



WANNIASSA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER – September 2025

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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.

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. 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 or the 'report crime online' link at 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

Stranger Danger

- What to teach your children to keep them safe

Parents and guardians are encouraged to educate their children on good personal safety practices including 'stranger danger' awareness. Some points to reinforce with your children are:

- walk to school in groups and not alone
- don't walk around the streets alone, ring your parents to pick you up
- let your parents know where you are going and if your plans change
- don't approach cars if someone stops and asks questions.

Teach your children to remember information such as your address and mobile phone number, and how to identify a trusted adult if they need help.

If your child comes home and informs you of an incident, contact police immediately on 131 444. If you notice any one acting suspiciously around children, contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via the [online reporting form](#).

Hot cars

On a typical Australian summer day, the temperature inside a parked car can rise quickly and to extreme temperatures. You may think that leaving children locked in the vehicle for only a few minutes is fine, but it is extremely dangerous. A young child will quickly dehydrate, lapse into unconsciousness and may never fully recover.

Please be mindful and ensure wherever you go, regardless of how quickly the stop is, to always take the children with you. As stressful and time consuming as this can be, don't put children at risk.

If you see a child or infant trapped or unattended in a car, call Triple Zero (000) for immediate assistance from both ACT Policing and ACT Ambulance Service.

Source: <https://police.act.gov.au/community-safety/>.

Notice of Meeting

The 2025 Annual General Meeting of ACT Neighbourhood Watch Association Inc. will be held at **7.00pm on Tuesday, 14th October 2024** in the Private Dining Room at the Canberra Southern Cross Club in Woden.

All members are invited and welcome to attend the meeting, with advance notice to be provided to our NHW Secretary at secretary@nhwact.org.au.

Monthly Crime Statistics

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

Offence type	June	July	Aug.
Assault (ABH & Other)	1	1	3
Motor vehicle theft			
- Gaunson Crescent	-	1	-
- Sulwood Drive	-	-	1
- Grattan Court	-	-	1
Number plates theft			
- Maltby Circuit	-	1	-
Bicycle theft			
- Athllon Drive	-	1	-
Shop stealing			
- Gartside Sreet	1	7	1
- Sangster Place	1	3	10
- Comrie Street	5	-	3
- Denigan Street	-	-	-
Other theft			
- McBryde Crescent	1	-	-
- Sangster Place	-	1	-
- Cruikshank Street	-	1	-
Other property damage			
- Ashley Drive	1	-	-
- Staughton Place	1	-	-
- Methven Place	1	-	-
- Gartside Sreet	2	-	-
- Garratt Street	-	1	-
- Wheeler Crescent	-	1	-
- Cuthbert Circuit	-	1	-
- Ashley Drive	-	1	-
- Ricardo Street	-	-	1
Total	14	20	20

It is most concerning to note the increasing number of local Shop Stealing offences over recent months.

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/, or can also connect through our website at www.nhwact.org.au where you will also find several worthwhile items of general interest.

Also, we are currently engaged in expanding our overall Facebook presence and establishing further Groups in various suburbs, including a new 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.

Other Important Information

Neighbourhood Watch Week

We are planning to once again partner up with Bunnings Warehouse to combine Neighbourhood Watch Week and Crime Prevention Week from **13-19 October**.

It will serve as community crime prevention education exercise, with an opportunity for excellent tips and advice on ways to keep your property and family safe and secure.

Neighbourhood Watch is a community led safety and awareness program working in partnership with police, to prevent crime, stop social isolation and increase the safety, security and quality of life for everyone in the community.

Neighbourhood Watch Week aims to raise public awareness of the benefits of belonging to a local Neighbourhood Watch group and encourages participation in Neighbourhood Watch programs throughout Australia



NHW Signage

In recent months, some additional and replacement NHW signs have been installed in several suburbs around Canberra. The exercise 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.

What's in a Name?

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

Gartside Street: *Charles Percival Gartside* (1887-1958), Victorian politician and Company Director; Member Dandenong Shire Council from 1922; MLC South-Eastern Province 1937-55; Minister for Health 1948-50; Managing Director Gartside Brothers Pty Ltd; twice President and Life Member of St Vincent's Hospital and member of Rotary International.

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



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Proudly supporting Wanniasa Neighbourhood Watch