the same destructive result on individuals, families and communities," Mr Daniels added.

If anyone in the Tasmanian community has any information about someone who is manufacturing or dealing drugs, they can call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or report online at www.crimestoppers.com.au. Remember, calls and online reports to Crime Stoppers can be made anonymously and rewards are available for information that leads to an arrest.

Crime Stoppers is a trusted, independent link between police and the community. There is no call display or call tracing on any telephones, calls are not recorded and IP address are not traced for online reports.

Individuals are under no obligation to share any personal details, and information provided can be nothing more than a suspicion. Even the smallest piece of information can make all the difference.

The Dob in a Dealer campaign is a nation-wide program funded by the Federal Government seeking to stop Australia's supply of illicit drugs such as methamphetamine (ice), ecstasy and cannabis.

– ENDS –

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Crime Stoppers plays an integral part in supporting safer communities across Australia. It is a state based notfor-profit organisation partnering with law enforcement, the media and local communities to create awareness of criminal issues. Information collected by Crime Stoppers is passed on to law enforcement agencies anonymously to help solve and prevent crime and keep Australian communities and families safe. For more information visit <u>https://www.crimestoppers.com.au</u>

CALL 1800 333 000 OR VISIT CRIMESTOPPERS.COM.AU REWARDS ARE AVAILABLE.

