



Neighbourhood Watch

NEWSLETTER

HERVEY BAY 2 POINT VERNON

NOVEMBER 2015



MESSAGE FROM THE AREA CO-ORDINATOR

The Annual General Meeting of Neighbourhood Watch Area 2 was held on 12 August at the Big 4 Caravan Park in Corser Street. An apology was received from Assistant Area Co-ordinator Rob Cross who was driving with Fran in their Winnebago to places as distant as Darwin and Canberra. All of the other Committee Members attended plus a couple of Area 2 Blockies and Trevor McDonald the Fraser Coast Councillor for Division 6. All of the current Committee Members were re-elected for a further term.

The Annual Accounts showed a healthy Bank Balance of \$1722.68. Expenditure has been reduced and the major cost item is now the printing of the Area Calendar.

A month later, on 12 September, I was returning from a trip to Charleville and was able to attend the State Conference of Neighbourhood Watch Queensland This was held at the Pullman Hotel Brisbane in King George Square. A Report on the Conference is on Page 3 of this Newsletter.

Our adjoining Neighbourhood Watch Area is Number 3 which covers the northern end of Point Vernon. They are holding an end-of-season Barbecue on Wednesday 4 November at 10.30 am at the Big 4 Caravan Park in Corser Street This is a free event although those attending are asked to bring a plate of salad or dessert. If you would like to join us please phone Fay Agius on 4194 5958.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Regards
Peter Leney
Area Co-ordinator



Area Map Hervey Bay 2 Point Vernon

WHAT IS NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH?

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is a program organised by the community in order to reduce residential crime. It is free to all residents in a Neighbourhood Watch Area.

It is about working together as a community to improve personal safety and household security. Most importantly, it is about encouraging interaction and a sense of responsibility between neighbours and communities.

NHW is not a police program. Police lend their expertise in organising and training NHW Committee members and provide a police NHW Liaison office to attend meetings where possible.

We are Area 2

CONTACTS

Area Coordinator

Peter Leney
4124 2980

Assistant Area

Coordinator

Rob Cross
4124 2247

Treasurer

Judy Killer
4124 2478

Secretary

Mary McDonald
4128 1723

Newsletter Editor

Peter Leney
4124 2980

POLICE

4123 8111

CRIME STOPPERS

1800 333 000

SES

132500

Policelink

131 444

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Community Watch Unit or the Police Service unless so quoted and authorised.

YOU CAN'T FIGHT SLEEP THE ONLY REMEDY IS TO STOP AND REST

The danger of fatigue driving is a message that police and emergency services continually speak about.

It is a contributing factor in 20-30% of all fatal accidents and can affect everyone regardless of experience. This means it is just as big a contributory factor to the road toll as speeding and drink driving.

Fatigue can creep up on any driver. It not only happens during long trips or driving at night. It can also happen on short trips like returning home from the beach after a long day in the sun.

Most people know the warning signs of fatigue. But crash statistics show that many make a conscious decision to ignore them and to keep driving.

The excuses to justify this are usually things like 'I will just drive to the next town and then stop', 'I'll be right for another 20 minutes' or 'I'll wind the window down and that will wake me up.

The reality is you can't fight sleep - the only remedy is rest

Continuing to drive when you are becoming sleepy is extremely high risk behaviour. The decision to continue places the lives of you and your passengers. and other road users in jeopardy.

Most people understand and accept that the decision to speed or drink drive is reckless and dangerous.

However, there are still many people who don't comprehend that continuing to drive after experiencing the warning signs of fatigue is just as irresponsible.

A driver who has been awake for 17 hours has a driving ability similar to that of a driver with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.05, and after 21 hours, similar to a BAC of 0.15.

Fatigue crashes are usually severe, resulting in serious injury and death, because the driver makes no attempt to avoid or prevent the crash. Head on crashes on open roads at high speeds can not only be fatal for the sleepy driver but also the innocent occupants of the oncoming vehicle.

These accidents are completely preventable.

Emergency workers should not have to attend the horrific consequences of such impacts Police should not have to knock on the doors of relatives to deliver the message no one wants to receive. Kids should not have to live their lives without a mother or father. The only cure for fatigue is sleep.

IF YOU ARE FEELING SLEEPY, STOP IMMEDIATELY AND REST!

THE CURSE OF THE MOBILE PHONE - PUT IT IN THE BOOT

The danger posed to drivers by mobile phone distractions is a relatively new problem. For me and my generation the curse of the mobile phone was not an issue when we were young.

The major distractions that I faced were things such as searching for a radio channel or 'fishing around' in the glove box for a favourite audio cassette.

Almost certainly the major distraction to drivers of today, and particularly young drivers, is their mobile phone.

As a police officer, as well as the parent of teenage drivers, I am acutely aware of the dangers faced by young drivers. Inexperience, a sense of invincibility, and a belief that "it won't happen to me"

As in all things parenting you try to teach your kids about the dangers of driving and how they have a responsibility for not only their own safety but also for their passengers, and all other road users.

Drivers who are using mobile phones are very easily spotted. For some stupid reason they believe that no one can tell they are reading a text message just because their phone is positioned out of sight on their lap: Anyone can spot a driver using their mobile phone. They are the ones looking down into their laps instead of at the road'

Using a mobile phone whilst driving increases your risk of a crash four-fold.

If you're using your phone when driving you're not as focused on the road as you need to be. Your attention is divided. Your reactions are slower. You are as dangerous as a drunk driver.

Parents need to ensure that they are a good role model for their kids - it's how they learn their future driving habits. If you are constantly looking at your social media sites while you are driving, then your kids will grow up with the same behaviours.

