

- Keep records of the serial number of your car keys and accessories.

Remember, if a car door cannot be opened and the contents removed in a few seconds, a thief usually won't bother.

**Here are some practical tips to keep your home warm during the winter months.**

Using your curtains effectively in winter: When the sun is shining directly on a window, open your curtains or blinds to let the sun in. Human skin is more sensitive to radiant heat than it is to warm air. So, at a constant air temperature, you feel warmer when the sun is shining on your skin. Close window coverings as soon as the sunshine is off the glass.

Minimise the space you heat: Heating smaller spaces when necessary is far more efficient than heating the whole house. You don't need to heat rooms you are not using at the time. Create internal zones (e.g. living area, active bedrooms, guest rooms, study) for areas used at different times.

Consider reversible ceiling fans: Particularly in high ceiling rooms, reversible ceiling fans will push the heat down to where you need it in winter. The fan will also provide low-cost cooling in the summer.

For more ideas, tips and information visit: [actsmart.act.gov.au](http://actsmart.act.gov.au) email: [actsmart@act.gov.au](mailto:actsmart@act.gov.au) or call: 13 22 81

Important numbers: Police attendance: 131 444 | SES: 13 22 81 | Domestic Animal Services: 6207 2424 | RSPCA: 6287 8100 | Emergencies: 000 | Domestic Violence Crisis Service: 6280 0900 | Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800 | Lifeline: 131 114 | National Security concerns 1800 123 400.



Neighbourhood Watch

June 2018

MELBA / SPENCE

Area Coordinator: John W

Email: [melbaspence@nhw.com.au](mailto:melbaspence@nhw.com.au)



**From your Area Coordinator**

I thought I knew everything about NHW until someone asked me what it was. It is a programme for the community, run by the community. A programme that fosters personal safety; property security and proactively deters crime.

The programme is administered and supported by volunteers. Membership to NHW to show your support is appreciated, membership is free. Application forms are available from [www.nhwact.com.au](http://www.nhwact.com.au), or give me a call on 6259 1443.

We have a team of three volunteers who create, arrange, produce this newsletter and perform first tier distribution to 36 volunteer deliverers who hand-deliver the Newsletter to 2,400 homes. It is a big job. There is more to do to make the programme successful.

I am interested to hear from the community at large what else we could plan for Melba and Spence to fulfil the NHW aim. Your input and ideas about what would work best for Melba and Spence to foster a tighter community that is safety and security aware and proactive in deterring crime would be really appreciated.

I would also like to hear from community groups that may be active in Melba or Spence. For example, gardening, woodworking, photography, ceramics, bush walking, bicycle riding, model or RC trains, planes, and automobiles just to name a few. The criteria is that the community group is from Melba or Spence and primarily, but not necessarily exclusively for Melba and Spence residents. We could consider mentioning such community activity in the newsletter with a view to raise community awareness of its existence.

I am acting in this role. If you are interested in learning more about the role, please contact me direct. We would work together for say three months to give you a chance to assess if this would work for you. You can then count on my continued support.

To everyone, feel free to call me and share your ideas. The most valuable ideas are those that are shared.

**John Warouw - A/g Area Coordinator**

**Melba/Spence Neighbourhood Watch meeting is being planned for Saturday 17th November. More details to follow in the next newsletter, hope to see you all there.**

