



BONYTHON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Fostering Safer Communities



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NOVEMBER 2019

Bonython residents

I can hardly believe that another year has passed and Christmas is knocking on the door. If you are looking for some ideas for presents, consider some practical ideas a key safe to securely store keys outside, a personal alarm, easy to install window alarms, replica dummy outdoor camera/alarm, door shield for screen doors. These types of gifts will last a long time and by applying some simple home security measures you can help deter and reduce the risk of burglary to any home.

You will notice in the crime stats that there are no recorded offences for the month of October, which I double checked with ACT Policing as being correct. A first ever for Bonython and one that, with all residents taking responsibility and action to protect themselves and report crime, can happen again – Go Bonython!

As promised, ACT Healthy Waterways have been invited back as guest speaker for the Nov meeting. Last year they provided a very interesting presentation on the new weir, Lake Tuggeranong and other pond works around our area. This year they will provide an update and current research on the effect of the works.

I would like to acknowledge Jacob Stanton from *Independent* for his effort and contribution to Bonython Neighbourhood Watch in arranging the printing of each newsletter in 2019. The support of Jacob and his agency provides a newsletter to be delivered to every household in Bonython. This support is greatly appreciated.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Carol

SECURITY AND SAFETY TIPS FOR SUMMER AND THE HOLIDAYS

Summer and holidays are a fun time but it's also a time to be mindful of safety and crime prevention. Help keep you and your home safe by following the tips below:

- Ⓢ Be careful what you post on line – the wrong people may use this information from social media to target your home.
- Ⓢ Don't leave signs that you are away – ask a friend or neighbour to check on your property. Use timers on lights, radio etc.
- Ⓢ Shop safely on line.
- Ⓢ Be alert to fake rental, travel, parcel delivery and other scams.
- Ⓢ Keep your Christmas tree with gifts underneath away from windows or doors with a view to outside. It is an advertisement and open invitation.
- Ⓢ Be careful of delivery parcels that are likely to be left on your porch.
- Ⓢ Be vigilant of suspicious behaviour and report anything untoward to Crime Stoppers.
- Ⓢ Keep your handbag safely with you when shopping or at social events, particularly in crowded areas.
- Ⓢ Even if the weather is hot, don't leave windows or doors open in empty rooms. Have good locks on your doors and window or upgrade security screens.
- Ⓢ Decorate safely. Be aware of leaving Christmas lights on when you are not at home and don't overload power boards.
- Ⓢ **Finally and most importantly – be bushfire ready.**

Independent Tuggeranong

Proudly supporting the Bonython Neighbourhood Watch program, promoting security, safety and crime prevention in the community.

Jacob Stanton is your trusted Bonython specialist. Call him for expert advice and service for all your real estate sales and property management needs.

independent

Jacob Stanton

0499 999 734 | 02 6209 7733
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... from the Police Desk



When do I call Crime Stoppers?

Crime Stoppers welcomes and accepts information about crimes that have happened in the past. Crime Stoppers are also interested in information members of the public may have in relation to a crime that is likely to be committed.

To report this information, call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, or via Online Reporting crimestoppersact.com.au. Crime Stoppers operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also make an anonymous report.

Crime Stoppers does not handle emergencies. In a situation that requires urgent police attendance please call 000.

Please note that Crime Stoppers will not send patrol vehicles to attend incidents. For Police Assistance in a non-emergency please call 131 444.

If you have been the victim of a crime, for example your car has been stolen or house burgled, you should report the incident to your local police on 131 444

CRIME STATS

SEPTEMBER

REAY	Assault causing ABH
ALFORD	Assault other
HELPMANN	Theft of Vehicle Number Plates
COOMBE	Theft of Vehicle Number Plates

OCTOBER

There are no recorded offences of assault, theft, arson, property damage or burglary for this month

Although the ACT has some of the lowest property crime rates in Australia, we need to remain vigilant because property crime can affect anyone of us.

Property crime is often opportunistic in nature and everyone has a responsibility to take steps to keep their property safe. There are many things we can do to protect ourselves against theft and crime at home, at work and when in travelling around town.

To raise awareness the ACT Government and ACT Policing, with the support of ACT Neighbourhood Watch and ACT Crime Stoppers have launched a new Property Crime Prevention campaign *Outsmart the Offender* with an initial focus on car theft - see below.

LOCK AND HIDE TO PROTECT 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.

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, don't leave your car keys in plain sight in your house.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police Contact	Contact	Description
Emergency	000	Call Triple Zero (000) in an emergency or life threatening situation. You can also download the Emergency+ app to contact emergency services.
Police Assistance Line	131 444	Call this number if you require police assistance, If you are a victim of crime. Traffic related matters
Crime Stoppers	1800 333 000	Call Crime Stoppers if you have information about a crime. You may remain anonymous.
If you are a victim of Crime	131 444	Attend your local Police Station or call 131 444
Traffic related matters	131 444	
To report an online SCAM or fraud		http://www.scamwatch.gov.au/
To report Cybercrime:	www.acorn.gov.au/	ACORN (The Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network). This includes any information about online scams and fraud, identity theft, attacks on computer systems and illegal or prohibited online content.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – A concern for working parents

- Know where your kids are. Check in with them regularly if they are at home alone.
- Write your full name, address, work phone number and leave it handy. Kids can panic in situations and not remember details.
- Provide them with a back up contact (and details) should you not be available.
- Know what they are doing on line – what and when they are accessing the internet.
- Know to teach them how to respond in an emergency or an unsafe situation.
- Agree on friends they can have over, times they can leave the house and where they can go.
- Talk to them about their day and find out what they have been doing. Be aware if they don't want to tell you.
- Have a lock box for spare house keys.

