



LYONS Neighbourhood Watch Group

August
2009



AFP
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

Sponsorship and distribution of this newsletter to residents in Chifley, Curtin, Farrer, Hughes, Isaacs, Lyons and Mawson/Swinger Hill is authorised by ACT NHW Inc. A modified version without monthly crime statistics is available at: <http://www.nhwact.com.au>

Area Coordinator:

Ursula McDermott
5 Rufus Place
LYONS ACT 2606
Ph: 6281 0673
ursulam@netspeed.com.au

Editor: Janet Ilchef
ilchef@orac.net.au

From the Area Coordinator:

Thanks to all those who responded to my request for assistance with the delivery of newsletters for the Lyons area. The response has been really great and I am now in the process of re-allocating areas. 8 people responded and this will ensure that newsletters will continue to be delivered. I hope to have areas sorted out in time for the September issue of the newsletter. If you are still interested, I can put names on a reserve list and call on assistance when required. Very many thanks again to all.

Ursula Macdermott

Slow down for kangaroos

Early morning and evening are peak times for kangaroos crossing roads, especially in winter and spring; either side of a full moon; or after a long dry period.

You can take action to avoid a collision with a kangaroo. **Slow down** if you see a kangaroo on or beside the road. **Be alert** – kangaroos often travel together. If a kangaroo crosses the road, it is likely there are more following. Don't swerve to miss a kangaroo. By swerving you risk hitting cars or running off the road. You can appoint a passenger to be 'kangaroo spotter'.

You can **report accidents** involving kangaroos and other injured wildlife to

- Canberra Connect on 13 22 81; or
- Environment ACT Helpline on 6207 9777 (business hours).

Be sure to explain whether the animal is dead or alive, and its exact location.

Remember that all accidents involving a motor vehicle should be reported to the police on 131 444.

Source: "Give Kangaroos a 'brake'" Environment ACT, ACT Urban Services

Guide to safe driving

- Keep at a safe distance behind other vehicles. A good guide is to keep at least one car length behind the vehicle in front of you for every 10 kilometres per hour your vehicle is travelling along the road. In the wet, and at night, leave more distance.
- Ensure your mobile phone is switched off or diverted while you are driving.
- Avoid driving when fatigued. Pull over and take power naps on long trips.
- Be especially alert at high pedestrian areas such as shopping centres and crossings.
- Slow down in pedestrian areas (i.e. schools, kindergartens, shops and the like).
- Be aware of bicycles and motorbikes.
- Drop back or move across to allow for merging traffic.
- Ensure your blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is below the legal limit prior to driving. Remember your BAC may still be over the limit the morning after.
- Approach intersections with caution, at a speed that allows you to stop if necessary.
- Be courteous and considerate to all other road users.
- Indicate early when changing lanes or turning so that other road users have plenty of warning.
- Plan your route well ahead so that you do not 'cut in' on other drivers.
- Remain calm at all times.

Source:
http://afp.gov.au/act/road_traffic/safer_driving.html

This Neighbourhood Watch newsletter is proudly sponsored by karen rush real estate

Proudly supporting our community



karen rush
real estate



PH: 6290 0599

FAX: 6290 1589

karen.rush@karenrush.com.au



Crime Statistics:

Crime statistics are deleted from the website at the request of the AFP - they are available on hard copies distributed to all residents of the suburb.

On the beat

Unfortunately, Canberra is not immune from drug activity and like any other city we do have a drug element in our society. ACT Policing employs a range of different tools and tactics to identify and prosecute those responsible for the trade of illegal drugs in the Territory, including specialist drug investigation teams and intelligence assets.

Another important tool available to police in combating the use and abuse of illegal drugs is you. As a member of the community, there are a number of simple things you can do to help police identify those responsible for the manufacture and distribution of illegal drugs.

This includes being on the lookout for any suspicious activity occurring at houses in your neighbourhood. Things to look for include strange odours, blacked-out or sealed windows, unusual traffic flow or intermittent visitors, chemical containers and waste, hoses and pipes for ventilation or water supply, a lack of occupancy or secretive occupants and extremely bright indoor lighting.

In a recent example of how effective information from the public can be, police conducted search warrants on two residential premises in Flynn and Page earlier this month [July], resulting in the seizure of approximately \$600,000 worth of cannabis.

Police rely daily on information and assistance from members of the public and you should never underestimate how valuable your information can be – it may very well be the missing piece that police need to complete the puzzle and take action. Any action can be provided to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, anonymously if you wish.

Source: The Chronicle, 14 July 2009

Hoax triple zero calls costing police valuable time

Thursday, 06 August 2009

ACT Policing lost approximately 600 work hours in the period between 1 January and 30 June this year due to hoax, nuisance or inappropriate telephone calls made to Police Operations.

Of the 15,700 calls made to the triple zero emergency service during this period, 60% (9,400) were identified as a hoax or an inappropriate use of the service, and ACT Policing Superintendent Operations Chris Sheehan says this reduces ACT Policing's capacity to respond to genuine incidents in a timely manner.

“These calls occupy emergency service lines unnecessarily and have the potential to delay a genuine call for emergency assistance being answered. This can obviously have dire consequences,” Superintendent Sheehan said.

“Nuisance or hoax phone calls may also lead to emergency responses being activated, such as urgent duty driving, creating an unnecessary risk for police, emergency services members and the general public,” he said.

“This is something that is taken very seriously by police, and as recently as last night a 16-year-old male was apprehended and subsequently charged with causing public mischief in relation to alleged hoax calls made to triple zero.”

Supt Sheehan says the triple zero emergency number is there to ensure that emergency service resources are able to respond to urgent requests for assistance as a priority, and should only be used for life threatening or emergency situations.

“Incorrect or inappropriate use of the triple zero service may delay a police response to a real life and death situation. If members of the public wish to report a crime or a non life threatening incident, they can contact ACT Policing assistance line on 131 444,” Supt Sheehan said.

“Alternatively, if people have information about illegal activity or suspect offenders, they can contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via the website at www.act.crimestoppers.com.au,” he said.

Media enquiries:

ACT Policing Media and Public Relations
Ph: 02 6256 7460

Source:

http://afp.gov.au/media_releases/act/2009/hoax_trip_le_zero_calls_costing_police_valuable_time.html

Please assist our police by reporting all suspicious activity to: CRIME STOPPERS use: 1800 333 000.

**For police attendance use: 131 444.
But, for all life-threatening emergencies use: “0 0 0”**