



Marjorie McKenzie.
A great neighbour.

A disgraceful story

Imagine walking back to your room, half asleep, in the early hours of the morning, after a trip to the bathroom. The room is dark, and your eyes are bleary. Imagine your surprise to discover someone standing in front of your bedroom cupboard going through it. Now imagine you live alone. You are in your 80's. You are a woman. This is the second time it has happened.

That is exactly what Copperfield Street resident, Marita Pike, 88, experienced in April.

Marjorie McKenzie (pictured above) has lived next door to Marita for 40 years. She was awoken during the night when she heard a banging sound. It was her neighbour saying 'Help Me'. Marjorie got her inside, locked the door and called the Police and an Ambulance. The police arrived within minutes with a sniffer dog. The offenders had fled.

Sadly Marita felt too afraid to return to her home and has moved on to live in an aged care facility. The ladies were close neighbours and friends. It is becoming rarer perhaps, but in her hour of need Marita knew her neighbour would be there for her.

This type of crime is not a regular occurrence in Brisbane let alone in our normally safe suburb of Geebung. We have not written this article with a

view to scare anyone. On the contrary we feel it our duty to keep the residents of Geebung informed. We would like to offer some suggestions of what to do if you find yourself in a similar situation. Of course it is never the victim's fault. We should be able to leave the house wide open and feel safe, but sadly, it seems those days are long gone.

Queensland Department of Housing, supported by the Queensland Police, offer free Home Security Assessments where security assessors can inspect your home and can also advise on personal safety issues. You can contact them on 1300 880 882.

The Queensland Police Service advice for confrontation in the home is: There is no single 'right way' to respond to a confrontation or attack. Every situation is different. Your most effective weapons are your personal judgment and your commitment to preserving your safety. The response you choose should aim to best preserve your safety.

When dealing with an intruder in the home, choose the option you believe will keep you the most safe. Options may include:

- Dial Triple Zero (000) at the earliest opportunity.
- Leave the house immediately, with other occupants if possible, and go to a neighbour or somewhere safe to contact and wait for police.
- Turn on all the lights (inside and out), and make as much noise as possible to attract the attention of neighbours and passers-by and deter the intruder, e.g. activate your home or car alarm, turn the stereo and TV up to full volume.



- Leave the house in darkness and find a safe hiding place.
- If you are alone, call out to a fictitious person, e.g. Harry! I'm sure I heard something, I'm calling the police.
- If you arrive home and suspect that an intruder is inside, do not go in. Instead call the police.
- If an intruder confronts you, remove yourself from the situation quickly.

If you are unable to do this, other strategies may include: negotiating with the intruder; screaming; distracting the intruder to enable your escape; and/or physically defending yourself (using reasonable force).

Courtesy: www.police.qld.gov.au

If you noticed anything suspicious around the area of Copperfield Street in April, please contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.



Check Us Out - We've Gone Global

Our new digital editor Su Li has been hard at work and our new Geebung NHW blog is up and running! Go to <http://geebung.nhwq.org/> There



you'll find posts, newsletters and our meeting dates. It also shows QLD which features news, articles, alerts and warnings.

While you're there why not subscribe to get it sent straight to your inbox?

An Opportunity

Our Geebung NHW Area Co-ordinator Anne D'Silva, will be resigning in September as she is moving out of the area. So if you would be interested in being more involved in your community, please get in touch with us by Email:

geebungnhw@gmail.com or come along to our July 25 meeting at 7.15pm at the Geebung RSL.

Thank You



We would like to thank Sergeant Kerry McKay of the Queensland Police Service for hosting our 'Stop Elder Abuse' morning tea in June. It was very informative. We were glad to have the opportunity to reach out and discuss something that, due to its nature, isn't often talked about.

Smoother Roads Are Coming Our Way

Some road resurfacing will be taking place in Geebung. The following streets are scheduled for resurfacing in 2017-2018:

- Copperfield St
- Delaware St
- Ellison Rd
- Kirkham St
- Lauren St
- Mayflower St
- Newman Rd
- Piccadilly St
- Waring St



Giving back to the community

President of the Geebung Rotary Club Inc. Alan Bird, recently wrote to us. It turns out Alan was the original founder of the Geebung Neighbourhood Watch back in 1994. He used to write the newsletter for 700 Geebung households. He said 'Meetings were attended in reasonable numbers and interesting programs were implemented. The Police liaison officer attended our meetings, during which he reported on crime statistics. Boondall Police Station also arranged interesting educational evenings, when we were able to observe police officers involved in crime investigations. Speakers were invited to attend our meetings, particularly in regard to security, fire protection and other appropriate subjects. Great emphasis was also placed on the fact that resident observations were to be strictly



covert and under no circumstances approach criminals in their activities.' Currently Alan is seeking members for Rotary and asked if we could mention this in our newsletter. We have no affiliation with Rotary but as another Geebung community group, were happy to help them out. Rotary is involved in many projects both locally and

internationally. You can contact Alan if you are interested in more details. Email:

a.jbird@bigpond.com or phone 32694199.

Fire Hydrants

It was mentioned at the last NHW meeting that some markers, that indicate where the hydrants are located, are missing around Geebung. Check your street and if you notice this to be the case, drop us an email. We will then send this list to Urban Utilities, who maintain and inspect the hydrants, to come to our suburb and ensure the Queensland Fire and Emergency Service can easily find the hydrants in the event of a fire.

Also, they recommend the community can play an important role in helping to keep fire hydrants in good working order by:

- *Not planting garden beds over hydrants.
- *Keeping grass and other plants trimmed around hydrants.
- *Not building over the top of hydrants on footpaths and driveways.



Courtesy: urbanutilities.com.au

Coming Up.....

Our local Marchant Ward Councillor Fiona King will be available to discuss any local matter at her Mobile office. She will be in Geebung on Saturday July 29.

*8-8.30am on the Corner of Railway Parade and Newman Road

*10.15-10.45am at Frederick Annand Park, Milburn Street.

Marchant Ward E-Newsletter: June 2017

BCC's kerbside collection is on again for households to dispose of large household items. They will be collecting from Geebung on July 31.

Do not place your items on the kerb until the weekend before the collection date.

For more information about what items are accepted head to <https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/environment-waste/rubbish-tips-bins/rubbish-collections/kerbside-collection/kerbside-collection-acceptable-items>

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Have you ever heard of a Devonshire Tea Dance? Me neither, but I'm intrigued. The Geebung Bowls Club are having one featuring the Chi-Chi Band. Sunday July 30, 1.30 - 4.30pm. Sausage sizzle 12.30-1.30pm. \$6 entry.

The Geebung RSL holds a Trivia Night every Wednesday at 7pm. Free Entry

Hub Brewing has recently opened in Geebung. They have 'Wind Down Fridays' weekly from 4pm-8.30pm with a different food van visiting each week. They say it is a family friendly place where people can come together to celebrate great beer and food.

Meeting

Our next NHW Meeting will be held at the Geebung RSL at 7.15pm on Tuesday July 25. Come along and meet your neighbours.

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This newsletter is produced by the Geebung NHW Group on behalf of the residents. The information contained herein has been obtained from sources we deem to be reliable, but the editor and committee do not guarantee its accuracy and interested persons should rely on their own enquires.

Contact us

We always welcome feedback and your comments. You can write to us at - 29 Pinewood Street Geebung or email us geebungnhw@gmail.com



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Councillor for Marchant Ward



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Thank you to our wonderful local supporters. Their support makes it possible to produce this community newsletter. Make sure you mention that you saw their services advertised in this newsletter.

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