



Neighbourhood Watch SA

JUNE 2019

Quarterly Neighbourhood Newsletter of Glengowrie/Morphettville NHW

ISSUE NO. 236

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GLENGOWRIE/ MORPHETTVILLE

NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH AREA
282/283/152

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Wednesday

7th August 2019

**Glengowrie
Retirement Village**

(Southern Ave off Hazelmere
- next to the dog park)

Guest Speaker:

MFS - Home Fire Safety

ALL WELCOME

Names & contacts for your Watch area

Area Co-ordinator:

Kelly van Ruth

M: 0412 700 056

E: kellymarie-77

@hotmail.com

Police Coordinator:

P/Constable Patrick Burns

Nearest Police Station

333 Sturt Road, Bedford Park

Ph: 8207 4700

7 days 9am-9pm

Police Attendance:

Ph 131 444

DIAL **000** to report a crime in
progress or has
just been committed

News from the Area Coordinator

Welcome to the June edition of the Glengowrie/Morphettville Neighbourhood Watch newsletter.

We were fortunate enough to have Phil Evans from the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service attend our meeting in April. Phil spoke about fire safety in the home and the most common causes of fire. Phil demonstrated various pieces of home fire safety equipment including smoke alarms and fire blankets.

We have some exciting news!! You may recall that our police co-ordinator for many years Darryl Holland resigned from this voluntary position and our group was unable to fill this position for quite some time. I received

an email from P/Constable Patrick Burns from the Netley Operations of SAPOL advising he will be taking on the role. We are really excited to welcome Pat to our group. Pat will be in attendance at future meetings (pending his shifts/roster).

National Volunteer Week is the annual celebration to acknowledge the generous contribution of our nation's volunteers (20-26 May 2019).

I would like to acknowledge all members of our community who volunteer in any way. Whether it be a few hours a week or once a month – you make a world of difference.

*Warm regards,
Kelly van Ruth*

UPCOMING Glengowrie/Morphettville Neighbourhood Watch MEETINGS

Wednesday 7th August 7.30pm

Wednesday 2nd October
7.30pm - AGM

Wednesday 4th December
7.30pm (Christmas get
together, all welcome)

GRAFFITI

An increase in the number of graffiti and vandalism attacks across the public transport network is costing around \$800,000 to clean up annually.

Rewards of up to \$1000 will be paid for information that leads to a conviction.

REPORTING GRAFFITI CRIME

If you are aware of a crime having been committed report it on 131 444.

If you suspect a crime is in progress you need to phone the police on the emergency number 000.

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glenelg@kiwanis.org.au



Kiwanis

See Something,
Say something,
Call Crime Stoppers



THINK FIRST THEN DIAL



Does Neighbourhood Watch Work?

In a Nutshell, Yes!

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND FEATURE

Neighbourhood Watch Australasia Journal, May 2019, pages 6-7

by Lorraine Mazerolle, Professor of Criminology, University of Queensland and Rebecca Wickes, Associate Professor, Monash University.

The question in the crime and justice arena is whether or not Neighbourhood Watch is an effective approach for reducing crime and disorder problems in communities.

Using systematic review techniques, researchers have found that **Neighbourhood Watch is associated with a reduction in crime of between 16 and 26 per cent.**

More recent research using the Australian Community Capacity Study (ACCS, see <https://accs.project.uq.edu.au/>) explores community actions, often undertaken in the context of Neighbourhood Watch, and sometimes outside of any programmatic intervention. From the ACCS, we can explore 'who acts?' 'what encourages actions?' 'what actions are undertaken in response to crime?' And, most importantly, 'do actions lead to lower perceptions of crime and reductions in crime rates?'

What we find from the ACCS is that the people who are taking most action in communities are people in higher income households, middle-aged people, men, married fathers and single mothers and people who have been previously victims of crime.

Few residents actually engage in action when faced with a neighbourhood

problem. The common community problems faced include dangerous driving, drinking in public and suspected drug problems.

When community members decide to intervene, the most common action taken is to call the police. For graffiti problems, people are more likely to contact local or state government agencies. Overall, the ACCS finds that when residents act, their approach differs depending on the type of problem they are dealing with.

