

Emergency 000

You can also call 112
from your mobile or 106
for TTY services

Tweed Heads Police Station

([www.facebook.com/
TweedByronLAC](http://www.facebook.com/TweedByronLAC))

50 Recreation St
Tweed Heads 2485
07 5536 0999

Crime Stoppers

(www.crimestoppers.com.au)
1800 333 000

Police Assistance Line

(non-emergency)
131 444

SES (State Emergency Services)

For emergency help in
floods and storms
132 500

Visit our NHW Facebook page

([on.fb.me/
TweedHeadsWestNHW](https://on.fb.me/TweedHeadsWestNHW))



NEWSLETTER

Neighbourhood Watch

Area 3 Tweed Heads West

Area Coordinator: Peter Sibilant (0404 058 676)
Secretary: Pam Murphy (07 5599 9692)
Treasurer: Rhonda Miller (07 5536 4515)
Tweed Valley Neighbourhood Watch
www.tweedneighbourhoodwatch.org.au

August to October 2012 Edition

Next Meeting

Monday 29 October 2012 7:00pm at SEAGULLS in "The Darts" room

Guest: Tweed/Byron LAC Senior Constable Jennifer Poolman - Crime Prevention Officer

Our 20 Favorite Crime Prevention Tips for Seniors

1. INSTALL A SPY-HOLE
2. INSTALL A SECURITY DOOR-CHAIN, or SECURITY DOOR-BAR, or SECURITY DOOR AND USE IT (a door-bar may be easier for elderly hands to manipulate).
3. INSTALL SECURITY SENSOR LIGHTING. Consider connecting the sensor lighting to a socket unit that can 'chirp' or 'bark' as a warning/deterrent.
4. DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR TO STRANGERS. NEVER ALLOW STRANGERS INTO YOUR HOME. IF SOMEONE REQUIRES YOUR ASSISTANCE IN AN EMERGENCY, PHONE FOR HELP YOURSELF. BE WARY OF STRANGERS.
5. NEVER ACCEPT DOOR-TO-DOOR OFFERS OF WORK FROM TRADESMEN (eg. Tree-logging, gutter maintenance) WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH A TRUSTED FRIEND OR RELATIVE.
6. KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND THE COMMUNITY YOU LIVE IN.
7. ACCEPT OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE FROM NEIGHBOURS AND TRUSTED ORGANISATIONS (eg. Gardening – help is available from EasyCare Gardening).
8. NEVER LET YOUR CREDIT CARD OUT OF YOUR SIGHT IN A CAFE OR RESTAURANT – GO WITH IT!
9. BUDDY-UP WITH A NEIGHBOUR – USE A SIGNAL TO SHOW YOU HAVE ARISEN SAFELY (eg. Blinds/curtains opened).
10. GET YOUR FREE 'LITTLE BLACKBOOK OF SCAMS' PUBLICATION (published by the government).
11. NEVER GIVE OUT PERSONAL DETAILS OVER THE PHONE.
12. LOCK YOUR DOORS WHEN AT HOME. REMEMBER TO REMOVE KEYS FROM THE LOCKS, IN CASE ACCESS IS NEEDED FROM OUTSIDE IN AN EMERGENCY.
13. KEEP A TORCH & PHONE HANDY BY THE BED.
14. KEEP YOUR CAR REMOTE CONTROL ON YOUR PERSON, OR BY THE BED. IT CAN BE USED AS A PANIC ALARM IN AN EMERGENCY.
15. CHECK SENSATIONAL EMAILS' CREDIBILITY BEFORE FORWARDING – www.snopes.com or www.urbanlegendsonline.com or www.hoax-slayer.com .
16. BEWARE COMPUTER SCAMS. NEVER OPEN UNSOLICITED ATTACHMENTS. NEVER FOLLOW LINKS FROM WITHIN EMAILS. SIGN UP FOR FREE ALERTS – GOVERNMENT WEBSITE scamwatch.gov.au STAY SMART ONLINE.
17. INSTALL A MONITORED INTRUDER ALARM SYSTEM. MOST HAVE 'HOME' AND 'AWAY' SETTINGS, ALLOWING YOU TO SET WHEN AT HOME (especially when sleeping), AS WELL AS WHEN OUT.
18. LOCK OPEN WINDOWS 10cm MAX (New security products include sensors for open windows, as well as for balcony areas).
19. NEVER PLACE YOUR PURSE/BAG IN A SHOPPING TROLLEY – KEEP IT ON YOUR PERSON. KEEP IT ON YOUR LAP AT THE MOVIES AND IN FOOD COURTS. MEN, CARRY YOUR WALLET IN YOUR FRONT POCKET.
20. USE A TORCH KEY-RING TO AVOID FUMBLING WITH KEYS. CONSIDER ATTCHING KEYS TO AN EXTENDABLE KEY-RING THAT CONNECTS TO YOUR POCKET/PURSE.

