



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Harrison

Autumn Edition 2018

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Keeping Harrison Looking Good.

From time to time we have people comment on the look and feel of our suburb, and asking what they can do about things that they are not happy with. Recently one of our newsletter deliverers raised some issues that she was concerned about so I thought I would look at some of these and perhaps suggest some things that can be done.

One of these issues is **the parking of cars on nature strips, and footpaths**. In certain areas, homes may have several vehicles because of group sharing arrangements, or when older children in a family obtain their first vehicle. It seems in some cases people also have garages, but these are full of other belongings, so the cars can't occupy them. However, it is illegal to park any type of vehicle or trailer on nature strips or on footpaths, whether they are registered or not. For information, see - <https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au>; Residents must make an effort not to impede free movement of people or public vehicles.

Another issue is that of **maintaining shrubbery and hedges**, so that they don't block free movement along footpaths. Not only is it frequently unsightly, but also annoying for people (such as children on bicycles) to have to leave the pathway. If this applies to your residence please consider some trimming/ pruning!

Another issue is that of resident's **wheelie bins**. We all need to use these, but some people are more careless than others in their use of these bins. For example, some people fail to crush or fold boxes and other large items in their recycling bins. This makes it harder for the contractors to store in their trucks, taking up needed space. Also some people are unnecessarily using plastic bags in their recycling bins, forcing recycling staff to separate from the real recyclable items. As for the general garbage wheelie bins, some residents don't take enough care to ensure that the lids are closed when taking the bins out onto the street. A range of birds from ravens to magpies to Indian Mynas are ready to rummage through your foodstuffs and

wrappings and are more than happy to rip them out and spread them all over the street. A quick re-arrangement to tidy up the general garbage bin before putting out on the street should be all that is necessary to keep our streets and nature strips clean and tidy.

Speaking of nature strips, it would be nice if everybody took a little more pride in the small areas in front of their places. While it may be that someone else has left rubbish on your nature strip, it is not difficult to do a short regular clean-up, maybe on a weekend to keep your front area looking neat. Residents should not take the attitude that this land is not theirs, but the ACT Governments, because it is not practical for Government to carry out such work on every block in the Territory.

From the Harrison Area Coordinator:

The Good Neighbour Award this year has gone to Amy and Prescott Pym of Forde, for their outstanding work in their community and for Neighbourhood Watch. They will be presented with the Award, probably at an event on the upcoming Neighbour Day on March 25. (see below)

Neighbour Day is held every year on the last Sunday in March, and this year will be held on Sunday March 25. It is an annual celebration of Community, encouraging people to connect with those who live in their neighbourhood. Whether through a cuppa, a picnic in the park, or a message of support, it is the perfect opportunity to say thanks for being a great neighbour, and for being there to lend a hand

Each year a theme is chosen, and for 2018 it is "The importance of a supportive neighbourhood for children and young people" The principal aim of Neighbour Day is to build better relationships with the people who live around us, especially the elderly, children and the vulnerable. Neighbours are important because good relationships with others can transform communities. Social connection also makes us feel better as it helps prevent loneliness, isolation and depression.

A look at the crime statistics for Harrison in the last three months (see below), indicates that rates of crime here are relatively low. However, we should not be

complacent about this, and there is always room for improvement. Of some concern is the number of Motor vehicle thefts, which added to 7 in the past six months. Owners should always make sure their vehicle is securely locked, even when in the garage or when you are away from the premises. If you can't park the vehicle in a garage, at least leave it in a visible place, preferably well lit, and with a working car alarm. Another statistic that is somewhat worrying is the number of Other Property Damage instances. Difficult to control perhaps, but concerning nonetheless.

-Sep

Harrison Crime Statistics	Dec	Jan	Feb
Motor Vehicle theft	-	1	2
Bicycle theft	-	-	-
Number plate theft	-	1	-
Other theft	3	-	2
Shop stealing	-	-	-
Burglary- dwellings	1	-	-
Assaults	2	-	2
Other property damage	3	2	3
Arson	1	-	-

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More Street Names in Harrison:

Andruco Street. Named after a NSW natural feature, Andruco is a billabong on the Darling River in the county of Wentworth.

Eric Mawson Street. Eric Mawson (1927-2003), is associated with the locality of Well Station in Harrison. He was born in Queanbeyan, NSW, was educated at Cooma Public School and graduated at Hurlstone Agricultural College. After World War II, he taught Agricultural Science in Young before returning home to Cooma and the building industry. He farmed cattle at Captains Flat, NSW, and built the Forest Park Riding School. In the early 1980s he purchased sugarcane and cattle farms in North Queensland. In the mid-1980s, Eric secured 1600ha of leasehold land in Canberra, known collectively as Well Station. Eric managed the property for 20 years, farming sheep and cattle.

Otway Street. Named after Cape Otway, Vic. It is a major geographical feature of the south coast of Australia. Cape Otway was named after Captain William Otway in 1800 by Royal Navy Lieutenant James Grant, who surveyed the Victorian coast in the H.M.S Lady Nelson. The Cape Otway lightstation, situated on the sea cliffs where Bass Strait and the Southern Ocean meet, was first lit in 1848. In 1994, the introduction of satellite navigation systems caused the 'old light' to be turned off and replaced with a small solar powered beacon. The historic buildings have spectacular views and are a popular tourist attraction.