**Kip McGrath**  
Education Centre  
Belconnen & Gungahlin

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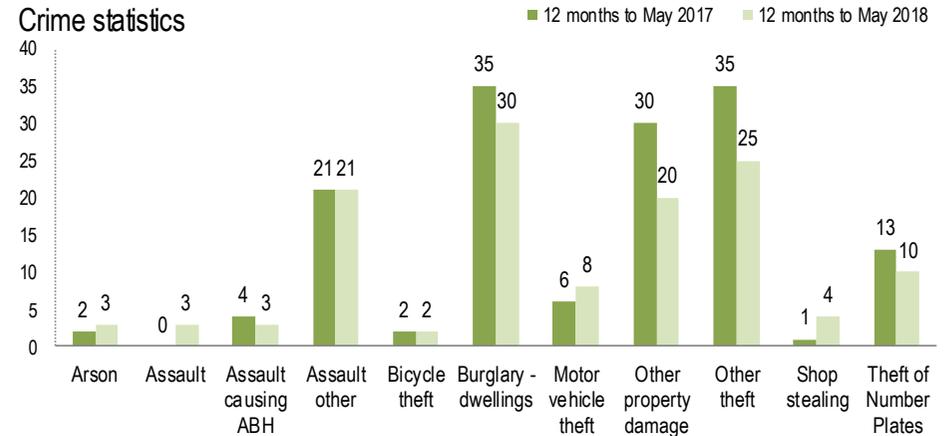
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Free local script pickup & delivery  
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**Phone: 02 6258 8295**

Offence type	Suburb	Street Name	Start Date
Assault causing ABH	MELBA	LEVEY	Sun, 18 Mar 18
Assault other	MELBA	VERBRUGGHEN	Tue, 6 Mar 18
	MELBA	BOULT	Sun, 18 Mar 18
	SPENCE	BENNET	Sun, 15 Apr 18
	MELBA	VERBRUGGHEN	Fri, 4 May 18
	MELBA	LEVEY	Mon, 21 May 18
Bicycle theft	MELBA	KRUSE	Sun, 22 Apr 18
	MELBA	CONLEY	Fri, 18 May 18
Burglary - dwellings	SPENCE	BADDELEY	Fri, 23 Mar 18
	MELBA	HENSLOWE	Sat, 7 Apr 18
	MELBA	KEATS	Wed, 9 May 18
	MELBA	ALFRED HILL	Sun, 13 May 18
	MELBA	CASTLES	Fri, 18 May 18
	SPENCE	EDMUNDS	Sat, 19 May 18
	SPENCE	BADDELEY	Mon, 28 May 18
	Other property damage	SPENCE	BOYLAND
MELBA		HOSKING	Mon, 23 Apr 18
SPENCE		CROFTS	Fri, 18 May 18
Other theft	MELBA	MIRANDA	Wed, 18 Apr 18
	SPENCE	KURINGA	Tue, 24 Apr 18
	SPENCE	GLASSEY	Mon, 30 Apr 18
	MELBA	HENSLOWE	Thu, 10 May 18
Theft of Number Plates	MELBA	CHINNER	Mon, 5 Mar 18
	MELBA	HORSLEY	Wed, 4 Apr 18
	SPENCE	HAMMETT	Sat, 5 May 18
	MELBA	CONLEY	Wed, 30 May 18

Neighbourhood Watch Service: Engravers available to borrow for one week at a time (telephone Bruce 6258 1360). Free window stickers available (Ask Lee at Spence Pharmacy, Spence).

Crime statistics



Protecting your vehicle

Seventy-five per cent of vehicles are stolen by opportunistic thieves and are then used in joy riding or to commit another crime. There are measures that you can take to improve car security and reduce the risk of theft.

Be sure to lock your car, shut your windows tight and never leave your keys in the car. Even the smallest gap allows the windows to be forced.

- Do not leave your valuables in a car. If you do need to, place your handbag, parcels, luggage out of sight in the boot or under the seat. Ensure that no one sees you placing these valuables in the boot.
- Keep your garage locked. Many cars are stolen from garages and driveways, both during the day and at night.
- There are many after market security devices that can be fitted which range from simple steering locks, alarms, vehicle identity dots, through to GPS trackers.
- Choose secure carparks. There is no such thing as a theft-proof carpark of course, but whenever possible choose a carpark that is well lit and with boom gates.
- Park well away from isolated or dark areas, especially at night.
- Be alert to any strangers showing an interest in your vehicle.
- Don't hide spare keys anywhere inside or outside your vehicle.
- A lockable fuel cap will prevent your petrol being stolen and force joy-riders to abandon your car when the fuel runs out.