



GORDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Est. July 2011

Fostering pride and respect in our local community

Newsletter Edition 53: December 2025/January 2026

Available online: www.nhwact.com.au>Newsletter>Gordon



We have 1,100 Gordon NHW members on Facebook

Wishing the residents of Gordon, Banks and Conder a happy and safe festive season

From the Committee of Gordon Neighbourhood Watch

It's that time of year again when everyone and everywhere tends to get busy. Planning special events, holidays, end of term activities for the children, shopping, getting last minute jobs done before the end of year close-down, and the list goes on.

Amid all of this hustle and bustle, and increased pressure, it is easier for mistakes to happen, for things to go unnoticed and perhaps forgotten. It is at this time of year when the incidence of theft, burglary, scamming and other shady activities increase.

Those who are 'up to no good' will look to take advantage of our guard being down.

Shopping Centres are busy, giving the potential pick-pocket more pockets to pick from!

Roads are busier, and with the festive season comes festive behaviour.

Being 'merry' can for some mean increased alcohol consumption, and perhaps other substances, causing a lack of judgement and control.

A great deal of money may be spent purchasing gifts, many of which the would-be thief or burglar would like to get their hand on, as would scammers enjoy duping us out of our hard earned cash.

This festive season be vigilant, careful, thoughtful and, of course, NEIGHBOURLY.

Gordon Community Centre

The Gordon Community Centre is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am - 3pm.

Our address is 110 Lewis Luxton Avenue, Gordon (opposite the IGA). Telephone 6284 7003.

People in need are welcome to access our free Emergency Food.



Triple Zero

Emergency, police, fire
or ambulance



131 444

For police assistance



1800 333 000

Crime Stoppers



McIntyre
PROPERTY

Happily supporting the Gordon Community

Col McIntyre and his team are proud to continue to support the Gordon Neighbourhood Watch program. We have staff who live in your area, so look to your local team for all your **real estate sales** and **property management** requirements.

6294 9393 | 277/311 Anketell St Greenway | mcintyreproperty.com.au

There is a trend for an increase in burglaries around the festive season, so it is important that people take simple precautions to protect themselves and their belongings.

Criminals are on the look-out for signs of expensive purchases such as visible presents underneath Christmas trees, packaging on display or old electronic goods left outside suggesting new replacements have been purchased.

As market conditions have changed, the items most desired by burglars have also altered. Jewellery, cash and high value items that can be readily sold onto others are now more desirable than bulkier items that have little resale value. Smartphones, laptops, tablet computers and e-readers are all attractive items; their size and high value mean that they are also items on burglars' wish lists.

Burglars can be both highly organised international criminals and opportunistic thieves but they all looking for high value items and an easy way in. Anyone can become a victim of burglary but poor home security is the factor that makes people most vulnerable.

Burglary and theft can mean much more to victims than the loss of possessions. It can leave them feeling scared, violated and vulnerable. If items are not insured, it can also lead to financial as well as emotional strain. A burglary or theft over the festive period can almost certainly ruin the holiday.

Follow the tips below to help keep your home safe and secure this festive season:

- Don't leave presents under the tree particularly if visible from windows or doors.
- Dispose of present packaging carefully as empty boxes left outside can advertise that you have new and desirable goods inside your home.
- Add expensive items to your household insurance policy without delay.
- Never keep large amounts of cash at home.
- Ensure that all doors and windows are locked - use a dead or double lock on outside doors. Lock up sheds and garages so thieves cannot gain access to ladders and tools which they could use to gain access to your home.
- Never leave keys anywhere near the front door; burglars know where to look.
- When you go out at night, consider leaving the lights, curtains drawn and a TV, radio or music on so it appears as if someone is home.

If you do arrive home and notice signs of a break-in:

1. Don't go in or call out – the intruder could still be inside.
2. Go to a neighbour's to call the Police.
3. Don't touch anything or tidy up.

Scams Awareness empowers Australians to spot a scam

Scams work because they look like the real thing and scammers contact you when you're not expecting it, or busy trying to do many things at once.

Criminals take advantage of new technology, new products or services and major events. They use them to create believable stories that convince you to give them your money, financial or personal details.

Always stop and check before you act. Scammers rely on you not spotting these warning signs because you're in a hurry, you don't want to miss something that looks like a great deal, or because it seems like it's from someone you trust.

<https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/stop-check-protect/what-to-do-if-youve-been-scammed>

From ACT Policing - National Security

Although Australia is a safe country, terrorist attacks are possible and we need to do what we can both to prevent and prepare for them.

What you do matters in an attack and the three words you need to remember are *ESCAPE. HIDE. TELL.*

- **ESCAPE** – move quickly and quietly away from danger, but only if it is safe to do so
- If you can't escape, **HIDE** – stay out of sight and silence your phones
- **TELL** – call the police by dialling Triple Zero (000) when it is safe

Escape. Hide. Tell Empowering all Australians

Escape. Hide. Tell. materials have been launched to ensure all Australians have access to clear and inclusive advice on what to do during an armed attack.