Make sure the whole family knows to call 000 in an emergency – police, ambulance or fire.

These days children are able to access the internet via smart phones and tablets at a much younger age, therefore it is important that you teach your children early on about online safety. To ensure children remain safe:



- know when and where they are accessing the internet
- use password protection and parent authorisations so you know what they are accessing
- teach them about being respectful online
- ensure they know to keep personal information private such as name, age and address
- remind them not to engage with people they don't know.

If you suspect that your child is being groomed online, call police on 131 444 and provide as much detail about the incident as possible. If necessary, it will be referred to police for investigation. You can also submit an [Online Child Protection Form](#).

Source – police.act.gov.au



Thank You!!!

To all the workers who help bring together the newsletter and its distribution across the suburb - a big thank you for your efforts and involvement in making Bonython Neighbourhood Watch a positive and active group.

RESIDENTS VOICE

After the last newsletter an email was received from a resident following the inclusion of the street name 'Mary Lee St'. Below is an excerpt from that email

"I read about the origins of the Mary Lee Street in the newsletter. Coincidentally I have just finished a book about the women of the Destitute Asylum in Adelaide written by Mary Geyer. The Distressed Women's and Children's Committee was responsible for this institution. It is very interesting though heart breaking reading. Just thought some of the Newsletter readers may be interested in reading further on the subject".

If anyone has any information on history or stories on past times of our suburb that you think others may be interested in, please send an email to bonython@nhwact.com.au

FRIENDS OF STRANGER POND



Our Pond is looking fantastic, with lots of water birds and plenty of water at this stage of the year.

Our Waterwatch testing shows that the water quality is quite good, with the healthy reeds and plants around the edges playing their part in keeping it healthy.

The big news is that we have been successful in the ACT Governments 'Adopt-a-Park' grant scheme! We have upcoming meetings to finalise what this means in dollars and actions, what improvements we are funded for, but this is very exciting. Further news coming.

Put the 1st March 2020 in your diary as CleanUp Australia Day for Stranger Pond and the surrounding area in Bonython. You can register as a volunteer at their web site.

As you wander around the Pond, perhaps with your dog or children, you could take a small watering can or bucket and give our volunteer-planted plants a drink.

Cheers

Nev

strangerpond@gmail.com



Bonython Residents' Public Meeting

Tuesday 26 November 7:30pm

Bonython Hall - Barr Smith Ave

Guest Speaker: Healthy Waterways – Isabella/Stranger Pond and Lake Tuggeranong

Find out more about

- The biggest rain garden in the southern hemisphere, Upstream from Stranger Pond, Isabella Plains where it filters the collection of storm water before it enters Lake Tuggeranong.
- Lake Tuggeranong research trial results so far. Are these in-lake trials effective?
- What are the square orange bags floating in Lake Tuggeranong?
- Will the blue-green algae be around again this summer?
- How does the rain garden remove the pollution that pose such a risk to public health and aquatic life and frequently close the lake for recreational use?
- Are the new measures really limiting the amount of pollutants entering the lake?
- Is the wetland attracting birds and other native wildlife?
- How the new plants in the wetlands are coping through the establishment period in their new habitat.
- Is the sediment in Lake Tuggeranong improving?
- How often is water quality monitored?



- **Anyone is welcome to the meeting to find out more or to ask questions.**
- **Bring a friend and stay for a cuppa.**

Help fight crime in the ACT

You can play a critical role in the fight against crime in the community



BONYTHON

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Educating and supporting residents to feel safe and secure



BONYTHON WALKING GROUP

With daylight saving the walks commence at 9 am.

If you are interested in a walk around the neighbourhood and get to know some of the locals, meet out the front of the Bonython Hub, Barr Smith Ave. The walks normally last about 45 mins followed by coffee and chat at Cake Lovers for those who can stay after.



For more information contact Rosalie on 6293 9245

TAKING ACTION TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR PROPERTY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO CRIME IN THE COMMUNITY

GASK PLACE

PLACES AND NAMES

ARTHUR CECIL GASK 1872 -1951

Gask was a dentist and novelist. Born in England he immigrated with his family to Adelaide in 1920. He set up practice rooms in North Terrace being among the first in the city to do extractions with gas. While waiting for his patients he began writing crime fiction. South Australian crime mysteries abound in his novels. He published his first novel 'The Secret of the Sandhills' in 1921. Other publications include 'The Dark Highway', 1928, and 'The Lonely House', 1929. He established a reputation as a writer of renown both in Australia and overseas publishing on average one book a year until his death.

LOCAL BUSINESSES

B NHW encourages all residents to support local businesses

- Tuggeranong Link 6292 1604
- Cake Lovers 6293 9309
- Valley Physiotherapy 6293 3838
- Tim McCreath Fencing 0418 555623
- Matt the Gardener 0404 094095