



# MAWSON/SWINGER HILL Neighbourhood Watch Group

## September 2009

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## AFP

AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

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### Mobile RAPID nets 320 traffic offenders in first month

Wednesday, 19 August 2009

ACT Policing's mobile number plate recognition software, also known as RAPID, has led to the detection of 320 traffic offenders since July 17, serving as a warning to Canberra motorists who think they won't be caught.

The technology, currently being used by a small team, enabled police to identify 181 unregistered drivers, 67 unlicensed drivers, 59 suspended drivers and 13 disqualified drivers in the month long period.

Superintendent in charge of Traffic Operations Mark Colbran says by the end of this year, all Traffic Operations vehicles will contain the technology, which will have a significant impact on road safety in the ACT.

"Nearly 22% of all collisions resulting in injury and 38% of all fatal collisions in the ACT involve an unregistered car or a driver who is not authorised to drive, so without doubt, getting these people off the roads is saving lives," Supt Colbran said.

"In the past, drivers have told us that they take the chance of driving when they shouldn't because they believe that if they don't speed, police will not pull them over and they will remain undetected," he said.

"The message should now be clear; RAPID takes that human element out of detecting people who do not have a right to drive on the streets of Canberra. This program will continue, across all Canberra suburbs, and as the entire Traffic Operations fleet becomes fitted-out with RAPID technology there will be no safe place in

Canberra for unregistered cars and unlicensed drivers to avoid being caught."

Media enquiries:

ACT Policing  
Media and Public Relations Ph: 02 6256 7460

Source:

[http://afp.gov.au/media\\_releases/act/2009/mobile\\_rapid\\_nets\\_320\\_traffic\\_offenders\\_in\\_first\\_month](http://afp.gov.au/media_releases/act/2009/mobile_rapid_nets_320_traffic_offenders_in_first_month)

### Voluntary work – some interesting information

The contribution voluntary work makes to the community is substantial. Voluntary work meets needs, provides opportunities for democratic participation, personal development and recreation and helps to establish and strengthen social networks and cohesion.

According to the results of an Australian Bureau of Statistics Survey of Voluntary Work, in 2006, 5.2 million people (34% of the adult Australian population) participated in some form of voluntary work. These volunteers contributed 713 million hours to the community by participating in many different forms of voluntary work. The types of activities most frequently reported by volunteers were fundraising, preparing and serving food, teaching or providing information, administration, and management.

The ACT and Queensland had the highest proportion of volunteers in 2006, with 38% of these populations volunteering.

Overall, 32% of men and 36% of women were volunteers.  
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 4441.0 – Voluntary Work, Australia, 2006

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### **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.

### **Rise in robberies, fall in assaults across capital**

Latest statistics show crime in the capital has increased by about 5 per cent on the same time last year, with property damage, burglary and robberies all up. But there has been a dramatic drop in reported sexual assaults and smaller falls in weapons offences and assaults.

Overall, nearly 10,500 offences were reported to police in the three months to July, an increase of more than 5 per cent over the corresponding quarter in 2008.

The figures for the financial year show a marginal overall rise compared with the 2007-08 period.

The number of robberies for the three months was 76, double the number of the same period last year.

ACT Police Minister Simon Corbell said while any increase was of concern, he believed the figures could be a result of police action.

"Any increase is a concern, but it's balanced by the fact we've got more police on the streets so more of these offences are being detected and followed up by police," he said.

Mr Corbell said recent action taken by police as part of Operation Tondo had led to a number of charges being laid.

He said generally the figures indicated crime in the ACT was at relatively low levels.

Other statistics tabled in the Assembly yesterday showed:

- The highest level of clearances on sexual offenders in at least five years;
- The highest level of clearances on abductions in at least five years;
- The lowest levels of the most serious assaults in two years;
- The highest level of car theft in three years;
- The highest level of burglary in three years.

Figures also showed the highest rate of car accidents causing injury in four years. Police were alerted to nearly two accidents a day.

The result follows continued high levels of drink-driving resulting in record numbers of Canberrans being caught in the past financial year.

Mr Corbell said police would continue to target drivers with education campaigns and increased presence on the roads.

"Canberrans need to understand that there is a real problem in our community, there are too many deaths and too many injuries and police will continue to crack down on this issue significantly."

*Source: Canberra Times 19 August 2009*

### **Witnesses sought after assault in Phillip carport**

*Wednesday, 12 August 2009*

ACT Policing is seeking to identify two males who attempted to steal a vehicle from a residence in Phillip, were disturbed by the owner, and then assaulted the owner before fleeing the location.

Around 3am today at a home in Phillip, a 30-year-old male disturbed two males whom he suspected had been attempted to break into his vehicle.

The two intruders fled to the roadway where three vehicles – a white Hyundai Excel, a VN Holden Commodore and a silver Subaru Liberty, were waiting with their engines running.

The residence chased one intruder to the driver's side of the Hyundai and kicked the car door shut. He then grappled with the intruder. Males then left the two other vehicles and began punching the resident. The victim suffered a cut lip, bruises and a minor laceration to his lower back.

The offenders returned to their cars and drove off in the direction of Hindmarsh Drive. Around 30 minutes later, the Hyundai was involved in a single vehicle collision on Inkster Street, in Kambah, and abandoned. Around 4am, the Subaru was also involved in a single vehicle collision on Gaunson Cres, in Wanniasa, and abandoned. Both vehicles had been stolen from Kambah the preceding day.

Police are appealing for any witnesses who may have seen these suspicious persons or vehicles in the Phillip area early today, or anyone suspicious activity around the location of the collisions to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, or via the Crime Stoppers website on [www.act.crimestoppers.com.au](http://www.act.crimestoppers.com.au).

Media enquiries: ACT Policing Media and Public Relations Ph: 02 6256 7460

*Source: [http://afp.gov.au/media\\_releases/act/2009/witnesses\\_sought\\_after\\_assault\\_in\\_phillip\\_carport](http://afp.gov.au/media_releases/act/2009/witnesses_sought_after_assault_in_phillip_carport)*

**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"**