



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Chifley - March & April 2020

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Connecting to our Indigenous community

In February 2019, Tracey Hull joined the ACT Policing's Community Safety, Education and Diversion Team as one of their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Liaison Officers (ALO).

I am a proud Wiradjuri woman. I love getting out into the community and assisting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of all ages.

As an ALO, I act as a conduit for the community and can report issues or concerns back to ACT Policing management for resolution. Our team assists to develop crime prevention strategies like supporting and encouraging positive role models to enhance police and Indigenous youth relationships.

A deep understanding of cultural sensitivities helps me serve clients the best way I can. Our team want people to be as comfortable as possible, so we address issues in ways that are familiar to them. For instance, I help women and children with women's business; directing them to services that are tailored to their

specific needs. Our team also has male ALOs who assist with men's business.

An important part of the ALO's role is working with teams from various internal and external agencies to avoid or reduce future interaction of our clients with the justice system; helping both victims and perpetrators of crime. These agencies cover health, employment, youth and human rights and more.

The ALO also plays an active part in the ACT's specialist courts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This includes identifying culturally appropriate programs for young people as Magistrates often request that they develop relationships in the community.

As well as being active in the community, we educate our ACT Policing community.

If you would like to speak to an ALO, you can contact the team at Belconnen Police Station on 02 5126 9103, or via email at ACT-CRED@afp.gov.au



1/33 Altree Court, PHILLIP, ACT 2606
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Hosted by NHW Australasia, this inaugural conference brings together NHW groups, volunteers, members, police, specialist organisations and the general public as part of a major new national and international initiative.

The two-day program includes topics such as: illegal drug use, crime prevention through environmental design, information provision and improved online skills. Speakers include technical experts, police, other law enforcement agencies, government bodies, and other specialist organisations. University experts will also provide latest research and development information.

The conference equips individuals, communities and businesses with knowledge and best-practice strategies from global and local perspectives, enhancing community safety and building community and individual resilience.

NHW members can register at discounted rates. To find out more, register and/or submit abstracts at: <https://bit.ly/2vNqOxp>

Ramblings around Woden – a new chapter 3

Neville Bleakley, for Curtis Campbell of Torrens

There were many initiatives taken by the farmers of the Valley when fire affected them in January 1952. Whole Valley families tried to save their properties, stock and possessions.

However, according to Mrs Nancy Campbell of “Yarra Glen”, two contingents of outsiders stopped the damage from being far worse.

While haystacks, livestock and paddocks burned, cadets from Duntroon saved the Eddison house at Yamba. Many of them played tennis on Sundays at “Yarra Glen” and certainly repaid their hosts' hospitality.

The other contingent was staff from J.B. Youngs of Kingston and Queanbeyan. The owners closed both stores so that staff could fight, a selfless gesture, typical of the times.

Charlie Russell of “Narrabundah” was at Jervis Bay on that day and chartered an aeroplane home. However, despite the efforts of people such as Marion Douglas (nee Eddison) and her husband Lloyd “Smoky” Douglas who cut fences on the Russell property to allow sheep to escape into the Valley cemetery, the Russells lost their 100-year old homestead.

The Valley women pulled their weight in many other ways as well. Diana Eddison reportedly fed hundreds of people - including the Duntroon cadets and J.B Young staff - as they came by her home to help.

More to come in the next newsletter

ACT NHW BOARD

We are pleased to welcome Detective Station Sergeant Mark Rowswell as the ACT Policing representative on the ACT NHW Board. Mark has had experience in a wide variety of policing areas and is currently Officer in Charge of Community Safety. We look forward to working with him.

Please assist our police. Report all suspicious activities to CRIME STOPPERS on 1800 333 000

For police attendance call 131 444. For all life-threatening emergencies and crimes in progress call 000.



Mark replaces Detective Sergeant Kylie Lawson. We thank her for her considerable contribution to NHW and wish her all the best in her new posting.



Apartment buildings are just as vulnerable to break-ins and theft as other types of homes. Poor safety habits can put the whole building at risk as most offenders are opportunists who use quick and easy entry and exit points.

