



Neighbourhood Watch SA

MARCH 2024

Quarterly Neighbourhood Newsletter of Reynella NHW Area 048/146

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REYNELLA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AREA 146

NEXT MEETING

7pm 20th September

Reynella Sports and Social Club Rooms
Everyone Welcome

NHW SA on Facebook!

Stay up to date with NHW SA's news, updates, & crime prevention hints & tips at:

www.facebook.com/NeighbourhoodWatchSA

NHW SA website!

For the latest news, information on NHW SA and how to join, go to the NHW SA website:

www.police.sa.gov.au/nhw

Area Co-ordinator:

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reynellanhw@bigpond.com

Secretary:

Joy Rolls Ph: 0418 839 046

Newsletter Co-ordinator:

Dawn Ph: 0410 538 122

Police Co-ordinator:

P/Cst Ashleigh Peralta

REYNELLA NHW AREA NEWS

Our next meeting will be held at 7pm on 20th March at the Reynella Sports and Social Club Rooms.

If you would like to know a little more about Neighbourhood Watch, or if you have any questions, why not come along to our meeting on 20th March.

Remember

If you are going away this Easter please be Safe on the Roads and have a great time.

Make sure cars are locked and all valuables removed.

Volunteers

We would like to wish Joy a speedy recovery and hope you are back with us soon.

A special thank you to Wilf. Thank you for your support over the years and we all wish you well at 101 years old. You have done a marvellous job!

Dianne Harvey, Area Coordinator

REPORTING CRIME

Emergencies

Call Triple Zero (000) in an emergency. Where life or injury is threatened, or danger to people and property.

Non-Emergencies

Call 131444 for non-urgent police assistance.

For reporting after a crime, reporting a missing person or making police-related enquiries.

Crime Stoppers

Report information about criminals and suspicious activities to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or at www.crimestopperssa.com.au

Cybercrime

To report cybercrime, or to get further information about frauds and scams, visit: SAPOL: www.police.sa.gov.au/scams AUSTRALIAN CYBER SECURITY CENTRE

Website: www.cyber.gov.au

IDCARE Phone: 1300 432 273

Web: www.idcare.org

SCAMwatch: www.scamwatch.gov.au

MY BUSHFIRE PLAN

This bushfire season, remember to be prepared, make a plan and stay informed. Here's what you can do to keep you and your loved ones safe:

- **PREPARE NOW**

Clear around your property, **pack an emergency kit** and know your closest **Bushfire Safer Place**.

- **PLAN AHEAD**

Do your **5-minute bushfire plan** and

share it with loved ones today, and **plan for all your pets and livestock**.


- **STAY INFORMED**

Check the **fire danger rating** each day & **stay informed** in case a fire starts nearby.

Why risk it? Act now to be bushfire ready.

Plan now at:

<https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/plan-prepare/before-a-fire-be-prepared/make-a-plan/5-minute-bushfire-plan/>

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**PROTECT YOURSELF
KNOW THE SCAM**

"I don't believe everything I'm told, do you?"

Anyone can be a target for scammers – so be on the look out. Scammers use sophisticated methods to take your money.

To learn how to **PROTECT YOURSELF** and **KNOW THE SCAM** visit www.scamwatch.gov.au

Report all scams to the police assistance line by calling 131 444.

WHAT IS NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHSA?



NHW SA is a community crime prevention program delivered by the Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association of SA Inc. in partnership with SA Police. The vision of NHW SA is to create a safe and connected community.

Local Neighbourhood Watch Areas (like this one) work with local SA Police to help prevent crime. Together we can take action on local issues and help raise awareness of safety and security.

Jonathan's bank transactions show exactly where scammers used his details - it sent him down a spiral of confusion and stress for weeks

By Widia Jalal, *ABC News* 9 January 2024

Horticulturalist Jonathan Garner is always on the lookout for deliveries. A text message from an unknown number said Mr Garner's parcel delivery had been unsuccessful and prompted him to update his information to resume the delivery.

