



**GORDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** Est. July 2011

**Fostering pride and respect in our local community**

Newsletter Edition 46: April 2023

available online: [nwww.nhwact.com.au](http://nwww.nhwact.com.au)>Newsletter>Gordon



## WILDLIFE ENTANGLEMENT

Entanglement of birds and other wildlife in discarded fishing equipment (hooks and line), plastic, metal and other rubbish, fruit netting and string is a constant problem in and around the Gordon area.

### Animals caught in fishing tackle

In the case of a water bird or turtle, try to bring the animal to land in a net if possible, thereby supporting its weight and potentially avoiding any further damage.

It is preferable that you **do not cut the fishing line** as any excess line can easily get caught in reeds and trap the animal. If you have a towel or similar object with you, cover the animal as this might bring about some calm. **Then, contact ACT Wildlife on 0432 300 033 for advice.**

Anglers are encouraged to collect all their hooks, line and other paraphernalia so it cannot entangle wildlife. Animals that are entangled can have horrific injuries and, when hooks are swallowed, it can lead to death. The ACT Government has trialled fishing line disposal containers around Lake Tuggeranong and there are also signs asking people to stop feeding the animals at various water bodies around Canberra. ACT Wildlife is concerned that if anglers fish near waterbirds or where waterbirds are frequently fed this may lead to more animals becoming entangled so we encourage people to think before casting. Witnessing an entangled animal is very distressing for everyone concerned.

### Animals caught in plastic, metal and other rubbish

Hungry and curious animals can easily ingest or become entangled in this type of rubbish. Plastic and metal bottle tops, plastic rings, metal cans and ring pulls, plastic shopping bags and face masks are all hazardous for wildlife. *(Continued on page 2)*



**McIntyre**  
PROPERTY

**Proudly supporting the Gordon Community**

Col McIntyre and his team are proud to continue to support the Gordon Neighbourhood Watch program. Give our team a call for expert advice and service for all your **real estate sales** and **property management** requirements.

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A plastic ring from the top of a bottle or a metal ring pull can easily lodge over the beak of a bird stopping it from feeding, leading to a painful death by starvation. Discarded sweet corn and other food tins containing remnants of food, and soft drink cans can be an attractive food source for hungry wildlife. **If you see any animals caught in this type of rubbish contact ACT Wildlife on 0432 300 033 for advice.**

### **Animals caught in fruit netting or string**

Flying foxes (large bats), micro bats, possums and native birds are particularly prone to entanglement in netting and string. Flying foxes are important pollinators of native forests. Most entanglements cause injuries and require treatment by a vet or Wildlife carer. **Do not touch a bat, and exercise caution around possums.** If bitten or scratched by a bat, thoroughly wash the site and contact your doctor immediately. Do not attempt to cut wildlife from netting or string, contact ACT Wildlife on 0432 300 033 for advice.

### **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

- Bin discarded fishing lines, hooks and nets
- Cut open any closed plastic loops and rings (such as seals on soft drink and milk bottles) before disposal
- Cut through the handles on plastic shopping bags and masks and cut elastic bands into pieces
- Rinse out all food remnants from cans and containers to avoid attracting hungry animals, then crush them before disposal so animals can't get trapped inside or be injured by sharp edges
- Fruit netting: **Only use white netting** so animals can better see it at night. Ensure any fruit netting used in your garden is wildlife friendly - choose netting that you cannot poke your finger through. **The mesh size should be less than 5 mm when stretched**
- Don't litter. Remember - almost all rubbish dropped will eventually find its way into a waterway somewhere

**ACT Wildlife is a volunteer-based organisation and relies on donations to provide 24x7 phone, transport and rescue services.**

(Pictured; a swan entangled with several fishing lures)



**Please help us to keep our wildlife safe. If you have any questions or concerns about wildlife contact ACT Wildlife on 0432 300 033.**

### **Gordon Community Centre**

The Gordon Community Centre is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am - 3pm.  
Our address is 110 Lewis Luxton Avenue, Gordon (opposite the IGA). Telephone 6284 7003.  
People in need are welcome to access our free Emergency Food.

### **'Little Luxton' Cafe**

The Gordon Community Centre now has a cafe **open Monday - Friday from 7am - 2pm.**  
'Little Luxton' serves great coffee, toasties, sausage rolls, and treats. Three Mills Bakery delivers pastries daily.  
There is an outdoor seating area with room for prams, and even a sandpit with toys. One dollar from every coffee goes to support the food pantry and other programs at the Centre. Find out more at [littl luxton.com](http://littl luxton.com).

