

THE CRIMEBUSTER



Neighbourhood watch

NORTHBRIDGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Bounded by: Warner's Reserve (N); Munro Park and Tunks Park (S); Middle Harbour (E); Alpha Road (W)



FEBRUARY 2007

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From the Coordinator

Hello and welcome to this latest issue of Northbridge's *Crimebuster*.

I'm pleased to report that 2006 saw relatively low crime levels in our area. Other positives have been four new Street Coordinators during the year and the placement of a folder on the Plaza ramp notice board for distribution of Neighbourhood Watch pamphlets and stickers, etc.

We still need more Street Coordinators. Only 20% of Northbridge streets currently have an active Street Coordinator. The main role of the Street Coordinator is to look after some 30 residences, highlighting key aspects of Neighbourhood Watch to your neighbours, supplying NHW brochures, signage and stickers and generally being a local contact point for the scheme. Time-wise it requires very little effort: four, short meetings a year plus a couple of hours speaking with your neighbours and anyone new moving into your street – a jolly good way to meet your neighbours! Please call me on 9967 3963 if you are able to help.

As you may know, the Neighbourhood Watch scheme was originally funded by two large insurance companies but unfortunately this is no longer the case. It costs us some \$500 to print and issue this *Crimebuster* newsletter to Northbridge's 2500 homes and businesses. Our main sources of funds are \$5 per annum donations by householders, donations by local businesses and organisations and advertising in or sponsoring of this *Crimebuster* newsletter. If anyone is aware of any business or organisation which might be interested in assisting us to continue publishing the *Crimebuster*, please contact me.

Northbridge Neighbourhood Watch would like to offer our sincere thanks to the committee and members of the Northbridge Progress Association for their recent significant donation. This generous funding allowed us to print and issue this newsletter.

*Howard Lardner,
Northbridge Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinator*

Meeting – February 28

Northbridge Neighbourhood Watch members are invited to participate as guests at future Northbridge Progress Association meetings rather than both organisations holding separate meetings. Next meeting will be at St Marks Hall, Malacoota Rd, at 8pm on February 28, when candidates for the State elections on March 24 will speak and answer questions. NNW Area Coordinator Howard Lardner will present a report. Stay for a cup of tea or coffee.



Local Area Commander Rex Little addressed Northbridge Progress Association in November.

Police priorities

Superintendent Rex Little said that customer satisfaction was his highest priority as head of the police Local Area Command, which encompasses a population of 115,000 from St Leonards to Lindfield and Lane Cove to Willoughby. Supt Little addressed an audience of Neighbourhood Watch and Northbridge Progress Association members on November 15.

He said that the command had a force of 144 police (including a number of detectives) based at Chatswood with very good facilities and technology such as DNA testing.

Supt Little said that his three priorities were:

1. Customer satisfaction and servicing, specially "letting you know the outcome";
2. Linkages with the community, so the police interact and engage with the community; and
3. High visibility policing, because visible police in the right place at the right time is the best deterrent to crime.

He told residents that Northbridge is relatively lucky in that its crime rate is low. The main problems were malicious damage, break and enter and traffic accidents. Robbery and assaults were very low. "Consequently you don't see police as often as other parts of the Area Command", he said. "Nevertheless, I want to hear from residents what we should be doing to meet Northbridge's needs."

In responses to questions from residents, Supt Little encouraged reporting of all graffiti cases and all suspicious behaviour in relation to potential firebugs.

KEEP THESE PHONE NUMBERS HANDY

For URGENT police assistance including a suspected crime in progress

000

For routine enquiries or advice after an incident phone Chatswood Police

9414 8499

Lane Cove Police

9428 1977

To give information about any criminal activities, phone Crime Stoppers

1800 333 000

or the Police Assistance Line (PAL)

131 444

Northbridge Neighbourhood Watch Committee

Area Coordinator: Howard Lardner – 9967 3963

Treasurer & Secretary: Ron Hicks – 9958 8765

Editor: Penny Lye – 9958 7566

Safety House Coordinator: Michael Bartok – 9958 5073

NSW Police Community Liaison Officers:

Senior Constable Matt Jewell 9414 8518

Youth Liaison Officer

Constable Lynne Kennedy 9414 8504



Safety House Program

Safety Houses are intended to provide a haven for children or adults who are frightened or threatened. To qualify as a Safety House, an adult should be home at least part of the day, particularly when school gets out; you must have a telephone and your front door must be visible and easily accessible from the street. People living in the house have to be approved by the police. If you would like to help, please contact Michael Bartok on 9958 5073.

