



Neighbourhood watch[©]

NSW POLICE FORCE

Working for Safer Communities

Summer / Dec
2012

Incorporating
BSAFE Community
Association

FEEDBACK Newsletter – Issue 19

Merry Christmas to everyone & greetings to our local Indian community who have just celebrated Diwali.

Welcome to the 19th issue of Feedback, the Newsletter of Bella Vista Waters Neighbourhood Watch.

Crime Statistics

It had been fairly quiet in our estate over the past 3 months with no major incidents to report. That was true right up until Tuesday 20th November when I was advised that there had been a home invasion the previous night in Rowenbrae Crescent. Fortunately, the residents slept right through the invasion and were unaware that there were intruders inside their home. Unfortunately, their security alarm was not activated at the time, which allowed the intruders to roam around the home with impunity and then make

off with a number of items including a laptop.

There is a common thread between this incident and the other 7 break and enters that have occurred in our estate over the past 2 years.

In all 8 incidents, no alarms were armed at the time that the break and enters occurred.

The message is surely clear that if you want to provide the highest level of security for your family and your property, then you should ensure that your alarm system is always activated whenever you leave your home vacant, even for a short time.

At night, make sure that you set your alarm to night mode before you retire to bed for the night.

And then the next day I heard on the news that there had been another drive by shooting in Edgewater Drive....

Additional Security Patrols at Christmas

To provide an extra level of security over the 6 week school holiday break at Christmas, we have again contracted Highland Security to provide a number of additional patrols during the daytime and early evening. These patrols will commence on 15th December to 27th January inclusive. This is the fifth year that we have contracted Highland to provide extra patrols over the highest risk period of the year.

Eyewatch / VandalTrak

These are 2 new initiatives hosted by the NSW Police with an emphasis on preventing crime in the local area by speeding up feedback via Facebook. Attached to this newsletter is more information on how it works and how to join the program.

Garage Doors Left Open at Night

It's an open invitation out there for thieves and opportunists to wander through your garage for easy pickings or worse, to gain access to your home through an internal access door.

Highland advised that there were **45 garage doors left open** at night during the past 3 months. On one single October night, we set a new record, with 15 garage doors reported left open. I also note from Highland's reports that one resident has left their garage doors open 5 times in the past 3 months!

New Street Facilitators

Three new street facilitators have recently joined our ranks. They are John Payne from Brighton East, Terry Quinnell from Bronzewing East and Joe Lamba from Waterfall. We welcome these 3 new facilitators and thank them and their predecessors for giving up their time for the benefit of the local community.

Position Vacant For Street Facilitator

There still remains a position vacant for a new facilitator in Woodbridge Place.

Should you think that you could fill that role, please speak to the caretaker facilitator, Kellie Grove when she next calls.

Having a Party?

If you are planning a party at your home over the next few months, there are a few things that you can do to ensure that it proceeds smoothly and without offending neighbours.

A good starting point is to drop a notice into your neighbours' mail box advising them of the party details and leave a contact number of the party hosts.

If you have a live band or are playing loud music, then consider your neighbours and turn it down after 11.00pm. Police have the power to close down noisy or out of control parties at any time if the neighbours complain.

If you are having an underage/ teenager's party, ensure that there are adults present at all times and to help prevent gatecrashers, **never make mention of the party details on social media.**

For much more helpful information on hosting a successful party, including how to register your party with the Police, Google onto **mynite.com.au**.

Dog Attack Information

Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet that has been provided by the Council and gives useful hints as to what to do if approached by an aggressive dog.

Direct Debit Payments

Many thanks to the **60 residents** who have already signed up for direct debit payments. You have eased the workload of your facilitator by reducing the number of houses that they need to call on. Should you be interested in paying by direct debit in the future, your facilitator will have spare application forms with them when they next call on you for your quarterly collection.

Next Collection Date

Our volunteer street facilitators will again be calling on you to collect your \$50 quarterly donation on the **week commencing Saturday 1st December.**

Please make their task easier by having your money ready for them when they call.

Jeff Grey.

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