- ◇ Time to check your smoke detectors—You cannot smell smoke whilst you are asleep
- ◇ Have a fire plan. Keep low, follow the evacuation plan and meet at a designated spot. i.e. the letterbox
- ◇ **SCAMS.** This is a growing concern with 40 million people “ripped-off” worldwide. This is a sizeable area so we’ll cover several scams in this newsletter.
 - ◆ Tree-logging stand over merchants - cold calling individuals or groups doing tree lopping and other home maintenance work without correct licenses or permission from residents. They then demand payment with some threatening physical violence. The elderly are targeted in particular.
 - ◆ Computer virus scam calls - these tend to originate outside of Australia and the person at the other end of the phone will falsely associate themselves with either large software companies (ie. Microsoft) or telecommunication companies (ie. Telstra). They will request remote connection to your computer and then install malware that requests payment to the scammers to remove. If in doubt, contact a tech savvy friend or family member first. Do not allow remote access to your computer to unknown individuals. We could fill an entire newsletter with these PC scams and will post more in future editions. Some of these are, but not limited to:
 - The “Nigerian” Scam - Requests personal details and payments to claim large sums of money
 - Overseas lotteries and unclaimed prizes - Did you actually buy a ticket? These request payments to release prize money
 - Miracle cures
 - Work from Home schemes
 - Pyramid schemes or similar schemes that require you to sign up others for payment
 - Chain letters
 - Bogus Charity Collectors
 - Business scams
 - ◆ Internet scammers are now using fake job placement ads to obtain personal details. **DO NOT SUPPLY ANY SENSITIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION TO PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYERS**
 - ◆ **DON'T LET EMBARRASSMENT OR FEAR KEEP YOU FROM REPORTING A SCAM OR FRAUD TO THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES** (Such as Police or Fair Trading NSW)
 - ◆ You can contact Fair Trading NSW on 13 32 20 (www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au). The Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) on 02 9911 2200 (www.asic.gov.au)
 - ◆ Keep well-informed of ongoing and new scams at www.scamwatch.gov.au

Are you prepared for Storm Season?

The SES recommends all households have a Storm Kit ready. Items to include are:

A Home Emergency Plan (available on our Facebook page to download), portable radio (battery or wind-up), torch (battery or wind-up), First Aid kit, Sturdy gloves, Important documents and cash in waterproof bags, Essential medicine, Special items for babies, the disabled, elderly or pets, Enough drinking water and non-perishable food for 3 days supply.

Additional items to be considered are: Mobile phone with spare battery and charger, change of clothing and shoes, pillows, sleeping bags, blankets, toiletries, camping stove or gas burner, valuables/photos/mementos in water proof bags, books and games for children.

Keep your kit in a waterproof box and store in an easy to access location. Check your kit on a regular basis and replace/re-stock any out-of-date items.

Local Crime Stats (July 2012 to August 2012)

Break and Enter: 3 incidents

Malicious Damage: 3 incidents

Theft: 3 incidents

Stolen Vehicles: 2 incidents.

Remember to Lock It or Lose it, keep valuables out of sight and report all incidents to police.

Thank you to all our NHW Newsletter deliverers.

We wish all NHW members and residents of A/3 West Tweed a safe and Merry Christmas and New Year.

Remember to inform friends or family if you’re going on holidays this season and take steps to protect your property.

An extra special thank you to Seagulls Club for sponsoring the printing of this newsletter and their ongoing support

EVENT: We will be having a Sausage Sizzle at Best Friends Pet SuperCentre Tweed Heads South on **24th November 2012.**

A special thank you to Dave Carter and the team at Best Friends Pet SuperCentre for everything they do for our community and our furred, feathered and scaled friends.

BestFriends
The best in pet care



A new waterfront dining experience

Fresh and locally sourced produce is



OPEN 7 DAYS
Gollan Drive, Tweed
Heads West