



WANNIASSA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER – March 2024

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About NHW

NHW is a community crime prevention program aimed at promoting a sense of safety, security and wellbeing. It seeks to reduce crime, particularly property crime and offences against the person and it aims to promote a secure environment resulting in safe and active neighbourhoods. Residents are encouraged to keep an eye on their neighbours' properties, particularly if no one is home, and to report any suspicious behaviour to police.

You can show your support for this worthwhile organisation by becoming a member, with **no fee involved**. The Application Form can be accessed via the following website link: www.nhwact.org.au.

Anyone interested and available to assist with the delivery of Newsletters in their nearby streets, or being involved with any other NHW activities, should contact the Area Coordinator, either by phone or (preferably) email. The relevant details are shown in the banner heading above.

Report it

Report any suspicious activity, person or vehicle to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at act.crimestoppers.com.au. If a crime is in progress or police attendance is required, it should be reported promptly to the police on 131 444.

Crimes can also be reported online (preferably) at either the 'report a crime' tab at www.police.act.gov.au or the 'report crime online' link at act.crimestoppers.com.au or direct to a police station. For record purposes, we encourage you to also indicate that you are a Neighbourhood Watch member when reporting incidents or providing information.

It is important to report all suspicious activity no matter how trivial it may appear. A particular incident may be one part of other related incidents and this report may lead police to apprehend offenders.

What do I report?

It is important to notice and report any identifying features of suspicious people or vehicles. The more distinguishing features noticed the better to assist patrolling police with their enquiries.

These can include such things as gender, height, shape, hair, clothing, any particular traits or characteristics such as walking with a limp, stooped, etc.

Similarly for vehicles, any additional details including number plate, size of vehicle, SUV 4-wheel drive, sedan, station wagon, hatchback, colour, any damage or conspicuous features in the paintwork, significant wheels, etc.

Also, if you notice a child or animal trapped in a hot vehicle, please call 000 to ensure prompt attention from both ACT Policing and ACT Ambulance.

ACT Policing Information

Most home break ins happen during the day. Burglars usually look for doors that are unlocked and windows left open so they can grab what they can and make a quick getaway. If a burglar can't see an easy way in, they often won't try.

Burglary, or housebreaking, is one of the most common crimes in the ACT. By applying a number of simple and inexpensive home security measures, you can deter intruders and reduce the risk of burglary to your home.

The SafeHome Program

If you need assistance to make your home more secure you may be eligible for assistance from the SafeHome Program funded by ACT Government.

The SafeHome Program aims to improve home security for households in the ACT that are vulnerable to property crime.

A trained assessor offers face to face home safety assessments in the home to victims of property crime, vulnerable families/persons at risk and can make minor modifications to eligible residences.

Free practical workshops are available for community groups, presenting low-cost ideas and strategies to improve home security.

If you are interested in a home security assessment or involved in a group that would like to discuss security, contact the SafeHome team at SupportLink on 1300 656 200 or safehome@supportlink.com.au.

Source: ACT Policing at www.police.act.gov.au/safety-and-security

What's in a Name?

The theme used for local street names throughout Wanniasa was Victorian State Politicians.

Langridge Street: *George David Langridge* (1829-1891), auctioneer and Victorian politician; MLA Collingwood 1874-91; Commissioner Public Works 1880-81; Commissioner Trade and Customs 1883-86; Chief Secretary, Commissioner, Trade and Customs and Minister for Health 1890-91.

Monthly Crime Statistics

The following criminal offences have been reported in Wanniasa since the previous Newsletter.

Offence type	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Assault (ABH & Other)	4	3	4
Burglary dwellings			
- Denigan Street	1	-	-
- Highett Street	-	1	-
- Garratt Street	-	-	1
- Michie Street	-	-	1
- Ashley Drive	-	-	1
Motor vehicle theft			
- Ricardo Street	1	-	-
- Sullivan Crescent	1	-	-
- Methven Place	1	-	-
- Denigan Street	-	1	-
- McBryde Crescent	-	1	-
- Holden Crescent	-	1	-
- Ashley Drive	-	-	1
Number plates theft			
- Bailes Court	1	-	-
- Gartside Street	-	1	-
- Byrne Street	-	1	-
- Ashley Drive	-	1	-
- McBryde Crescent	-	1	-
Shop stealing			
- Sangster Place	1	1	1
- Comrie Street	1	1	-
- Denigan Street	1	4	-
Arson			
- Ashley Drive	1	-	-
Other theft			
- Guthridge Crescent	1	-	-
- Ashley Drive	1	-	-
- Maltby Circuit	1	-	-
- Lansell Circuit	1	-	-
- Ricardo Street		1	-
Other property damage			
- Ricardo Street	1	-	-
- Bolton Place	1	-	-
- Ashley Drive	1	-	2
- Garratt Street	-	-	1
- Wynne Street	-	-	1
- Wheeler Crescent	-	-	1
- Sangster Place	-	-	1
Total	20	18	15

Facebook Presence

A reminder that ACT Neighbourhood Watch has an active Facebook page where you will find some useful information regarding various local activities and community events. There is also some helpful advice relating to community safety and directions on crime prevention and reporting.

You can find us at www.facebook.org/NHWACT/, or can also connect through our website at www.nhwact.org.au where you will also find several worthwhile items of general interest.



Other Important Information

Neighbour Day – Sunday, 31 March

Neighbour Day provides the perfect opportunity to increase social connection in your local areas. You can celebrate in a variety of ways including hosting or supporting events that assist and engage your communities, with the aim of fostering strong personal connections that last the whole year-round.

The theme for Neighbours Every Day is **‘Create Belonging/ Share Belonging’** – a call to action to everyone (individuals, community groups, business and governments) to take actions that create social connection and foster respectful relationships.

Belonging doesn’t come easily. True inclusion and lasting connection take consideration and practice. Belonging isn’t exclusive or selective. True social connection can only occur when everyone feels like they belong. True belonging must be shared.

We can share belonging by focusing on genuine inclusion and connection, making others welcome, and by challenging ourselves to connect through empathy and compassion. Through this, we can create respectful relationships that last.

Knowing your neighbours, and your broader community has never been more important. Relationships Australia as the home of Neighbour Day believes in the power of the Australian community to support its most vulnerable, to tackle loneliness, and to work together to ensure healthy and safe relationships.

Neighbour Day is the perfect opportunity to reach out and connect with your neighbours. It is about building better relationships with the people who live around us, especially the elderly and weak. Neighbours are important because good relationships with others can and do change communities.

Neighbours Every Day aims to empower everyone in Australia to **create and share belonging – every day**.

Source: Relationships Australia at neighbourseveryday.org/

As previously advised, the annual **Good Neighbour Award** is now presented with other ACT Neighbourhood Watch awards at our annual awards ceremony later in the year.

Useful Numbers:

Emergencies (serious/life threatening)	000
Police Attendance (minor crimes)	131 444
Crime Stoppers (provide info)	1800 333 000
Access Canberra	132 281
Water/sewer emergency	131 193
Lifeline Crisis Support	131 114
State Emergency Service	132 500
RSPCA	6287 8100
Conflict Resolution Service	6162 4050
Home Safety Program	6163 9084
Citizens Advice Bureau	6257 1687

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Proudly supporting Wanniasa Neighbourhood Watch