Although Australia is a safe country, we are still at risk from weapons attacks, particularly in crowded places. In the unlikely event that you are confronted by an attacker armed with a gun, knife or other weapon, being prepared and knowing how to respond can save lives.

The materials have been updated to reach all Australians, including culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, First Nations people and people living with disability along with their carers. The enhancements include translations in multiple languages and animated videos to improve understanding and recall.

Research shows that while many people instinctively know to move away from danger, fewer are aware of other critical actions, such as silencing their phone or calling Triple Zero (000) when safe. Exposure to *Escape. Hide. Tell.* messaging can significantly improve awareness and ensure people remember the steps they can take to protect themselves and those around them.

The updated *Escape. Hide. Tell.* materials were introduced at the Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee Business Advisory Group Forum, which includes operators of major crowded places such as shopping centres, stadiums, transport hubs and universities. These organisations are being encouraged to incorporate the materials into their emergency procedures and staff training.

This advice is being provided so the public is prepared if there is an incident, not because one is expected. Preparedness is not about creating alarm. It is about ensuring people have confidence in their ability to respond if something goes wrong.

For more information visit the National Security website:

<https://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/what-can-i-do/what-to-do-in-an-attack>

Minimising the risk

In 2017 the *Australia's Strategy for Protecting Crowded Places from Terrorism*

<https://www.nationalsecurity.gov.au/crowded-places-subsite/Files/australias-strategy-protecting-crowded-places-terrorism.pdf> was released with the objective of protecting the lives of people working in, using and visiting crowded places by making these places more resilient to terrorism.

It is important to regularly review your security, emergency and business continuity plans. Identifying potential targets for terrorist attack is not precise but there are things that you can do to minimise the risk.

National Security Hotline (NSH)

The National Security Hotline will never contact you first.

Please hang up if you get an unsolicited call and never respond to an unsolicited SMS or email. If you suspect you have been contacted by a scammer, please contact the **National Security Hotline on 1800 123 400.**

Thank you! The Committee wishes to acknowledge and express its sincere appreciation to the following for their continued invaluable support.

McIntyre Property (Col McIntyre)

For generously sponsoring the printing of the Gordon NHW Newsletter.

Newsletter Deliverers

Without your significant voluntary contributions we simply would not be able to deliver the Newsletter to the post boxes of the more than the 3,000 residents of Gordon.

It is important to note that Neighbourhood Watch Newsletters are classified by the ACT Government as 'Community Information' and therefore are able to be delivered to all letter boxes regardless of notices to the contrary on any particular letterbox. However, should a resident expressly ask a Deliverer not to deliver the Newsletter then we will abide by the complainant's request. In order to facilitate this, the complainants address will be required.

AN EXCERPT OF CRIME STATISTICS

A = assault. **AO** = assault other. **AR** = arson. **B** = burglary. **BT** = Bicycle theft. **CD** = criminal damage.
GBH = grievous bodily harm. **MVT** = motor vehicle theft. **N** = number plate theft. **OT** = other theft.
PD = property damage. **ST** = shop stealing.

MINNETT	AO	07/06/25	ARMBRUSTER	B	05/09/25
THOMAS HALES	OT	20/06/25	LEWIS LUXTON	OT	05/09/25
			SID BARNES	OT	18/09/25
BUSHBY	MVT	05/07/25			
CERUTTY	PD	04/07/25			
ATTWOOD	PD	07/07/25			
LEWIS LUXTON	PD	21/07/25			
			KNOKE	AO	03/10/25
FLEGG	MVT	19/08/25	SHERWOOD	B	26/10/25
O'HARA	OT	05/08/25	CHEVALLEY	OT	05/10/25
			OXENHAM	PD	05/10/25

Little Luxton is your friendly neighbourhood cafe in Gordon.

Nate and the team are locals who care about building community and serving people well. Along with your coffee you can get fresh pastries and treats from Three Mills Bakery and Sonoma. Or for something more substantial there are toasted sandwiches and sausage rolls. One dollar from every coffee sold goes to support local community programs. As of **20 November 2025 \$131,782** has been raised. There is space for children to play, and toilet / change facilities. **Little Luxton is open Monday to Friday from 7am - 2pm, as well as Saturday from 8am - 12 noon.**

Newsletter Deliverers always welcome!

Approximately one hour of your time every 2 to 3 months is all it takes to contribute positively to your local community. For further information, contact us at: gordon@nhwact.org.au

Gordon Neighbourhood Watch Committee

gordon@nhwact.org.au

Area Co-ordinator:	Mark Lynch	Secretariat:	Pauline Smith
Treasurer:	Sally Kasperek	Fundraiser & Newsletter Co-ordinator:	Sheila Lynch
Executive Committee Members:	Phil Smith		

The aims of Neighbourhood Watch: To help people to protect themselves and their properties and to reduce the risk of crime by means of improved home security, greater vigilance, accurate reporting of suspicious incidents to the ACT Policing and Crime Stoppers and by fostering a friendly community spirit.