



Neighbourhood Website:

<http://www.tweedneighbourhoodwatch.org.au/>

## AREA 1A – TWEED HEADS

Area Co-ordinator: Alan Crofts - 5536 9438

Tweed Police Station 5536 0999

Police Assistance Line: 131 444



Issue No 5 – April 2011

**This month's tips** - most home burglary is not planned and are simply 'crimes of opportunity'. With this being said the question you need to ask is, how much of an opportunity are you unknowingly giving? Is your home considered an 'easy target'? When you move around your house check for easy access and entry points, don't look through your eyes; look through the eyes of someone wanting to break in. On an average a burglar will only spend four to five minutes trying to break into a house. Here are a few tips that may just help you avoid being broken into.

- Some thieves will get your name from the mailbox. A potential thief might phone to see if you are home. When not at home try forwarding phone calls to your mobile.
- Don't settle with sensor lights on the front porch alone. These are great but are normally placed in areas that do not help. When placed too close to the house it also makes it hard for the person inside to see out. Place sensor lights along the side of the house so that the light sprays evenly across the drive way. This will help with your visibility as well.
- Some sliding doors and windows are easy to break into. You can however screw a metal tab to the lower edge of the door/window and drill a small hole through the door/window frame (at different intervals) so that you can still have the door/window open a bit but not fully open. This can prevent a person gaining access through the door/window but still allow you to have fresh air to your home.
- Another simple suggestion is placing dowel, a rod or broomstick handle firmly against the track to prevent the door/window from being open, but be aware if an arm can reach around from the outside and remove it.
- Planting thorny rose bushes by windows is a great and natural deterrent for burglars.

Don't think for one moment that just because you have been broken into that it won't happen again! Some times they strike twice because they know what you have, what you will replace and how to get in.

Don't leave valuables in your car! If thieves can see these items they are a target to be stolen. If you must store possessions in your car put them in the boot or covered hatch.

Until our next newsletter and meeting in June.

## CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT:

At our last meeting it was resolved to increase the frequency of our newsletters to 1 every 2 months, but to decrease our meetings to 3 a year.

Therefore our next meeting will be held in June 2011.

If you have anything to report between meetings you can still contact me on Tel: 5536 9438.

Whilst crime is relatively low in our area, we cannot become complacent. As good neighbours we must do our part and continue to look after our community. A watchful neighbour can be your best friend in avoiding being burgled!

*Alan Crofts*

## THANK YOU

Many thanks to Andy and Aaron at Lakeside Community Centre for the support they show towards *Neighbourhood Watch* – your assistance is very much appreciated.

Thank you to *Ben White Plumbing* for advertising with us. This advertising assists us to meet our on-going operating costs.

## INSERT BUSINESS CARD HERE

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

- If you are reporting an emergency, call **Triple Zero (000)**.
- If you are reporting a crime where you are the victim, call **131 444**.
- If you are reporting crime related information, call *Crime Stoppers* at **1800 333 000**.
- Tweed Police Station - **5536 0999**



## CRIME REPORT AREA 1A

### January

- Stolen vehicle/vessel – 2 counts
- Steal from motor vehicle – 2 counts
- Malicious damage to property – 1 count
- Assault – actual bodily harm – 1 count
- Assault – assault common – 1 count
- Stealing from motor vehicle – 1 count

### February

- Break and enter – 3 counts
- Malicious damage to property – 3 counts
- Stealing – other – 1 count