Desperate to get a hold of his parcel, he clicked on the link in the message and was greeted with a page sporting a logo and brand colours identical to Australia Post.

The layout of the page, as well as the icons and symbols, all looked familiar to him so he skimmed to the end.

The page displayed his shipment details, along with a tracking number and a section for his card details.

It turns out the message had directed him to a fake Australia Post website, and he had unknowingly given scammers access to his bank account by filling out the six-digit authentication code.

Multiple identical transactions to a local business

Later that same day, six transactions were made resulting in a loss of about \$2,700 across multiple identical transactions to a local tobacconist – all using his bank account details.

Mr Garner spotted the transactions a few days later on his account and immediately contacted his bank to alert them and seek compensation.

He said the fraud team at Commonwealth Bank explained he had fallen for a phishing scam and said he was ineligible for compensation because he had authorised the transactions.

After several rounds of intense negotiation, he said he ended up recovering 75 per cent of his losses from the bank which told him to report the case to the police.

Advice from Australia Post:

Australia Post is aware of such phishing scams circulating and has urged people to take these steps to protect themselves.

- Report any suspicious message – whether on text, email or social media – from senders posing as the courier to scams@auspost.com.au

How can you report phishing scams to authorities?

If you've fallen victim to a scam, here are the steps to take – depending on your circumstances.

- Contact your bank or financial institution immediately if you have lost money
- You can also report to police via [ReportCyber](https://www.reportcyber.gov.au)
- Be aware of other scams which may occur after a loss of personal information
- Contact [IDCARE](https://www.idcare.gov.au) on 1800 595 160 if you have provided scammers with your personal identifying information such as drivers licence or passport
- Report scams to [Scamwatch](https://www.scamwatch.gov.au)

ReportCyber is a national policing initiative which ensures your report will be referred to the right law enforcement agencies.

You may also want to note the unique report reference number to provide to other organisations.

Run by National Anti-Scam Centre, Scamwatch collect reports about scams to help warn others and to take action to stop scams.

Visit your local police station or call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444.

If you are unable to report the scam to ReportCyber, you can lodge a report at your local police station as an alternative.

Russian man identified as Medibank hacker, hit with sanctions by Australian government

By Tom Crowley, ABC News 23 January 2024

The Australian government has announced sanctions against Russian man Aleksandr Ermakov over his role in the Medibank Private data breach.

It is the first time the government has used its cyber sanctions framework, which was legislated in 2021 to apply financial punishments to people involved in significant cyber attacks.

The personal information of 9.7 million Medibank customers, including names, dates of birth, Medicare numbers and sensitive private health information, was stolen in 2022. Much of it was published on the dark web.

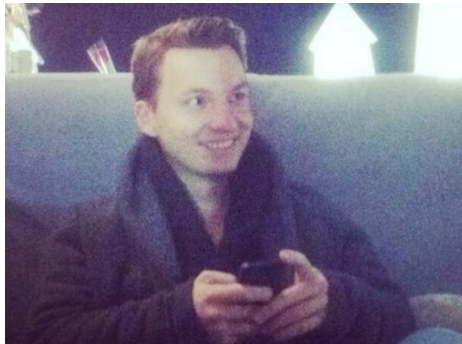
The government said the Australian Signals Directorate and the Australian Federal Police had identified Ermakov as responsible for the attack.

The sanctions make it a criminal offence to provide the man with any assets, including cryptocurrency and any money through ransom payments, punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

“This is a very important day for cybersecurity in our country,” Home Affairs Minister Claire O’Neil said.

“Medibank, in my view, was the single most devastating cyber attack we have experienced as a nation.

“We all went through it. Literally millions of people having personal data about themselves, their family members, taken from them and cruelly placed online for others to see.



