

GORDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Est. July 2011

Fostering pride and respect in our local community

Newsletter Edition 52: June/July 2025

Available online: www.nhwact.com.au>Newsletter>Gordon

Find us on Facebook

We have 957 Gordon NHW members on Facebook

Duke of Edinburgh International Award participant Chloe busy engaging in her chosen community activity.



As part of her work for the Duke of Edinburgh award (DofE), fourteen year old Chloe from Gordon decided to conduct a clean-up around Point Hut Pond Park. This work will be ongoing throughout the coming months. When asked what prompted her to do this, she responded, "I live in Gordon, and when walking or riding through the area I often notice rubbish laying around, both on the grass near the children's play areas and in the pond. The award requires me to perform a community task, and although this is a simple idea, I see it as being beneficial to users of the park and also wildlife."

When asked why she decided to participate in the DofE award, Chloe stated, "I wanted to challenge myself to something a little different, do something for the community and be involved in activities that are new to me."





McIntyre PROPERTY

Happily supporting the Gordon Community

Col McIntyre and his team are proud to continue to support the Gordon Neighbourhood Watch program. We have staff who live in your area, so look to your local team for all your **real estate sales** and **property management** requirements.

6294 9393 | 277/311 Anketell St Greenway | mcintyreproperty.com.au

FROM ACT POLICING - ELDER ABUSE

The elderly in our community are one of our most vulnerable groups in relation to crime and abuse.

ACT Policing has a Seniors Liaison Officer dedicated to regularly engaging with members of the senior community to give them information and advice about how to protect themselves and stay safe.

Possible signs of elder abuse

Watch out for signs an elderly neighbour or family member may be suffering from elder abuse.

Unusual activity: such as more or less visits to the home and signs of anxiety after visitors.

Neglect: a usually well maintained home now looking rundown.

Finances: large financial hand-outs, money missing from their home, and elderly being pressured to make withdrawals.

Isolation: visitors are not welcome by other family members or carers.

Verbal: constant loud yelling/swearing.

Physical: unusual or re-occurring injuries.

I'm a victim of elder abuse, what do I do?

Seek help - Call police on 131 444 if you are being abused or threatened.

- Ask police for a free home security assessment.
- Call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 to report suspicious activity. Information can be anonymous.
- Join Neighbourhood Watch to feel more connected and aware of crime in your area and talk to someone who isn't known to your abuser.

Did you know?

- 75 to 85 per cent of those aged 65+ have experienced elder abuse including bullying, theft and denial of proper care.
- Elders are often too scared to report being scammed due to backlash from their family.
- 85 and over are the most vulnerable age group.
- Two out of three abused have experienced at least two prior incidents before the abuse is brought to someone's attention

Types of elder abuse include:

- Financial
- Physical
- Sexual
- Psychological
- Verbal

Scams

Criminals often single out the elderly believing they are soft targets.

Scammers may call asking you to transfer money or buy large amounts of gift cards. End the conversation, do not call back. Scammers can stay on the line, so use a different phone to call a trusted adult or police.

Be aware of door knockers selling unnecessary maintenance work. Never let anyone inside your house, particularly if you did not request them to be there.

Too good to be true - you won't become an instant millionaire because you received a letter, email or telephone call from a stranger out of the blue. Delete the email or hang up the phone - it's a scam.

I'm worried about being scammed, what can I do?

Have a trusted person teach you about computer security and scams.

Educate yourself and know what the latest scams are by visiting Scamwatch:

https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/

If you have been scammed, report it using the **ReportCyber** portal:

https://www.cyber.gov.au/report-and-recovery/report or seek advice by visiting your local police station.

ACT COUNCIL ON THE AGEING (COTA)

COTA offers a wide range of services, some of which are listed below.

For more detailed information please go to: <u>https://cotaact.org.au</u> or e-mail <u>contact@cotaact.org.au</u> or telephone 6282 3777.

Get IT Digital Support

Council on the Ageing (COTA) ACT is offering free one-on-one digital learning sessions to seniors. The Get IT – seniors technology hub will be a place where senior Canberrans can come and ask questions in a relaxed way and learn about how to get online and become confident with using technology.

Seniors Information Service

The Seniors Information Line is an ACT-wide information and referral service run by COTA ACT. You can contact us by phone, email or come into the office and get information and advice on a range of issues and topics.

Housing and Ageing Options

COTA ACT's Housing Options Advisory Service can assist older people, and those caring for older people, who need help with a number of housing issues.

Strength for Life

Strength for Life is an exciting new exercise program in the ACT, created to help people over the age of 50 improve their physical strength and fitness.

ACT Seniors Card

Learn about the ACT Seniors Card scheme and get information and eligibility and how to apply.

Hughes Community Shed and Garden

The Hughes Community Shed is a place to meet, socialise, learn new skills and practice old ones.

Hughes Veterans Memorial

COTA ACT delivers information and services across the community a number of ways.

Hall and function room hire

Council on the Ageing (COTA) ACT is based in the Hughes Community Centre. We offer several rooms for hire in a clean, friendly and well-appointed environment; and at very reasonable rates.

Publications

Council on the Ageing (COTA) ACT provide a number of printed and web based publication resources for senior Canberrans. You are welcome to come into the office to pick up a printed version of the products available on the publication web page or view them here online.

Community Education

COTA ACT delivers information and services across the community a number of ways.

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 contributions we simply would not be able to deliver the Newsletter to the post boxes of the more than the 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.

| HARRY HOPMAN TALLON DARCY ATTWOOD HARRY HOPMAN THARWA | AO B MVT N OT PD | 18/03/25 08/02/25 28/02/25 25/03/25 04/03/25 11/03/25 | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | FLEGG SCHOFIELD VAN PRAAG | MVT N PD | 19/05/25 20/05/25 16/05/25 |
| WOODCOCK BUSHBY CARSLAKE STACE SHERWOOD | AO PD PD PD PD | 08/04/25 13/04/25 15/04/25 24/04/25 24/04/25 | | | |

Little Luxton is your friendly neighbourhood cafe in Gordon.

Nate and the team are locals who care about building community and serving people well. Along with your coffee you can get fresh pastries and treats from Three Mills Bakery and Sonoma. Or for something more substantial there are toasted sandwiches and sausage rolls. One dollar from every coffee sold goes to support local community programs. As of **10 June 2025 \$108,390** has been raised. There is space for children to play, and toilet / change facilities. Little Luxton is open Monday to Friday from 7am - 2pm, as well as Saturday from 8am - 12 noon.

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.org.au

Gordon Neighbourhood Watch Committee

| Area Co-ordinator: | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Treasurer: | | | | |
| Executive Committee Members: | | | | |

Mark Lynch Sally Kasparek Phil Smith

gordon@nhwact.org.au

Secretariat: F Fundraiser & Newsletter Co-ordinator: S

Pauline Smith Sheila Lynch

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 ACT Policing and Crime Stoppers and by fostering a friendly community spirit.