



YARRALUMLA

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ACT
NEWSLETTER



From the Area Coordinator

First, thanks to the thoughtfulness of the Minister of the Uniting Church, Rev James Ellis and his Church Council, we are able to reinstate our 16 April meeting which we shall have in the Church Hall starting at 7.15pm. I had been resigned to having to cancel our meetings when the School was not available during school holidays but James's intervention has overcome that and the Committee is most grateful. You will note the time of 7.15pm which is 15 minutes ahead of when we used to meet but the Committee agreed it was a suitable time as it would enable us to finish that bit earlier.

The crime statistics for March were relatively modest for us and our neighbours in Curtin and Deakin. I say relatively because I am conscious of the fact that the victims of these crimes will be no less traumatised than if there were more such incidents. Both Deakin and Yarralumla reported 4 crimes and Curtin 3. We had one case of assault other while Deakin reported one of assault causing actual bodily harm. Curtin and Deakin had two cases each of the theft of motor vehicles and we had one bicycle stolen. The other crimes were other theft and other property damage.

Some of you may have had the opportunity to watch or listen to the address recently to the National Press Club by former Australian of the Year, Rosie Batty. You may recall that her son was killed ten years ago by his father and Ms Batty's address demonstrated that, despite a great deal of attention directed towards the reduction in, if not the elimination of, domestic violence, it remains ten years on as one of the scourges of our nation. Ms Batty quoted statistics that shame us as a society.

I do not have the answer or answers to such behaviour but suggest that we ensure we do all in our power to prevent it happening. If we see tensions building or signs that might be the case, we should attempt to calm the situation before it escalates into violence. Intervention is obviously fraught when such a scene is in play but, where it is dangerous to do so, we should alert the police who will respond as quickly as possible. While we are fortunate to live in a country free from the violence that besets much of the world, we must not be complacent and we need to respect each other's right to a safe and peaceful life.

I received recently an email with tips on how to prevent home security as a defence against home burglary. The reason for the email was the increase in 2023 of residential burglaries in Victoria. There were nine headings:

- Get to know your neighbours and local community.
- Lock your doors, windows and garages.
- Invest in security equipment (and keep it monitored and serviced).
- Keep your property well-lit.
- Keep valuables out of sight.
- Secure valuable documents and identifiers.
- Keep your garden neat and tidy.
- Leave a spare set of keys with a trusted person.
- Avoid posting your holiday photos on social media.

Another tip was to ensure your home and contents insurance policies are up to date and adequate.

Until next month...

YARRALUMLA CRIME STATISTICS

MARCH 2024

DATE	STREET	OFFENCE TYPE
01/03/24	BANKS	Other theft
09/03/24	HAMPTON	Assault other
15/03/24	FLYNN	Bicycle theft
20/03/24	FLYNN	Other property damage



Police 131 444
Save 000 for emergencies



Home Security Checklist Exterior Doors & Sliding Doors

- All doors are locked at night, when I leave the house, or if I am home and cannot see them (e.g. if I'm in another room or the backyard), even if it's just for a few minutes.
- The front door is not obscured by trees and shrubs and is visible from the street.
- All doors have a working, keyed entry lock and/or deadlock.
- Exterior doors have security screens which cannot be damaged or easily removed.
- Visitors can be identified without opening or unlocking the door.
- Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbour, friend or family member and NOT under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, in a fake rock, or in the letterbox.
- All external doors are heavy, solid core wood or metal, and are not hollow or lightweight.
- Glass panels in or near doors are reinforced in some way, so they are not easily shattered (e.g. with security film, metal grates, or security screens).
- The door locks were changed when I moved in.
- Sliding glass doors have strong, working key locks.
- A piece of wooden dowel or a metal pin has been installed to secure any sliding glass doors, to prevent the door from being shoved aside or lifted off the track.

YARRALUMLA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

MEETINGS

THIS
MEETING

16 APRIL 2024
UNITING CHURCH HALL

NEXT
MEETING

21 MAY 2024

VENUE

**YARRALUMLA
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

START TIME

7:15 PM

The NHW committee generally meets on the **third Tuesday** of the month at the school, and when school facilities are not available, in the Uniting Church hall. The NHW committee does not meet formally in Dec and Jan during the long school break.

CONTACTS

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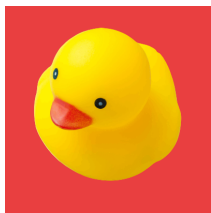
NHW SECRETARY VACANCY

We need a new Secretary!
No prior secretary experience is necessary, the role requires only basic record-keeping and minute-taking at monthly meetings.

for more information or to register your interest contact our Area Coordinator today!

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