“These people are cowards and they’re scumbags. They hide behind technology... The Australian government is saying that when we put our minds to it, we’ll unveil who you are and we’ll make sure you’re accountable.”

Authorities are pursuing additional leads in relation to the Medibank attack.

Ms O’Neil said authorities were focused on “a number of Russian cyber gangs” threatening Australia and working in coordination with cyber authorities in the US and UK.

A spokesperson from Medibank thanked the government for identifying Ermakov and putting sanctions in place.

Foreign Minister Penny Wong also announced the government had imposed counter-terrorism sanctions against 12 people and three entities linked to Hamas, Hezbollah, and Palestinian Islamic jihad.

BEAT THE HEAT

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SAFER COMMUNITIES

Government of South Australia

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FRIDGE MAGNETS

Neighbourhood Watch Fridge Magnets provide households with important information in an emergency. Get yours **FREE** from local police stations or at NHW meetings.

CAN YOU HELP?

We are always after people to deliver newsletters so if you like to walk and can do this for us we would love your help... You can do as little or as much as you wish. We have many areas not getting newsletters, so apologies to those households affected. Please contact Dawn if you can help.

Disclaimer: This publication has been prepared as a public service initiative and while every care has been taken in its preparation no warranty is given nor representation, either express or implied, made regarding the accuracy, currency or fitness for purpose of the information, advice provided and no liability or responsibility is accepted by the State of South Australia, its instrumentalities, South Australia Police (their agents, officers and employees), Neighbourhood Watch SA and the Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association of SA Inc. for any loss suffered by any person in consequence of any use of and reliance placed by any person upon the said information or advice.

VEHICLE SECURITY

To help prevent thieves targeting your vehicle and property, consider implementing these security tips:



- Lock your vehicle doors and close all windows.
 - Install an alarm or immobiliser and activate it every time you leave your vehicle.
 - At night park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
 - Park off the road and if possible in a locked garage.
 - Use secure car parking facilities where available.
 - Remove all valuables from your vehicle. If you can't, then conceal them in the boot before arriving at your destination.
 - Avoid leaving your property in the glove box or centre console – this is the first place thieves look.
 - Mark or engrave your property with your driver's licence number prefixed by the letter 'S' for South Australia.
 - Record the make, model and serial number of electronic equipment, such as GPS devices, laptops and mobile phones.
 - Remove registration papers from your vehicle to prevent thieves identifying your home and easily disposing of your vehicle.
 - Do not place hand bags, wallets or other valuable items on the passenger seat where they could be easily grabbed.
 - Remove your keys from the ignition even if you are gone for a short time.
 - At home, don't leave your keys on the kitchen bench or where they can be easily seen by thieves. Keep them in a safe place out of view.
 - Mark key tags with your phone number. Never include your name and address.
 - Do not hide a spare set of keys on or in your vehicle.
- (Source: www.police.sa.gov.au)

Dealing with Graffiti

Rapid and Continual Removal of graffiti is one of the best deterrents to stop graffiti returning to the site.

Painting over graffiti is most effective way to remove the graffiti. When the graffiti is removed by the "paint out method" be sure to match the colour of paint being used - as close as possible to the existing colour of the fence prior to the graffiti damaged.

Be sure to paint the graffiti over in a "block" formation and **DO NOT** follow the lines of the tag.

Reporting Graffiti Crime:

Onkaparinga Council property
Graffiti Reporting Hotline 1800 040 225

Stobie poles or ETSA boxes
SA Power Networks 131 261

Payphones
Telstra 132 203

Public Transport & Private property
Sturt Police 8207 4700
SAPOL 131444

TAKE THE TIME TO PREVENT A CRIME

Don't Forget to Lock Up
Your House
Your Car
Your Valuables

See Something,
Say Something,
Call Crime Stoppers

CRIME STOPPERS
.com.au
1800 333 000

South Australia

000 EMERGENCY **THINK FIRST THEN DIAL** **POLICE ASSISTANCE 131444**