**This Easter weekend be vigilant, careful, thoughtful and, of course, NEIGHBOURLY.**

**Follow the tips below to help keep you and your home safe and secure:**

- If travelling, exercise safety on the roads, and remember, double demerit points will apply.  
In anticipation of larger volumes of traffic please allow extra travel time.
- Never keep large amounts of cash at home.
- Ensure that all doors and windows are locked - use a dead or double lock on outside doors.  
Lock up sheds and garages so thieves cannot gain access to ladders and tools which they could use to gain access to your home.
- If your home is alarmed, consider leaving a key with a family member or trusted neighbour.
- Use automatic timers to control lights and devices .
- Never leave keys anywhere near the front door; burglars know where to look.
- When you go out at night, consider leaving the lights on, curtains drawn and a TV, radio or music on so it appears as if someone is at home.

**If you do arrive home and notice signs of a break-in:**

1. Don't go in or call out – the intruder could still be inside.
2. Use your mobile or go to a neighbour's home to call the Police.
3. Don't touch anything or tidy up.



**Triple Zero**  
Emergency, police, fire  
or ambulance



**131 444**  
For police assistance



**1800 333 000**  
Crime Stoppers

**Thank you!** The Committee wishes to acknowledge and express its sincere appreciation to the following for their continued invaluable support.

**McIntyre Property** (Col McIntyre)

for generously sponsoring the printing of the Gordon NHW newsletter.

### **Newsletter Deliverers**

Without your significant voluntary contribution we simply would not be able to deliver the Newsletter to the post boxes of the more than 3,000 residents of Gordon.

It is important to note that Neighbourhood Watch newsletters are classified by the ACT Government as 'community Information' and therefore are able to be delivered to all letter boxes regardless of notices to the contrary on any particular letterbox. However, should a resident expressly ask a deliverer not to deliver the newsletter then we will abide by the complainant's request. In order to facilitate this, the complainants address will be required.

#### AN EXCERPT OF CRIME STATISTICS.

A = assault. AO = assault other. AR = arson. B = burglary. BT = Bicycle theft. CD = criminal damage  
GBH = grievous bodily harm. MVT = motor vehicle theft. N = number plate theft. OT = other theft.  
PD = property damage. ST = shop stealing.

WOOTTON	AO	02/12/22	POINT HUT	OT	28/02/23			
SCARFE	AO	10/01/23	CARSLAKE	PD	26/12/22			
SID BARNES	B	13/12/22	MAILEY	PD	25/12/22			
MATSON	B	20/12/22	OXENHAM	PD	05/01/23			
JIM PIKE	GBH	10/12/22						
SHEAN	GBH	10/01/23						
KNOKE	MVT	18/12/22						
THARWA	MVT	19/12/22						
WOODFULL	N	01/02/23						
MOON	N	08/02/23						
CARSLAKE	N	09/02/23						
DARBY MUNRO	OT	01/12/22						
MAILEY	OT	25/12/22						
CHEVALLEY	OT	13/02/23						
ATTWOOD	OT	11/02/23						

**Are you a member of ACT Neighbourhood Watch?**

**If not, please think about joining today — membership is FREE!**

**Go to <http://www.nhwact.com.au/> and download a membership form.**

**Newsletter Deliverers always welcome.**

**Approximately one hour of your time every 2 to 3 months is all it takes to contribute positively to your local community. For further information, contact us at:**

**[gordon@nhwact.com.au](mailto:gordon@nhwact.com.au)**

**Thank you!**

**Gordon Neighbourhood Watch Committee**

**<[gordon@nhwact.com.au](mailto:gordon@nhwact.com.au)>**

**Area Coordinator:**

Mark Lynch

**Secretariat:**

Pauline Smith

**Treasurer:**

Michele Chaseling

**Fundraiser & Newsletter Coordinator:**

Sheila Lynch

**Executive Committee members:** Phil Smith

**The aims of Neighbourhood Watch:** To help people to protect themselves and their properties and to reduce the risk of crime by means of improved home security, greater vigilance, accurate reporting of suspicious incidents to the police and Crime Stoppers and by fostering a friendly community spirit.