

Learn about community crime safety

POLICE will set up educational displays at public events over coming weeks in the hope of making Ipswich residents more aware of the need for crime prevention.

October is Crime Prevention Month throughout the state and police have launched a campaign to promote community safety initiatives.

Ipswich District Crime Prevention Unit officer in charge Sergeant Nadine Webster said she would encourage everyone to get involved in local crime prevention activities.

"We know that crime prevention is most effective when everyone – you, me, communities, governments and police – works together," Sgt Webster said.

Ipswich police will focus on areas including property identification, home security, vehicle security, personal safety and road safety this month.

Crime prevention displays will be held at Marburg's Black Snake Creek Festival on October 10, Springfield Community Day on October 24 and the Amberley State School Fete on October 31. For details call 3817 1351.

More to line up for jab as suspicion wears off



FREE POINT: Denise Noy from Ipswich Hospital is happy to have the free swine flu vaccination.

Photo: Sarah Keayes OC0109AD

IPSWICH Hospital is preparing to give its 1300-plus staff the swine flu vaccine in coming weeks while GPs expect their vaccine supplies to arrive today.

Hundreds of Ipswich residents have already had their vaccinations at specially set up clinics at the Ipswich Community Health Plaza, with plenty more expected each week.

West Moreton Health District Infection Prevention Service clinical nurse consultant Denise Noy said vaccinating staff at the hospital was a priority to ensure they did not catch or pass the flu on to patients.

"We're hoping to get as many staff vaccinated as quickly as we can," she said.

"A second wave of swine flu is expected, and could come as early as the summer or next year, so we need to be prepared."

She said the clinics set up in the Ipswich region to give the vaccinations would experience a jump in numbers once people saw their friends and family have the jab with no problems.

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"I think initially some people might sit on the fence a bit because the vaccine has come out at short notice," she said.

"But after they see other people getting their vaccinations done I think we'll see more people coming to the clinics.

"It's just as safe and effective as the standard seasonal flu vaccine, so we encourage everyone to get their shots done."

Vaccination clinics have been set up at the Ipswich Community Health Plaza's Shop 101 Sexual Health Service room, the Springfield Super Clinic by appointment and at the Goodna Community Centre from next Tuesday.

Ipswich residents can also be vaccinated at many GP clinics around the region and if eligible, the GP consultation will be billed to Medicare. If not eligible, patients will have to pay the GP for their consultation but the vaccine will still be free.

Service remembers kids who drowned

CHILDREN tragically killed in water accidents will be especially remembered tomorrow during National Drowning Day.

A memorial service will be held at 9.15am at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 19 Cothill Road, Booval.

Katherine and Andrew Plint know only too well the sorrow of

losing a child through drowning.

Their daughter Hannah was two years old in October 2007 when she died in their backyard pool.

The Laidley couple established Hannah's Foundation to support other families who have lost loved ones in similar circumstances.

"The national drowning

prevention, awareness and memorial day this year will pay tribute to all of those who have lost their lives to drowning or been injured in water accident," Mrs Plint said.

After Saturday's memorial service, a drowning prevention and awareness function will be held from 11.30am at the Ipswich Turf Club, Bundamba.

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