

Neighbourhood Watch SA

APRIL 2021

Bimonthly Neighbourhood Newsletter of Flagstaff Hill NHW Area 453 (Authorised by Australia Post as Official Mail)

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FLAGSTAFF HILL

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AREA 453

NO MEETING DUE TO ILL HEALTH

Neighbourhood Watch areas work against crime: the public are the eyes and ears for the police in our neighbourhood.

Any information the public can give Police helps in their investigations.

Community looking out for each other

Area Co-ordinator Matt Curnow Secretary

Ray Henderson Newsletter Editor

Simon Twining

Police Co-ordinator Brevet Sergeant Jarryd Simister

Mail / Email 49A Warri Parri Drive Flagstaff Hill 5159 raymondhenderson007@gmail.com

Nearest Police Stations

Sturt Police Station 333 Sturt Rd, Bedford Park Christies Beach Police Station 94 Dyson Rd, Christies Downs

Police Attendance: Ph 131 444 DIAL 000 to report a crime in progress or has just been committed

CARAVAN & RECREATIONAL VEHICLE SECURITY

It's important to keep your 'home away from home' just as secure as you would your actual house if you were going away.

To help prevent thieves targeting your car, caravan, RV and property whilst you are travelling, consider implementing these security tips:

• Secure your number plates on your car, caravan and RV with tamper-resistant screws to prevent number plate theft.

The screws have a one-way head which means although they can be tightened to fix the plate, screwdrivers cannot grip in an anticlockwise direction to remove them. Refer to page 15 for more information.

• Install an audible alarm or engine immobiliser/wireless trailer interface or GPS tracking device in your vehicle(s) so you can activate it every time you leave your vehicle.

• Consider installing additional and 'very visual' security devices such as key operated wheel clamps, tow ball coupling locks with padlocks, steering locks and dual door handle/locks. These devices can deter a thief from attempting to tamper or steal your property.

• Install an internal light which switches on automatically when it gets dark to make the caravan or RV look occupied. You may even install some external sensor lights for when you are parked in the bush or away from a caravan park.

• Consider installing a safe in the boot of your car or in your caravan or RV for smaller valuables, e.g. mobile phones, iPads, jewellery. Following are some simple tips on keeping a record and being able to identify all your property that you will be taking on your trip:

• In the event that you become a victim of vehicle theft during your travels, it's a simpler process when making a report to

police if you have records of serial, model, VIN, chassis and registration numbers including photographs of your vehicles and property. Make sure to keep these records in a secure yet accessible location.

• Most caravans (particularly newer models) have VIN (17 digits) and chassis numbers welded onto the 'A' frame (drawbar). These numbers identify your particular caravan, so if your caravan was stolen and the thief attempted to sell it the new buyer would be advised it was stolen when they attempted to register the caravan.

Ensure you record the registration plate numbers of your car, caravan and RV along with the VIN and chassis numbers and keep them secure. Should one of these items be stolen, this will make it easier to report it to police.

• Take clear photos of your car, caravan and RV. Using the camera app on a mobile telephone is a quick and easy way to record these images.

• Consider marking or engraving some of your property with your driver's licence number prefixed by the letter 'S' for South Australia (e.g.'B23456' would be 'SB23456') as a deterrent to thieves.

If your property is stolen and is marked accordingly, the chances of items being returned to you by the police are increased. Ensure your address details on your driver's licence are current.

• Record and photograph the make, model and serial number of electronic equipment, such as GPS devices, laptops, cameras and mobile phones. You may want to use an ultraviolet (uv) pen on these delicate items.

Ensure you store this information in a safe place or with a trusted family member or



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Caravan and RV Security (cont'd from p.1)

friend in the event that you may need it. Engravers and ultraviolet pens/ torches can be purchased online and in hardware stores. Some items are not suitable for engraving or marking, e.g. jewellery, silverware and antiques. These items should be photographed.

• Place a ruler beside the smaller items when photographing them to give an idea of their size. • Don't forget to take photos of your other property such as bicycles, canoes, surfboards. For your convenience refer to page 16 for a Property Record. Consider the following suggestions to assist in making your home secure and appear 'lived in' whilst you're away:

• Install sensor lights around your property.

• Tidy your garden and trim any trees or shrubs that are close to windows. Heavily shaded windows create excellent hiding spots for potential thieves. You may want to consider the services of a gardener if you will be away for a long period of time, e.g. cutting lawn.

• Don't leave your keys or valuables on the kitchen bench or where they can easily be seen through windows by thieves. Keep them in a safe place out of view.



• If you're travelling with your caravan or RV – which is usually parked at your home – ensure that your trusted neighbours know that you are away and when you will return. Provide them with your contact details should they need to contact you.

