



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Harrison

Winter Edition 2019

Police Assistance 131 444 Emergency 000

Email: Harrison@nhwact.com.au



Secure Living in Multi-Residential Accommodation.

With many people opting to live in apartments and multi residential accommodation, it is appropriate to consider the safety concerns of this style of living and what residents can do to maintain a safe and secure environment.

As with separated housing accommodation, it is still important to get to know your neighbours, and to be part of a community that can help each other to prevent or reduce crime.

Here are some steps that you can take to establish Neighbourhood Watch in your multi-Residential building:

1. When Strata Management meetings are held, incorporate Neighbourhood Watch points on the agenda. For example, what are the crime and social problems in the area?
2. What are the perceived levels of safety and satisfaction of living in the building?
3. What actions are being taken, or could be taken, to contribute to greater safety and security?
4. Formulate safety and cordiality procedures e.g. How will common areas such as swimming pools and basketball etc courts be supervised?
5. Determine what people can do if they don't know the person entering the building behind them.
-Residents should never allow a stranger to "tailgate" behind them into a secure building via lifts or carparks.
6. Is there a building "safe" word?

Some other relevant measures that may help to increase your safety and security are:

1. Marking your valuable property with a permanent marker, and recording serial numbers of these items in a safe place;
2. Installing a "Peephole" in your main door to check on callers.
3. Installing an alarm or personal CCTV to check on movements in your immediate environment.
4. Always check your surroundings when leaving the building.
5. check the identity of anyone who "buzzes" you

before giving them access.

6. Never leave an access card or token in your car.
7. Know the evacuation plan for your building.

Another important aspect is the question of how to share the information about what is happening around the building. Residents should be encouraged to be part of the solution, not just passive bystanders. Use available resources to record and share information with neighbours and the Police. In addition to using direct communication between people, technology can be used effectively to share information; such as texting, social media apps and email, with people that you know and trust. Collaboration functions as an informal network, and information that may be gathered can help to piece together a total picture that will help Police to identify an offender.

It is easy to overlook the benefits of knowing your neighbour when living in a multi-residential building. It is common for residents to just go to their apartments and close the door, not to be seen again till e.g. rushing off to work the next day. However, if possible, people should develop a sense of community spirit which leads to increased levels of participation. Perhaps events can be held to gather residents together on festive occasions, so that people do get to know one another better. No-one should live in isolation when they are surrounded with so many potential allies.

From the Harrison Area Coordinator:

A look at the crime statistics for Harrison in the last three months (see overleaf), shows that property theft and burglary continue to be of concern in our suburb. Some of the measures discussed above for Multi-Residential accommodation, are also relevant here, but in the case of individual housing, more care can be taken in removing attractive items from street view, and also in securing dwellings more effectively.

There is little going on with Neighbourhood Watch promotions now that winter has arrived, with planning focussing on Springtime and warmer weather. Chief

amongst these is Neighbourhood Watch Week in conjunction with Bunnings. From November 13-20 there will be a focus by Bunnings on safety and security information and equipment, and ACTNHW will work together with them to raise awareness of home safety and security. There will be more information to come on this in the next issue.

A reminder also, that information on Neighbourhood Watch activities may be found on the NHW website, <http://www.nhwact.com.au>, or from the Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page. –Sep

Harrison Crime Statistics	Feb	Mar	Apr
Motor Vehicle theft	-	-	-
Bicycle theft	-	1	-
Number plate theft	1	1	-
Other theft	4	4	5
Shop stealing	-	-	-
Burglary- dwellings	4	4	3
Assaults	-	4	1
Other property damage	-	1	1
Arson	-	-	-

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Naish Stormon
 Sales Consultant
 Suite 3A-5 Upper Level The
 Marketplace
 33 Hibberson Street
 Gungahlin ACT 2912 Australia
 T: 02 6213 3999
 M: 0488 164 426
 F: 02 6242 5755
 E: nstormon.gungahlin@ljh.com.au
 W: www.ljhooker.com.au/gungahlin



Looking to Buy? Have you got the PropertyBUG?



More Street Names in Harrison:

Collaroy Street. Named after the Collaroy Plateau, a natural feature and suburb of Sydney, NSW. Collaroy Plateau is 22 kilometres north-east of the Sydney CBD, and is part of the Northern Beaches region. “Collaroy” was thought to be an indigenous name meaning “Tall Reeds”

Parsley Street. Named after Parsley Bay, a bay within Sydney Harbour about 1km WNW of Macquarie Lighthouse trig station, in the Woollahra area. It has a popular Park, which has an enclosed swimming area, picnic facilities and a bushland walking track.

Sphinx Street. Named after Sphinx Rock, Queensland and located in Girraween National Park 260km south-west of Brisbane. The sphinx is a granite pinnacle bearing a large balancing tor. The area is popular with hikers and bush-walkers.

De Bortoli Street. This is a street NOT named after a natural feature in Australia. It was named to commemorate Mrs Guiseppina De Bortoli, who together with her husband Vittorio, founded De Bortoli Wines in the Griffith NSW area. The company is now one of Australia’s largest family-owned wine businesses. She was responsible for running the business side of the company, while her husband ran the farm and vineyards. The company now operates several vineyards in NSW and Victoria, and has various distribution/sales branches in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

Horse Park Drive. Named after one of the first homesteads in the Gungahlin area, built in 1853 for John Gillespie. It is in the vicinity of the suburb of Bonner. The site is classified by the National Trust.