



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mawson/Swinger Hill - May & Jun 2020

Area Coordinator: vacant - expressions of interest to president@nhwact.com.au
Website: www.nhwact.com.au

Seeking a sponsor

COVID-19 has unfortunately meant our valued long term sponsor has withdrawn funding for printing of this newsletter.

We're now seeking sponsors so we can continue printing and delivering the Mawson/Swinger Hill NHW Newsletter. If any readers are in a position to help us, then for a modest outlay your business or association logo, contact information, website URL and other information could appear on our front page and be delivered to every household in Mawson and Swinger Hill.

For further information please contact president@nhwact.com.au

NHW newsletters are available online at <https://www.nhwact.com.au/newsletters.php>



Recent analysis by AFP Forensics Intelligence Team shows that offenders gained access to unsecured properties in more than 60% of home burglaries for the first 3 months of this year. This illustrates the importance of home security.

Detective Station Sergeant Mark Rowswell said that criminals will take any opportunity to enter a home and take items of value.

“The more secure the home – the less likely it will be burgled. Our message is simple - ALWAYS lock your doors and windows. We urge everyone to consider the security of their residences to make it as hard as possible for opportunistic thieves.”

Simple tips include:

- Lock your doors and windows – even when you are at home.
- Install sensor lights or security cameras.
- Don't leave your keys or wallet near the front door.
- Keep other valuables somewhere hard to find.
- Never leave keys hidden outside.

If you hear an intruder in the home, don't risk it. Immediately leave the house and go to a safe place. Call Triple Zero (000) and wait for the police.

Find out more at Outsmart the Offender <https://bit.ly/30BWJhs>

Fix My Street

Fix My Street is an online tool that lets you search and use a range of municipal and city services. You can also report an issue and track its progress. There's also an interactive online map that displays maintenance works

Issues that you can report on -include

- Abandoned shopping trolleys
- Abandoned vehicles
- Air pollution
- damaged paths

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COVID-19 update

Look at Canberra's COVID-19 dashboard

<https://bit.ly/2zOsbhn>

Discover Canberra's COVID-19 recovery plan

at <https://bit.ly/3h5QOa0>

To keep ourselves safe continue to:

- Stay 1.5 metres away from other people whenever we can.
- Maintain good hand washing and cough/sneeze hygiene.
- Stay home when unwell, and get tested if you have respiratory symptoms or a fever.
- Consider using the COVISDSafe app. Delete it after the pandemic is over. Download from <https://bit.ly/2XFRkno>



During the COVID-19 pandemic, ACT Policing are focused on businesses that may have closed for extended periods due to COVID-19, by liaising with business owners and patrolling premises.

Officer in Charge of Community Safety, Detective Station Sergeant Mark Rowswell said "Property crime is opportunistic in nature. There are many simple steps that can deter would-be thieves. If you have CCTV, a security alarm and security lighting, keep them on. These can deter burglars and assist police to identify offenders."

"If you don't have CCTV, consider if now is a good time to install it. Speak with your neighbouring business to identify if common cameras can be installed. Businesses can also display clear warning signs – referencing security features such as alarms and CCTV, or that no money or valuables are kept on site."

The ACT Keyholder Register is a list of the names and after-hours contact details of business owners or others who have access to a business premises. It's stored on the Australian Federal Police's (AFP) confidential computer system and only accessed when police need to contact the business owner or another relevant contact person after hours"

Business owners can register their details on the ACT Keyholder Register to improve safety procedures. Keep the information up to date. The register is at <https://bit.ly/2MFjpFi> Find out more about business security at <https://bit.ly/2AQDwNT>

New President for NHW ACT

Margaret Pearson has stepped down as President of NHW ACT. She'll focus on her role as company Secretary for the Board of Neighbourhood Watch Australasia. Margaret's extraordinary contributions to NHW ACT over the 15 years included 2 terms as President.

NHW ACT welcomes long-time Canberra resident Laurie Blackall as President. In 1989 Laurie established NHW in Florey. He continued the relationship when he retired from the public service and became Area Coordinator for Casey. Last year he was elected Treasurer for the Board.

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.



Laurie sees a great future for NHW in the ACT, and "looks forward to the challenges of building capability to remain relevant in an increasingly connected and informed community".

Ramblings around Woden – a new chapter 3

Neville Bleakley, for Curtis Campbell of Torrens

The fortitude of those affected by the Valley fires of Jan 1952 is to be admired. The Russells re-built their house "Narabundah" in what is now Endeavour St Red Hill, where Charlie lived - the bane of Canberra bureaucracy - until his death on 26 Mar 1998, aged 93. Marion Douglas nee Eddison of "Yamba" said her father – know to all as Capt Eddy - drank a couple of whiskies then said "What the hell... let's get on with it". Mrs Eddy, on finding that her garden was not badly burnt, said "There's always someone worse off than you".