In Canberra, property and goods kept in storage cages or vehicles in undercroft garages are common targets. Bicycles and other items not secured on balconies (on any level) are also easy to steal.

It is easy to overlook the benefits of knowing your neighbour. If you and your neighbour are aware of each other's regular movements, crime can be stopped by being alert to anything out of the ordinary.

Raise security concerns about common areas with your strata manager.

Balcony and apartment security

Many high-rise break-ins occur by intruders climbing apartment building balconies and entering through unlocked balcony doors or windows.

- Lock balcony doors and windows at all times, even when at home. A cheap quick fix is using a **piece of dowel** in a window or sliding door runner.
- Don't leave **keys or wallets** near balcony doors where burglars can see them or smash a glass panel and reach them. Wallets and cards are quick wins for burglars and more offenders are breaking into homes to grab car keys and then steal cars.
- Most burgled homes do not have a **security alarm**. These can help protect a home and comes with a range of features that suit different budgets.
- **Place stickers and signs around the home** to warn burglars of an alarm system or Neighbourhood Watch.
- **Install sensor lights** that turn on with movement.
- **Check outside lights, windows and door locks regularly** to ensure they are operating correctly.
- **Keep valuables somewhere hard to find**. Burglars often target jewellery in jewellery boxes on bedroom dressers and other valuables in bedside drawers and cupboards.
- **Never leave keys in the mailbox**. Instead, leave them with a trusted neighbour or friend or invest in a good quality lock box/key safe.
- **Mark property using an engraver, ultraviolet (UV) pen or microdots**.

Apartment dwellers and other residents can discover more tips for protecting their valuables at the *Outsmart the Offender* Website: <https://bit.ly/3aCO3Jh>

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An AMBER Alert is an urgent broadcasting alert system utilised by ACT Policing in time critical situations to seek assistance from the community to safely locate a child in either a child abduction or high risk missing child case.

In the instance of a high risk missing child, an AMBER Alert will be issued through media outlets and ACT Policing’s social media channels via a media release. This complements the existing measures used to seek the public’s assistance via traditional media channels, but with a greater sense of urgency.

In the instance of a child abduction, and in addition to distribution of information by ACT Policing on its social media channels and via media outlets, Facebook will issue an AMBER Alert. The 24-hour alert is delivered to the top of people’s news feeds who are in the area where the child was abducted. The alert will include a photograph, description and police contact details.

All about vulnerable road users

Children, pedestrians, motorcyclists, and cyclists are all considered vulnerable road users, because they do not have the same protection as a car during a collision.

Officer in Charge of Traffic Operations, Detective Station Sergeant Marcus Boorman said police expect all road users to obey the road rules so everyone makes it home safely.

“It’s important to remember the road is a shared space, regardless of how you use the road,” Det. Station Sergeant Boorman said. “I’d ask drivers to pay particular attention in and around school zones. Children are some of our most vulnerable road users, and their unpredictability exposes them to high risk around traffic.”

The police also remind drivers that vehicles must remain at least one metre away from a cyclist in speed zones at or below 60km/h, and 1.5 metres in speed zones above 60km/h.

Crime Statistics

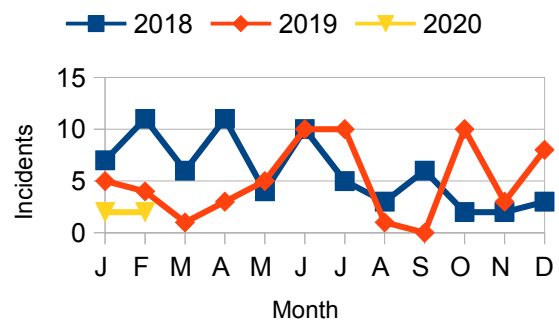
January 2020 – Two incidents

Chifley	Shop stealing	21/01/20
Medley	Theft of vehicle number plates	01/01/20

February 2020 – Two incidents

Thomson	Assault other	11/02/20
Maclaurin	Other property damage	15/02/20

Monthly incident tracker



Keep up to date with the Coronavirus
 Department of Health - <https://bit.ly/2wBLQ25>
 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade - <https://bit.ly/2wBLZCF>

