

WANNIASSA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER – September 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

Lock and hide

Even when your car is locked, it's not impossible to get in. Offenders are less likely to break in if they can't see anything worth stealing. So take the time to lock your doors, close the windows and don't leave valuables in sight.

- Lock your car even if you're only gone for a few seconds
- Close all windows
- Don't leave valuables in the car like your wallet, phone or tablet even if it is locked, even loose change can tempt a thief
- Don't keep registration papers or anything valuable in the glove box
- Never leave spare keys and garage remotes in your car (even if they are hidden)
- If possible, park in a garage, your backyard or carport rather than in your driveway or on the street
- Be aware of where you are parking if you're out at night, park in a secure carpark or an area that is well lit.

Play it safe with your ride

Statistics show cars are more likely to be stolen from a car park than any other location. Your driveway and house are also target locations.

We also know thieves continue to target older vehicles that don't have an engine immobiliser because they are easier to steal. If you have an older vehicle, you should fit it with an Australian Standards approved engine immobiliser or buy a steering wheel lock. If your car was manufactured after 2001, your car will have come with an immobiliser.

About 1 in 4 cars are stolen using keys. For newer cars, thieves are now breaking into houses to find the car keys and then stealing the car.

Outsmart the offender by always taking your car keys with you, and when at home leave them in a safe place. If you leave home without your car, play it safe with your ride and don't leave your car keys in plain sight in your house.

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

Monthly Crime Statistics

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

Offence type	June	July	Aug.
Assault (ABH & Other)	4	3	5
Motor vehicle theft - Michie Street	-	-	1
Number plates theft - Ashley Drive - Denigan Street	- -	- -	1 1
Shop stealing - Sangster Place - Comrie Street - Denigan Street	2 3 2	4 2 3	1 4 3
Other theft - Comrie Street - Sangster Place	2 -	1 1	2 -
Other property damage - Comrie Street	1	-	-
Total	14	14	18

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.

What's in a Name?

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

Embling Street: *Thomas Embling, MRCS, LSA* (1814-1893), medical practitioner and Victorian politician; Superintendent Yarra Bend Asylum 1852-53; MLC North Bourke 1855-56; MLA Collingwood 1856-61, 1866-67.

William Henry Embling, LFPS, LRCP (1840-1912), medical practitioner and Victorian politician; resident surgeon Melbourne Hospital c1863; Honorary Physician Alfred Hospital from 1877; MLC for North Central Province 1892-1904, for South Province 1904-12.

Notice of Meeting

The 2024 Annual General Meeting of ACT Neighbourhood Watch Association Inc. will be held at **7.00pm on Wednesday, 16th October 2024** in the Private Dining Room at the Canberra Southern Cross Club in Woden.

All members are invited and welcome to attend the meeting, with advance notice to be provided to our NHW Secretary at secretary@nhwact.org.au.



Other Important Information

Happy Birthday

We are proud to announce that Neighbourhood Watch is this year celebrating 40 years of activity in the ACT. This important milestone is being acknowledged with a 40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner to be held in late September.

Invitations have been extended to several key people involved with the organisation's establishment and growth during its early years, as well as main volunteers involved in "steering the ship" in recent years.

Neighbourhood Watch Week

We are planning to once again partner up with Bunnings Warehouse to combine Neighbourhood Watch Week and Crime Prevention Week from **28 October to 3 November**.

It will serve as community crime prevention education exercise, with an opportunity for excellent tips and advice on ways to keep your property and family safe and secure.

Neighbourhood Watch is a community led safety and awareness program working in partnership with police, to prevent crime, stop social isolation and increase the safety, security and quality of life for everyone in the community.

Neighbourhood Watch Week aims to raise public awareness of the benefits of belonging to a local Neighbourhood Watch group and encourages participation in Neighbourhood Watch programs throughout Australia.



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
Home Safety Program	6163 9084
Citizens Advice Bureau	6257 1687

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Proudly supporting Wanniasa Neighbourhood Watch

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