Let's finish on a lighter note. Mr Kent Hughes was Minister for the Interior at that time. He saw the effect of the fires, and contacted the Campbells of "Yarra Glen" to find out what had happened. George Campbell's son Robert offered to drive Mr Hughes and his secretary to the site of the fires. They went in the Campbells' Land Rover, which had the back up. By the time the party had traversed the blackened paddocks, everyone in the vehicle was covered with black ash. What was worse, the Minister and his secretary had to attend a cabinet meeting in Melbourne that afternoon, so they had a flight to catch. They had a quick wash in the Campbell bathroom at "Yarra Glen", then went on their way. One can only imagine the greetings from their cabinet colleagues when they arrived in Melbourne!

Robert Campbell's efforts were worth it. Mr Hughes found that the Electricity Authority was responsible for starting the three fires. Valley farmers received compensation from the Government for their losses.

The Inspector returns

14 ACT Policing officers have received the title of Inspector. This happened last in the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in the 1990s, before a review and a flattening of the AFP's structure.

Since then, officers in charge of sections, police stations and specialist units held the rank of Station Sergeant. The new title reflected the seniority of these officers within ACT Policing, but did not provide parity of rank with other police jurisdictions.

Restoring the title to to ACT Policing, and soon the wider AFP, ensures officers with significant service and experience, working across police jurisdictions, are recognised.

Chief Police Officer for the ACT, Deputy Commissioner Neil Gaughan said the title of Inspector holds great significance for police across Australia.

"A number of current and former ACT Policing officers campaigned for some time to reinstate Inspectors in the AFP. Their compelling arguments and pursuit of this change has come to fruition, and while it is appreciated now, I know the upcoming leaders of ACT Policing will also thank them for their efforts."

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- damaged recreation facilities, such as BBQs and parks
- damaged survey infrastructure
- domestic garbage and recycling collection
- election campaign signage
- graffiti
- illegal parking
- litter and dumping
- noise pollution
- overgrown grass in public places
- pot holes, sign damage, traffic lights and other road-related issues
- road safety and traffic concerns
- stormwater drains
- street lights
- street sweeping

Use Fix My Street at <https://bit.ly/3fi11OU>

Crime Statistics

March 2020 – 14 incidents

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Mawson | Assault other | 19/03/20 |
| Wilkins | Motor vehicle theft | 19/03/20 |
| Wilkins | Motor vehicle theft | 30/03/20 |
| Mountevans | Other property damage | 19/03/20 |
| Wilkins | Other property damage | 21/03/20 |
| Athlon | Other property damage | 31/03/20 |
| Athlon | Other theft | 09/03/20 |
| Mawson | Other theft | 10/03/20 |
| Heard | Other theft | 19/03/20 |
| Aurora | Other theft | 27/03/20 |
| Mawson | Other theft | 28/03/20 |
| Heard | Theft of vehicle number plates | 01/03/20 |
| Beasley | Theft of vehicle number plates | 01/03/20 |
| Wilkins | Theft of vehicle number plates | 29/03/20 |

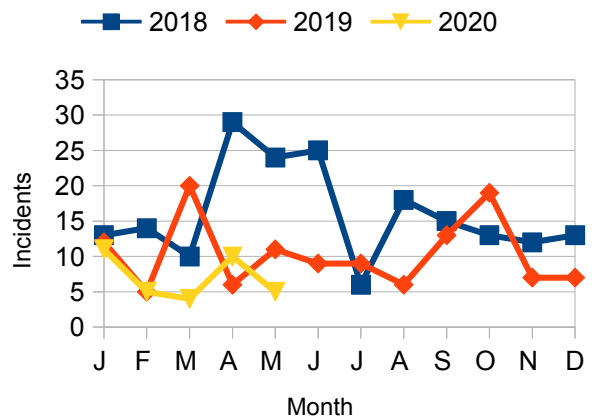
April 2020 – Ten incidents

| | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Wilkins | Assault causing ABH | 23/04/20 |
| Power | Assault other | 22/04/20 |
| Wilkins | Motor vehicle theft | 20/04/20 |
| Mawson | Motor vehicle theft | 27/04/20 |
| Ainsworth | Other theft | 16/04/20 |
| Mawson | Other theft | 20/04/20 |
| Mawson | Shop stealing | 13/04/20 |
| Mawson | Shop stealing | 20/04/20 |
| Mawson | Shop stealing | 27/04/20 |
| Shackleton | Theft of vehicle number plates | 11/04/20 |

May 2020 – Ten incidents

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Hurley | Assault other | 20/05/20 |
| Hurley | Other property damage | 27/05/20 |
| Mawson | Other theft | 16/05/20 |
| Mawson | Shop stealing | 20/05/20 |
| Wilkins | Theft of vehicle number plates | 13/05/20 |

Monthly incident tracker



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