My kids have been told to switch their phone off and put it in the boot when they are driving. If the phone is on and within reach, the temptation to look can sometimes be too great

Most road crashes are caused by ordinary people making simple mistakes - like checking their phones

SOMETIMES THOSE MISTAKES CAN BE DEADLY AND LIFE CHANGING.

**REPORT ON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH QUEENSLAND STATE CONFERENCE HELD AT
PULLMAN HOTEL KING GEORGE SQUARE BRISBANE ON SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2015**
From the Introduction by Ian Stewart, Commissioner of Police, Queensland Police Service

The theme for this years Neighbourhood Watch Conference was: "Safe, Inclusive and Connected Neighbourhoods and Online Communities" As we move forward in an ever changing and evolving community and policing climate, we are faced with new challenges. It is these new challenges that will face us now and into the future. Together, we can make a difference. The speakers at this conference will be covering a range of topics and issues which will hopefully trigger new ideas that will put us all in good stead to continue the vital work of addressing crime and community safety in our neighbourhoods.

SUMMARY OF KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS

NICOLE GIBSON - CEO and Founder of the Rogue and Rouge Foundation

Nicole is a Member of the National Mental Health Commission who is committed to making a difference in the lives of young people by understanding our youth.. Nicole helped us to understand and influence the minds of young people by engaging with youth in the community. When youth are engaged pro-actively they are less likely to be disengaged and subsequently become a problem. As a NHW Community you will be better equipped in connecting and reaching out to our young people and to help them secure a better future.

PLAIN CLOTHES SENIOR CONSTABLE KATHRYN COLLINS from the Fraud and Cyber Crime Group

Kathryn outlined how to protect our Online Identity, counter Fraud and Scams and how to keep ourselves safe. The Fraud and Cyber Crime Group is a specialist group of investigators who deal with major and serious fraud, arson, identity crimes and identity theft, money laundering, property theft and computer related crime. Kathryn both educated and empowered us to make good, safe decisions to protect our identity and how to report and detect fraud.

SONYA RYAN - Director for the Carly Ryan Foundation

In an Online Safety Seminar, Sonya showed how to navigate the internet safely. This included protecting information, social networking, smart phone apps and gaming to help our NHW groups to play it safe online . The Carly Ryan Foundation provides detailed online safety seminars for schools and organisations which gives participants valuable information on how to navigate the world wide web safely and how to avoid grooming.

SHANE COOPER - Senior Strategy Officer, Public Service Business Agency.

Shane spent over 21 years in the Military. During his Military Career he developed his skills and knowledge in project management and strategic planning. In this interactive seminar on creating a team charter, Shane led the group in discussions on our purpose, functions, challenges, talents, strengths and weaknesses. As each NHW District faces it's own community challenges, we learned how to create a plan to meet and tackle crime in our own areas.

OTHER SPEAKERS AT THE CONFERENCE INCLUDED :-

ELVIC GUZIC - NHWQ State Co-ordinator: He gave a summary of the year at a glance

MARK ELLWARD - NHWQ Community Advisory Committee: He gave an overview and presentation of State Successes

BRUCE MORCOMBE – Daniel Morcombe Foundation: Bruce gave a presentation which included the "Keeping Kids Safe" Resource Kit and details of the National Day of Action for Daniel.

ROBYN MOORE – Keynote Speaker: Robyn entertained us and also reconnected us with what matters. This included a workshop on how to get the best out of your thinking and "Moving from reaction to Action".

Two of her quotes that resonated with me were: -"My past does not have to give me a broken future" and " I was going to tell you about procrastination but I will do that tomorrow!" And, to quote Helen Keller :- Life is either a daring adventure – or nothing!"

It was a rewarding Conference - Peter Leney

**IS YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
LETTERBOX PLAQUE LOOKING TIRED?**

We now have FREE packs containing the following:

New Style Plaque for Letter Boxes	Suspect
Description forms	
Telephone Contact Form	Property Check List
Stickers for Windows	16cm Identification
Stickers	

Would you like your free pack?

Phone Peter Leney on 4124 2980 and it will be delivered to you.

Maryborough Police District Website

<http://www.mypolice.qld.gov.au/maryborough>

Police are now walking the digital beat which enables them to connect with the community via technology such as Computers, Smart Phones and other internet devices.

We urge you to connect with the above new website and register to have the "MyPolice" blog emailed to you.

You'll then be in "the know" with all sorts of community and important Police information.



NHW2 CRIME REPORT
July to September 2015
Prepared by Sergeant Tracey MEYERS

JULY 2015

LONG STREET, POINT VERNON

Steal from Vehicle

A vehicle was unlawfully entered in the front yard of a residence. Nil items removed.

CARMEL COURT, POINT VERNON

Wilful Damage

A front window was damaged after a projectile was thrown at the residence

AUGUST 2015

MURPHY STREET, POINT VERNON

Enter with Intent

A quantity of electronic equipment was removed from a residence after unknown offenders gained access via a rear garage door.

HALCRO STREET, POINT VERNON

Steal from Vehicle

A wallet and cash was removed from a locked vehicle after unknown offenders gained access via a insecure window.

SEPTEMBER 2015

CLIVEDEN AVENUE, POINT VERNON

Burglary

Unknown offenders have accessed the residence via a rear sliding screen door where they have removed a handbag containing personal items and a quantity of medications.

SAUNDERS STREET, POINT VERNON

Steal Vehicle

A Blue 2009 Isuzu DMax Dual Cab was removed from a residence. Anyone with information is urged to contact police.

MARTIN STREET, POINT VERNON

Steal Bicycle

An offender has been charged after unlawfully entered a garage of a residence and removing a bicycle

Police would like to remind residents to ensure their garage doors are kept locked at all times.

Anyone with information regarding these offences or others are urged to contact Police.