In Northbridge, you'll see the familiar yellow Safety House sign at:

92 Baroona Rd
19 Namoi Rd
27 Neeworra Rd
243 Sailors Bay Rd
335 Sailors Bay Rd
24 Tunks St
17 Coolawin

Will you help your community?

Since the last issue of *The Crimebuster* in July 2006, three new street coordinators have volunteered their time, bringing the total to 17. In 1999 Neighbourhood Watch boasted exactly double that number.

Street coordinators and public enthusiasm are the essential ingredients to make Neighbourhood Watch work and many and much more of both are needed. Even if your street has one coordinator (see the list of street coordinators at right), it most likely needs more. To ensure the load is not too heavy, each coordinator visits only about 30 houses about once a year; this means that most streets need more than one volunteer. Do consider whether you can give a little of your time to help yourself, your neighbours and your community.

Contact Area Coordinator Howard Lardner on 9967 3963 if you can possibly volunteer. He will arrange for the necessary police checks to be made and will then supply you with Neighbourhood Watch police kits for distribution.

Look after your plastic cards

Losing your credit/debit card is highly inconvenient, and worse if it is stolen. Follow these simple precautions to lessen the likelihood of fraud or loss:

Crime statistics: July – December 2006

The latest statistics show that although crime is generally down in Northbridge, graffiti continues to be a problem, according to Senior Constable Matt Jewell. Twenty-one cases of malicious damage were reported to the police between July and December last year. "It's important to report it," he said.

Break and enter and stealing were the other major crimes, with 15 and 17 cases respectively. Four major traffic crashes were also listed, as well as one vehicle stolen. Two wallets were stolen in the Plaza. More details appear below.

Crime/Location	Method of entry	Stolen goods/offence
Baringa	Ground floor rear window	Camera
Baroona	Steal from vehicle	Woman's purse
Bligh	Ground floor side window	
Calbina		Malicious damage
Calbina	Driveway	Vehicle theft
Clifton	Ground floor rear door	Laptop computer, jewellery
Coolawin	Ground floor rear door	
Coolawin	Ground floor rear window	
Coorabin	Carport	Steal from vehicle
Golf course		Stealing golf equipment
Golf course		Malicious damage
Harden		Malicious damage
Harden		Malicious damage
Library		Graffiti
Minimbah	Garage	Steal from vehicle
Minnamurra		Malicious damage
Namoi		Fraud by impersonation
Narani	Ground floor rear window	Laptop computer, wallet
Narooma		Malicious damage
Neeworra		Fraud
Nulgarr		Malicious damage
Real estate agency		Graffiti
Sailors Bay		Graffiti
Sailors Bay	Ground floor rear window	Jewellery, Play Station
Strathallen	Ground floor rear door	Jewellery
Strathallen	First floor roof	Break and enter
Strathallen	Ground floor side window	Jewellery, laptop, camera, credit cards
Strathallen		Peep or pry
Supermarket		Wallet
Supermarket		Wallet
Tunks	First floor rear door	TV, floor covering
Upper Minimbah	First floor rear window	
Weemala	Driveway	Steal from vehicle
Weemala	Ground floor front window	
Widgiewa		Malicious damage

- Keep your cards in a safe place and always check they are there when using your handbag or wallet. Never leave them unattended at work or in your car.
- Don't use your cards over the phone unless you have initiated the call and the company is reputable. The same applies to the Internet.
- If you are asked for your card number on the Internet as proof of age, be very wary of giving it.
- Record your card numbers and the phone numbers for reporting lost cards in a separate location from the cards.
- Keep all transaction slips and check them against your monthly statement.
- Never lend your cards to anybody else.
- Always make sure you get your card back after a transaction.
- Secure your card and cash before leaving an ATM or EFTPOS terminal.

Street coordinators

Baringa Rd (west)	Mary	9958 5292
Bellambi St	Susan	9958 5510
Bligh St	Michael	9958 5073
Byora Cres	Penny	9958 7566
Coolawin Rd	Kathryn	9958 7080
Dalmeny Rd	Isabelle	9958 2037
Kameruka Rd	Nicky	9958 1716
Marana Rd	Luci	9958 0574
Marooba Rd	Guy	9958 6278
Minnamurra Rd	Ron	9958 8765
Namoi Rd	Susan	9958 7192
Nulgarr St	Howard	9958 8460
Sailors Bay Rd	Rob	9958 4506
Tycannah Rd	Ian	9958 5772
Ulric Lane	Jane	9967 2724
Weemala Rd	Janette	9958 2283
Weetawa Rd	AnneMaree	9958 8905