Problem severity and residents' own circumstances are most important for predicting action and the neighbourhood context is important for shaping the actions that residents take to address common problems. In conclusion, we know that Neighbourhood Watch is an important, long lasting crime prevention program that is not "just" a feel-good program but rather a program that can help to reduce crime and disorder problems in communities across Australia.

Actions that promote strong networks will help to prevent and control local problems. A goal that is close to the original mission of Neighbourhood Watch.

HANDS OFF

Don't make it easy for opportunistic thieves! Thieves are not only targeting vehicles, but also houses to find keys and steal cars.

The 'Hands Off' sticker is available to display on vehicle windows to deter thieves and remind owners to remove valuables and lock up. Stickers are available from your local police station or contact the State Community Engagement Centre on 7322 4061. **If you see any suspicious behaviour, immediately report it to the Police Assistance Line on 131 444.**



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RAA Friday is the favourite day for car thieves to strike

Thieves prefer Fridays when it comes to stealing your car, according to latest figures obtained by RAA Insurance.

RAA Insurance is urging drivers to be vigilant to avoid becoming a victim of car crime and has released a list of safety tips to minimise the risks to their vehicles.

According to the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council, of which RAA is a member, a total of 527 vehicles were stolen on a Friday - more than any other day of the week - in the 12 months to the end of September 2018.

That's an average of around 10 cars each Friday over this period. Friday thieves were most active between 4pm-8pm when a total of 155 vehicles were stolen.

It was also revealed more vehicles were stolen in March (319) than any other month during this period.

"Having your car stolen is a major inconvenience and, if you're not insured, a serious financial setback," RAA Insurance Claims Manager Hayley Cain said.

"That's why we encourage all motorists to take precautions to reduce their chance of having their car stolen or broken into."

Ms Cain said the figures showed about two thirds of the 3002 vehicles stolen in this period were for "short term use" – or joy riding – and the rest for "financial gain" such as accessing spare parts.

"It's about opportunities and there are many more people parking in public while out and about on a Friday evening.

"This might also explain why March – with all its associated events like the festival and supercar race – is the most common month for stealing cars."

The total theft figures for SA in the 12 months to September were consistent with the annual average reported to police during the past four years, Ms Cain said.

Here's what you can do to reduce the chances of having your car stolen or broken into:

- Park in a garage or carport whenever possible.
- If you must park on the road, leave your car in a well-lit area and preferably have an alarm fitted.
- Install sensor lights in your driveway as a deterrent.
- Always lock your vehicle.
- Remove items of value from sight.
- If you don't have a car alarm, use a steering wheel lock.
- Don't put all your valuables in the boot, most trunks are easily accessible.

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NHW HELPING THE COMMUNITY

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

Keeping people informed, being observant and alert, is being proactive against crime. The police can only be in one place at a time, and the area they cover is large.

Any information the public can give Police helps in their investigations. Come to a meeting, see what we do and show support for your NHW area (details on front page).



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SECURE YOUR NUMBER PLATES

Approximately 3,000 number plates are stolen in South Australia each year. RAA is working with the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, SA Police, the Attorney General's Department and the Motor Trade Association to encourage motorists to have tamper-resistant screws installed on their vehicle's number plates.

A number of RAA Approved Repairers are offering to supply and install tamper-resistant screws free of charge.

To take up this offer, please contact RAA on 8202 4689 to find your nearest participating RAA Approved Repairers. For more information, visit www.raa.com.au/numberplatetheft.

Number plates are stolen from vehicles to commit crimes such as:

- petrol theft
- avoiding speeding fines and other traffic offences, or
- robberies and house break-ins.

The use of stolen number plates makes it harder for police to detect and investigate crimes in a timely manner.

To reduce your chances of becoming a victim of number plate theft, please consider the following security tips:

- Secure your number plates with **tamper-resistant screws**. The screws lock in place to prevent number plates from being removed easily.
- Check your vehicle regularly to ensure the number plates are secure.
- Secure your vehicle in a locked garage where possible.
- Park your vehicle in well-lit areas.

Remember:

- If your number plate is stolen, report it immediately to police by calling the Police Assistance line on 131 444.
- To order new plates, contact Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure or visit www.sa.gov.au/topics/transport-travel-and-motoring/ezyreg.



REPORT DANGEROUS DRIVING TO POLICE

Traffic Watch

131 444

Statewide Facebook Page

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

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