• Consider arranging a house sitter or ask a trusted neighbour for help to bring the council bins in (if you've left them out), collect the deliveries of your newspapers/ parcels and empty the letterbox daily (if you haven't organised for these items to be held or redirected).

• Ask your neighbour to ring the police on Triple Zero (000) immediately if they see something suspicious. Prior to you leaving your home, ensure the following is done:

• Close and lock all doors and windows to your home.

• If you have an alarm, activate it. And for your caravan or RV:

• Secure your valuable items in drawers, cupboards or a safe. Don't leave them visible in your caravan or RV.

• Draw the curtains closed in your caravan or RV so that the interior is not readily visible to others when you make brief stops.

• Ensure items such as canoes, surfboards, fishing rods or tin boats (tinnies) are secured to the roof racks of your car or on/in your caravan or RV. Ensure bicycles are safely secured with a padlocked chain or other security device.

Gas cylinders can be secured in the cylinder bins of your caravan or RV or nestled safely and securely on the 'A' frame using a keyed padlock. The same can be done with spare fuel containers.

SOURCE: SAPol

Forfurther crime prevention tips visit: www.police.sa.gov.au/yoursafety/crimeprevention-andsecurity

Scammers to target Australians over vaccine rollout

By George Roberts ABC News Online 22 February 2021

There are thousands of fraudsters preparing to exploit the COVID-19 vaccine program, experts say, warning the scams will look legitimate and the people behind them may even know your name, phone number and email.

Fraud consultant Gavin Levinsohn said scammers were preparing to launch the same consthey already have overseas.

"We know this because the number of vaccine-related domains or website addresses that have been set up over the past few weeks ... are in the thousands, which is a precursor to phishing scams related to the imminent distribution of vaccines," Mr Levinsohn said.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) confirmed it already had 16 reports of vaccine-related scams.

Michael Connory, a cyber security consultant and CEO of the company Security in Depth, said there was a significant number of scam emails sent in the UK and US relating to vaccination programs.

"[They have] scammed numerous people, tens of thousands of people over in the UK, as well as in the US," he said.

Perfect ingredients for fraud

Fraud protection consultants said the rollout of vaccinations across Australia this week was giving fraudsters a prime opportunity to pose as health authorities.

"Bad actors will look for opportunities be it tax time or be it the imminent distribution of vaccines." Mr Levinsohn said.

"Timing, urgency and need are perfect ingredients for fraud."



Mr Connory said scams would be very hard to distinguish from genuine communication.

"It will look like a legitimate email coming from a government agency," he said.

He said he expected the scams would convince people to click on a link to give personal information or install malicious software that steals information.

Cyber-criminals then take that personal information, and use that for things such as identity theft, which is hugely prevalent in Australia." Mr Connory said.

He said people should expect scammers to call or even text them.

"That text will say something like: 'Hi Michael, here is your COVID information' with a link," he said.

"Now because you can't really see the link in detail on the text, it's much more likely that you will click on the link, and it will take you to a compromised website."

"What they're really looking for is your information, the more personal information they have on you, such as your Medicare details, your driver's licence, your date of birth — they can then utilise that information and attack you from an identity theft perspective," he said.

"It happens all the time and it's very difficult for individuals to be able to pick whether or not that's legitimate, or it's fake.'

Mr Connory said it was best to treat all communication with caution.

"We would recommend not trusting it, talk to your local doctor, on to the Australian ٥g government's [website], the DHS website, and have a look at what's happening and how things are rolling out," he said.

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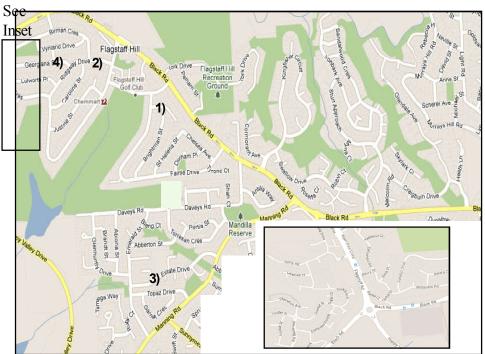
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Police Incidents 1 January - 5 March 2021



Date

Theft

- 1. 01/01/2021
- 2. 25/01/2021
- 3. 05/03/2021
- -

Fraud

4. 08/02/2021 Georgina St Money sent as payment for puppy from fraudulent website.

Ridgway Dr Property stolen from rear yard.

Estate Dr Trailer stolen. Registaration no. S220TAI

Statewide Facebook Page

A Statewide Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page has been launched. Find us at

Location Details

Corsair St Vehicle stolen.

https://www.facebook.com/NeighbourhoodWatchSA/



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