

Emergency 000

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

Tweed Heads Police Station

(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 for updates

(on.fb.me/TweedHeadsWestNHW)



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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)

www.tweedneighbourhoodwatch.org.au

November 2013 Edition

Next Meeting

Tuesday 12 November 2013

7:00pm at SEAGULLS in The Pelican (darts) room

Storm and Bush Fire Season. Are you Prepared?

With the warmer weather now upon us now is the time to have Storm and Bush Fire plans in place. Which includes having both a kit and a plan in place.

Handy SES Website Links

SES Storm Safe Kit: bit.ly/SES-StormSafeKit

SES Home Emergency Plan: bit.ly/SES-HomeEmergencyPlan

SES Flood Safe: bit.ly/FloodSafe

Check out the NSW SES websites above for tips on what you can do to prepare and what contents should be in your emergency kits. Have a plan ready for evacuation if required and ensure everyone in the household knows about it.

With the temperature rising it's also a good time to regularly check in on neighbours you know may have poor health concerns which prevents them being as mobile as others in the community. You don't need to be intrusive and we're sure some would appreciate your concern for their wellbeing. You may just save a life.

School Holidays Are Approaching

With the end of year school holidays approaching there is some information all parents/guardians should be aware of to keep the kids safe and entertained.

Parents should check out the Kidsafe NSW website at bit.ly/KidSafeNSW for some simple steps on keeping your kids safe - be they big or small.

The NSW Police have rebranded the old "Stranger Danger" program to Safe People, Safe Places with the "Keeping me Safe" program. But the advice remains much the same.

Make sure your children understand the importance of informing a trusted adult where they are going if they're leaving the home, how long they expect to be, how best to protect themselves in situations they aren't comfortable with and to report all suspect approaches to the police.

You can download and print out the School Safe "Keeping Me Safe" activity booklet here (requires a PDF reader) bit.ly/KeepingMeSafeBooklet which is great for younger children.

And for the teens? Make sure you check out what the Tweed Heads PCYC have on this in the coming weeks. There's always something on at the PCYC to keep you entertained.

Visit their website for activities and contact details bit.ly/TweedHeadsPCYC



Coordinator Report

Reported Crime Statistics for June 2013 to August 2013

It is pleasing to note that theft from motor vehicles is drastically down compared to previous months. Well done everyone on that result! Hopefully you're all still removing valuables and loose change from your vehicles and locking all doors and windows. Preventing theft of opportunity is important and not something we should become complacent about. We don't want Tweed Heads West being known as a soft target. Overall an excellent 3 month result in crime reduction in general. Although...

Assault reports are on the rise. Hopefully that is a result of those in the community choosing not to be victims, and reporting incidents of assault, and doesn't mean there are more assault incidents happening.

If you witness an assault in progress DO NOT HESITATE in calling police to report it. You may save a victim from a life of disability or more importantly ... their life.

The numbers:

Assault: 9 incidents over the period.

Break and Enter: 0 incidents over the period.

Stolen Vehicles: 1 incidents over the period.

Stealing: 2 incidents over the period.

Malicious Damage: 5 incidents over the period.

Together we can help reduce crime in the community in which we all live.



Crime Reduction Tips

Warmer weather means people tend to leave home and car windows open more often. A couple of precautions can prevent you becoming a victim of opportunistic theft. As mentioned above, make sure your car doors are locked and windows up, even if you think your stop will be a quick one - the thief will be just as quick.

You can also take various precautions around the home if you leave your windows open on warm days. There are specially made window locks and prevention measures you can purchase from hardware stores or have installed by licensed tradespeople.

In mentioning licensed tradespeople there are Door-to-Door scammers that rely on people being unaware of their consumer rights at all times of the year. We cannot stress enough that it is recommended you use licensed tradespeople for jobs around the home such as gutter cleaning, tree lopping, roof repairs, painting and anything else really. NSW Fair Trading have conditions in place to protect both consumers and licensed tradespeople - they have less powers in dealing with those who are not. So while it may cost more for a licensed tradesperson to do work around your home you can rest assured that they have more to lose than you do if the job isn't done right, or at all, as most of these trade scammers do.

Find out more on the ScamWatch website at www.scamwatch.gov.au

A Safe Community For All

In keeping the Tweed Heads West community safe for everyone we have a couple of final quick hints and tips to finish off this edition of the Tweed Heads West Area 3 Neighbourhood Watch newsletter.

1) *Personal Alarms* are cheap and effective in alerting others if you're in distress. We're currently looking into purchasing some personal alarms for resale at the next meeting. You can otherwise purchase them in stores or online.

2) *Stray Dogs* or dogs not on leads in designated leash-free areas are becoming an issue for responsible pet owners, which is most of them, and the community in general. Please be aware that if your dog attacks someone you may be held responsible - especially if it occurs in a public place. If you're spotted walking your dog without a leash, in any but a leash-free area, by local council Rangers you may also receive a fine. Ensure pets are chipped and registered in case they wander so they can be easily returned to their home as well.

Closing Message for 2013

We want to thank all in the community for their dedication in doing what they can for everyone in our community. No matter how small you think your gesture or effort may be, when they are all tallied together, a great difference has been made.

Wishing you all a safe and wonderful time over this holiday season. See you all in 2014!

From the Tweed Heads West Area 3 Neighbourhood Watch Team (Peter, Pam and Rhonda)