



# WANNIASSA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER – March 2026

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## About NHW

NHW is a community crime prevention program aimed at promoting a sense of safety, security and wellbeing. It seeks to reduce crime, particularly property crime and offences against the person and it aims to promote a secure environment resulting in safe and active neighbourhoods. Residents are encouraged to keep an eye on their neighbours' properties, particularly if no one is home, and to report any suspicious behaviour to police.

You can show your support for this worthwhile organisation by becoming a member, with **no fee involved**. The Application Form can be accessed via the following website link: [www.nhwact.org.au](http://www.nhwact.org.au).

**Anyone interested and available to assist with the delivery of Newsletters in their nearby streets, or being involved with any other NHW activities, should contact the Area Coordinator, either by phone or (preferably) email. The relevant details are shown in the banner heading above.**

## Report it

Report any suspicious activity, person or vehicle to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at [act.crimestoppers.com.au](http://act.crimestoppers.com.au). If a crime is in progress or police attendance is required, it should be reported promptly to the police on 131 444.

Crimes can also be reported online (preferably) at either the 'report a crime' tab at [www.police.act.gov.au](http://www.police.act.gov.au) or the 'report crime online' link at [act.crimestoppers.com.au](http://act.crimestoppers.com.au) or direct to a police station. For record purposes, we encourage you to also indicate that you are a Neighbourhood Watch member when reporting incidents or providing information.

It is important to report all suspicious activity no matter how trivial it may appear. A particular incident may be one part of other related incidents, and this report may lead police to apprehend offenders.

## What do I report?

It is important to notice and report any identifying features of suspicious people or vehicles. The more distinguishing features noticed the better to assist patrolling police with their enquiries.

These can include such things as gender, height, shape, hair, clothing, any particular traits or characteristics such as walking with a limp, stooped, etc.

Similarly for vehicles, any additional details including number plate, size of vehicle, SUV 4-wheel drive, sedan, station wagon, hatchback, colour, any damage or conspicuous features in the paintwork, significant wheels, etc.

## ACT Policing Information

### - Vehicle Security

Car break-ins can be opportunistic crimes. Follow these tips to ensure the next car stolen won't be yours.

### Lock and Hide

Even when your car is locked, it's not impossible to get in. Offenders are less likely to break in if they can't see anything worth stealing. So take the time to lock your doors, close the windows and don't leave valuables in sight.

- Lock your car even if you're only gone for a few seconds
- Close all windows
- Don't leave valuables in the car like your wallet, phone or tablet even if it is locked, even loose change can tempt a thief
- Don't keep registration papers or anything valuable in the glove box
- Never leave spare keys and garage remotes in your car (even if they are hidden)
- If possible, park in a garage, your backyard or carport rather than in your driveway or on the street
- Be aware of where you are parking if you're out at night, park in a secure carpark or an area that is well lit.

### Play it safe with 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.

About 1 in 4 cars are stolen using keys. 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, play it safe with your ride and don't leave your car keys in plain sight in your house.

Source: <https://police.act.gov.au/crime-and-prevention/>

## NHW Signage

As previously indicated, some additional and replacement NHW signs have been installed in several suburbs around Canberra in recent months to enhance our overall image. The project is ongoing and is being extended across various suburbs. You may have noticed a faded or damaged sign near you, so feel free to pass on the location details so we can replace it with a shiny new one.

## Monthly Crime Statistics

The following criminal offences have been reported in Wanniasa since the previous Newsletter:

Offence type	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Assault (ABH & Other)	1	2	7
Motor vehicle theft			
- Comrie Street	1	-	-
- Athllon Drive	-	1	-
- Dyte Place	-	-	1
- Ashley Drive	-	-	1
Number plates theft			
- Rylah Crescent	1	-	-
- Ricardo Street	1	-	-
- Guthridge Crescent	-	1	1
- Sullivan Crescent	-	-	1
Bicycle theft			
- Burrowes Place	-	-	1
Shop stealing			
- Sangster Place	7	-	2
- Comrie Street	1	-	2
- Denigan Street	1	1	2
- Gartside Street	-	1	-
Other theft			
- Sangster Place	1	-	-
- McBryde Crescent	2	-	-
- Nimmo Place	1	-	-
- Fincham Crescent	-	1	-
- Comrie Street	-	-	1
Other property damage			
- Ashley Drive	1	-	-
- Lansell Circuit	-	1	-
- McBryde Crescent	-	1	1
- Athllon Drive	-	1	-
- Wheeler Crescent	-	1	-
- Thornley Place	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>

## What's in a Name?

As you may be aware, the theme used for local street names throughout Wanniasa was Victorian State Politicians.

**Sullivan Crescent: James Forester Sullivan** (c1815-1876), storekeeper and Victorian politician; aided the formation of Bendigo Municipality 1855; MLA for Mandurang 1861-71, for Collingwood 1874-76; Minister for Mines 1863-66, Burke and Wills Commissioner 1861.

## Other Important Information

You will find much interesting and worthwhile community information for members and other ACT residents on the ACT NHW website at [www.nhwact.org.au](http://www.nhwact.org.au).

There is also a new option under the Membership tab titled "Volunteering Opportunities" to be used to advertise positions that progressively become available. This includes the important position of Membership Officer, as well as other tasks involved with administering our Facebook presence in various suburbs across the ACT. Full details can be accessed at the following link:

<https://nhwact.org.au/index.php/volunteering-opportunities/>.

## Facebook Presence

A reminder that ACT Neighbourhood Watch has an active Facebook page where you will find some useful information regarding various local activities and community events. There is also some helpful advice relating to safety and security, with directions on crime prevention and reporting.

You can access us at [www.facebook.com/NHWACT/](http://www.facebook.com/NHWACT/), or can also connect through our website at [www.nhwact.org.au](http://www.nhwact.org.au) where you will also find several items of general interest.

Also, we are continuing to expand our overall Facebook presence and to establish further Groups in various suburbs, as well as the recent combined Group for Monash/Wanniasa. You are invited to visit and contribute relevant community information of interest to the Group that can be accessed at the following link:

[www.facebook.com/groups/monashandwanniasanhwact](http://www.facebook.com/groups/monashandwanniasanhwact).



## Useful Numbers:

Emergencies (serious/life threatening)	000
Police Attendance (minor crimes)	131 444
Crime Stoppers (provide info)	1800 333 000
Access Canberra	132 281
Water/sewer emergency	131 193
Lifeline Crisis Support	131 114
State Emergency Service	132 500
RSPCA	6287 8100
Home Safety Program	6163 9084
Citizens Advice Bureau	6257 1687

Proudly Supported by

Mark McCann  
Director

McCann