



YARRALUMLA

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ACT
NEWSLETTER



From the Area Coordinator

February proved to be a reasonably trouble free month with just three cases of other property damage reported. Curtin and Deakin each reported four crimes with one *motor vehicle stolen* in Deakin, three cases of *theft of number plates* in Curtin and one in Deakin, one case of *other theft* for each, and one of *other property damage* in Deakin.

While expressing hope that the low crime rate so far this calendar year is a portent for the rest of the year, I think we need to wait a little longer before declaring a trend and remain vigilant.

My computer and mobile phone show no sign of slowing down in spam/scam approaches. Recently, I received an email purporting to be from Telstra. It opened with a motherhood statement about letting clients have transparency and control over their data, thereby shaping their future (whatever that means). Then the punchline:

"If you want to continue opening your mailbox after March 4, 2025, you must first confirm that you accept the Terms of Service".

By clicking a highlighted section, likely giving them access to my account. Then the threat: *"You will be unable to access your account from March 31, 2025, if you do not agree to the revised Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. If you want a copy of your email account's contents, click here."*

Pretty sure this was a scam, I checked with Telstra, who confirmed it and pointed to a logo at the top and the description of me as 'Valued Customer' rather than addressing me by name as two examples of an approach different from those used by Telstra.

I am delighted to be able to advise that we now have a Treasurer, John, and we welcome him to the Committee and to Canberra. Unfortunately, we are again looking for a Secretary so, if you would be prepared to take on that role, I should like to hear from you. The role serves as a keeper of records and recording the minutes at our meetings (these are very informal occasions and, although we follow normal procedures, attendees are encouraged to roam far and wide in order to cover matters of mutual interest).

Two events of note for this month are the Volunteering ACT Annual Expo at the University of Canberra on 28 March and Neighbours Day on 30 March. If you are interested in any information in relation to these two events, please contact me and I shall share the details. NHW ACT will be represented at the former, and of course, the latter is what we are about. If you do not know your neighbours, reach out to them by making yourself known. I have mentioned previously that a significant percentage of criminal activity is opportunistic, so if we are observant and ensure that our neighbours know we are on hand to help, we can contribute to a reduction in opportunistic crime. I do not advocate intrusion into our neighbours' affairs but, simply, keeping our eyes and ears open if they are away or, in the case of the elderly living alone, ensuring that they are not forgotten.

Given the school holidays cover a large portion of the month, our next meeting after the March one will be in May.

Finally, I appreciate the feedback we receive from those of you who are kind enough to comment on the role of Neighbourhood Watch.

Until next month...

YARRALUMLA CRIME STATISTICS

FEBRUARY 2025

DATE	STREET	OFFENCE TYPE
23/12/24	BENTHAM	Other property damage
15/02/25	DENMAN	Other property damage
19/02/25	HOPETOUN	Other property damage



Police 131 444
Save 000 for emergencies



Neighbours Every Day

Create • Share • Grow • Belonging
Sunday 30 March 2025



What is Neighbour Day?

Neighbour Day is Australia's annual celebration of community on the last Sunday in March – 30 March 2025! It's a call-to-action for everyone to connect with their community in their own way.

Research shows community connections increase belonging, improve well-being, reduce loneliness, and boost resilience.

The theme for 2025 is **Create, Share, Grow Belonging** – encouraging daily actions to foster social connections. We challenge you to go beyond creating and sharing belonging – let's grow it together. We have created belonging for ourselves and others; shared through inclusion and connection; now it's time to grow through empathy and compassion.

By practicing empathy, embracing diversity, and fostering inclusive spaces, we can build lasting, respectful relationships that enrich all our lives. Join us in transforming our communities, one connection at a time, every day of the year. Visit neighbourseveryday.org for more information and resources.

Ideas to Create, Share and Grow Belonging

- Host a BBQ with neighbours
- Plan a 'bring a plate' street party
- Organise a game of anything on the local oval
- Have a party on your front lawn
- Meet for afternoon tea in the back paddock
- Enjoy a neighbourhood picnic in your favourite park
- Grab some takeaway coffees and invite your neighbour for a local walk and talk
- Or simply have a cup of tea or a chat with a new or old neighbour.

f /NeighboursEveryDay @ /NeighboursEveryDay

Relationships Australia

2025 Volunteering Expo

Friday, 28 March 2025, University of Canberra Refectory, 1pm to 8pm

Entry is free for all visitors. There will be amazing food and coffee vendors, free face painting, live music, games and a smoking ceremony, making this event a fun family event.



YARRALUMLA NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

MEETINGS

THIS MEETING	18 MARCH 2025
NEXT MEETING	20 MAY 2025
VENUE	YARRALUMLA PRIMARY SCHOOL
START TIME	7:15 PM

The NHW committee generally meets on the **third Tuesday** of the month at the school, and when school facilities are unavailable, in the Uniting Church hall. The NHW committee does not meet formally in Dec and Jan during the long school break.

CONTACTS

AREA COORDINATOR	IAN BROWN 6282 5205 brownid5@bigpond.net.au
SECRETARY	INTERESTED IN THIS ROLE? CONTACT IAN TODAY
NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION	ROSEMARY HARRISON 0419 410 922 rosemaryh@optusnet.com.au
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	REBECCA GEORGES absolutelybecky@hotmail.com
TREASURER	JOHN MCKENNA mckenjp@gmail.com



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Come along to the Canberra Runners **Jogalong & Mini Jog** on the first Sunday of each month at **Weston Park**.

Jogalong includes a 6 km handicap run for women and girls, and a 3 km run for women, and children (girls and boys) aged 12 years and under. Mini jog is a 2 km handicap run for girls and boys aged 12 years and under.

Canberra Runners members and non-members are all welcome. Visit the Canberra Runners website for more info: canberrarunners.org.au



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