



Richardson Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

January 2010

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**Please assist our Police by reporting all suspicious activity to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000
For Police attendance call 131 444, but for all life threatening emergencies call 000**

Dear Richardson Residents...



The Richardson NHW Committee, would like to wish you a very Happy New Year.

Saturday the 14th November, Richardson had the festival of Belonging, which went very well.

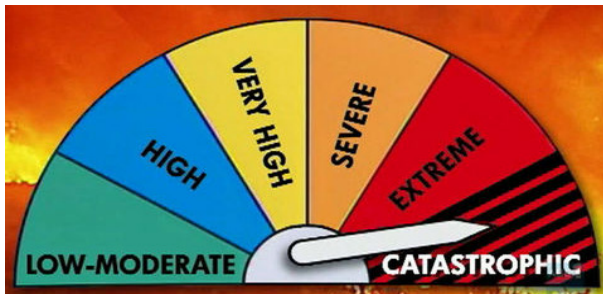
November 09 was one of the hottest Novembers on record. So don't forget to Slip Slop Slap. Be sunwise this summer.

As the summer continues more and more people are out walking. If you're walking near or through Richardson Primary school on weekends or the school holidays please keep a lookout for any suspicious activities and ring Crime Stoppers if you see anything suspicious.



Fire Danger Rating Information

The fire danger rating is used to tell you the potential for a fire on any given day. This rating is shown on the color-coded Fire Danger Meters, commonly seen along roadsides in rural areas. The ratings are: - **Nil Low Moderate High Very High Extreme**



The Richardson Neighbourhood Watch Would like to thank the Bendigo Bank and Tuggeranong link for their generosity and continued support

Want to get involved and make a difference in Richardson?

The work of fighting crime will always lie in the hands of the AFP but the AFP need us all to be the eyes and ears for them and report any suspicious activities that occur in our streets and neighbourhood to Crime Stoppers. We need to take preventative measures now to secure our homes cars and valuables. So come on get to know your neighbours and keep an eye out together.

We are currently looking for Street Captains to act as liaisons between residents in your street and the NHW Committee.

Together working with the AFP we can make a difference....



Become a member of the Richardson NHW! There are only three steps involved...

1. Go to <http://www.nhwact.com.au/membership> to download the membership form - Membership is free.
2. Post it GPO Box 1047 Canberra ACT 2601.
3. Come along to our next monthly meeting on **Date to be advised for early 2010.**



Community Development and Support - PLAYSCHOOL, PLAYGROUPS SOCIAL & CRAFT ACTIVITES for men, women, children and older adults HIRE FACILITIES, and MORE.

Centres located at Richardson, Isabella Plains, Gilmore, Chisholm and Conder.

Head Office: Richardson Community House

Ph: 6292 1604 Mob: 0404 514898 www.tugglink.org.au

For your information

The Lions Club Tuggeranong Homestead Community Markets are on the 14th February 2010

Just a reminder

Recycle bins for December/January in Richardson are:
Tuesday 26th January 2010
Tuesday 2nd February
Tuesday 23rd February
They are collected anytime after 7am.

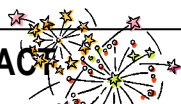


Richardson Crime Statistics for November 2009

Crime statistics have been removed from the web version of this newsletter as requested by the AFP. If you would like to receive a hard copy version of this newsletter please email the editor at jma5151@bigpond.net.au



Living With Snakes in the ACT



People react to snakes in different ways. Some fear them, whilst others are fascinated and respectful of them. Generations of tales, conditioning and rumour have portrayed snakes as aggressive, dangerous creatures. Whilst all snakes in the ACT are venomous (except the blind snake), they are shy, nonaggressive creatures that will quickly retreat if not provoked. However, five of the ACT's snakes are regarded as potentially dangerous to humans.

Snake Species In The ACT

Eight species are known to inhabit the ACT. The **Eastern Brown Snake** is the most frequently seen in suburban gardens. The **Red-Bellied Black Snake**, the **Tiger Snake** and the Black-headed Snake are seen only occasionally. In the ACT, the **Eastern Brown Snake** (*Pseudonaja textilis*) varies from brown to grey and can even be blackish, dark brown or orange. Young snakes may be entirely brown or may have a black patch on their head and a black band on their neck. Black bands across the body may or may not be present.



Brown snakes

There are several species of brown snake in Australia. Their generic name is *Pseudonaja*, which means false cobra, and refers to their impressive threat display. The most toxic member of the group, the eastern or common brown snake (*Pseudonaja textilis*) is found in the eastern half of Australia with a few populations in the Northern Territory. It has the second most potent venom of all land snakes (second only to the inland taipan) and is 12 times more toxic than the Indian cobra (*Naja naja*).

If you see a snake

leave it alone if it is in the house, close all the doors and confine it to one room if possible telephone one of the wildlife rescue organisations or the National Parks and Wildlife in your state - they can refer you to a snake collector in your area (a fee may apply) do not try to catch it yourself!

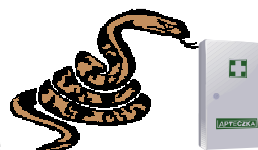
Why Do Snakes Enter Gardens



Sometimes snakes will enter suburban gardens in search of water (e.g. in pet bowls, fish ponds, swimming pools), particularly during long, dry periods and also in search of food (e.g. mice feeding from aviaries). In the ACT, snakes are most active from October to March when they sun themselves or when they move in search of food.

To reduce the chance of it staying, and in preparation for times when snakes are most active (i.e. spring and summer):

keep lawns and gardens well maintained; **remove** piles of wood or other debris from the yard or store it off the ground; **ensure** pet food and water bowls are not accessible to wildlife; **enclose** compost heaps to reduce mouse populations (a food source for snakes); **and tidy up** aviaries as these attract mice and in turn, snakes.



First aid for snake bite

Do: apply a pressure bandage firmly over the bitten area as you would for a sprain - this slows down the passage of the venom through the lymphatic system. Bandage from the bite to the fingers or toes, then back to the groin or armpit. splint the limb avoid moving the patient seek medical attention urgently by **ringing 000**

Don't: apply a tourniquet or constrictive bandage wash, cut or suck the wound or apply any chemicals to the bite area

Contact information **For a referral to a local snake collector contact the ACT Parks and Conservation - Southside, phone: (02) 6207 2127;**

Source: www.burkesbackyard.com.au and www.tams.act.gov.au/living_with_snakes