



# Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter



Property including cash and wallets were taken

## SCUMBAGS TARGET FORESTDALE

**S**adly it seems that certain areas of Forestdale were targeted for break and enters over the February period. It appears that in most cases they were opportunist crimes .....creeping into homes while the residents were watching TV in another room by cutting small slits in the flywire of the security door.



You will notice that a number of the crimes committed in February were localised to a small group of houses.

Without further ado, here are the reported crimes for February

**NOTTINGHAM COURT** Between 11:30pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> February and 7:30am on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. An unlocked vehicle that was parked in the driveway was entered and goods stolen. The battery was also taken in an attempt to start the car next door. The scumbags have absquatulated in an unknown direction.

**NOTTINGHAM COURT** Between 7:30pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> February and 5:50am on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. A car door was damaged to gain entry to a vehicle .....and a car battery taken from next door used to try to start the car. The steering lock and ignition were both damaged during the break in and attempt to start the vehicle. Being unsuccessful, the offenders have cleared off in an unknown direction.

**LINCOLN GREEN DRIVE** between 1:00am and 1:30am on 6<sup>th</sup> February. Scumbags cut the flywire screen to a security door and opened the lock from the inside. Various goods were stolen.

**LINCOLN GREEN DRIVE** Between 6:00pm on 5<sup>th</sup> February and 3:00am on 6<sup>th</sup> February. Offenders have approached each downstairs window and used force on each of the security screens in an attempt to gain access. Fortunately all of the screens held and the scumbags moved on.

**WOODBINE STREET** Between 10:0pm and 11:15pm on 8<sup>th</sup> February While the resident was asleep in his bedroom offenders have made a slit in the flywire to allow them to open a security door. Once inside the scumbags have opened a slide drawer next to the sleeping victim then moved into the lounge room while the resident's wife was watching TV.

**NOTE** Shortly after, and as soon as the resident realised what had happened, the respective people were contacted re cancellation of the credit cards however over the next hour from the robbery, the scumbag had removed over \$700 from an ATM and booked up goods to over \$300 on a Myer card.....he was quick and knew he had limited time before the banks stopped validation on the cards.

The victim had the ATM pin number in code in the stolen wallet but clearly it didn't take long for the robber to break it. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PIN NUMBER IN THE SAME WALLET OR PURSE WHERE YOU HAVE YOUR CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS!!!!**

**LINCOLN GREEN DRIVE** Between 7:00pm and 9:00pm on 8<sup>th</sup> February Offenders have cut the fly wire near the lock on a security door and reached in and opened the door. Various goods were stolen

**WOODBINE STREET** Between 8:00am on the 9<sup>th</sup> February and 8:30am on 9<sup>th</sup> February Offenders have cut the flyscreen mesh on sliding rear doors. Fortunately no entry was gained.

**PARADISE ROAD** Between 11:00am and 12 noon on 26<sup>th</sup> February. Three different attempts were made to gain entry to this premises however fortunately all of them failed. The property backs onto an access path

**MACADAMIA STREET** Between 11:59pm on 26<sup>th</sup> February and 5:00am on 27<sup>th</sup> February An unlocked car in an open carport was entered and certain goods were stolen including a GPS that was stuck to the front window.

**As can be seen from the above crimes, there were a number involving access by simply cutting a small slit in the flywire of security doors and unlocking the latch! Constable Shane Whittaker stressed the importance of making sure all doors in your house are securely locked .....in particular when you are watching TV or in your back yard. This is a common crime and don't think they won't target your place!!!**

**THE PHONE NUMBER FOR THE  
BROWN'S PLAINS POLICE IS  
3451 6500**

# Forestdale Community News

## WOW!!

Were you one of the nearly 50 people at the recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch?? It was fabulous to see so many residents interested in what is going on in and around our suburb. It was literally standing room only.

Did you know that many Neighbourhood Watch meetings in other suburbs are lucky to get around 6 or 7 residents to attend. Hmmmmm perhaps there is a correlation between the number of interested residents who turn up to our meetings and the generally low crime rate we enjoy here!

There are many figures that come through from the police and you wouldn't want to know the crime rates in Heritage Park, Marsden and Browns Plains.....what they get in one month we would be unlucky to get in a year!

Whether the large crowd at our last meeting was because of the advertised talk by one of the Monks from the temple, or because Lynne Clarke was there to give an update on issues involving the local council or even the contingent from Creekside Court wanting to vent their anger at the Saturday night hooning from the independent garage....it was a perfect example of what Neighbourhood Watch is all about.....residents getting involved in issues in their community and exchanging views and ideas that will benefit all.

Needless to say there were many new residents at the meeting and we pass on a huge welcome to Karen from Lionheart St, Ryan from Forestdale Drive and David and Veronica from Woodbine Street.....as well as many more in attendance whose names I unfortunately didn't get....Thank you everybody and we hope to see you become a regular to our meetings!

And on that note.....get out a can of paint and splash the details of our next meeting on the fridge door!

**WHEN??** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April  
**WHERE??** 199 Forestdale Drive  
**TIME??** 7:30pm

Don't forget free bottomless coffee, tea and biscuits!!!

A guest speaker on the night was Monk Dhamadaso Bhikkhu (Joe) from the Thai temple on the corner of Paradise Road. The meeting was given an insight into the practices and activities conducted by the Monks on a day to day basis.....Monk Bhikkhu has kindly supplied a short outline of what their form of Buddhism is all about.....

### ***Buddhism – Clearing Some Misconceptions***

*By Dhamadasa Bhikkhu [known to Thai people as Ajahn Joe]...Part 1*

*There is a lot of interest in Buddhism these days. It is said to be the fastest growing religion in Australia,*

*but there are a lot of misinformed ideas out there about Buddhism. People that have not studied the Buddha's teaching take the place of an expert on it. This is not limited to westerners.*

*The Buddha taught that dogmas are beliefs that are clung to as the Truth. He said to know and honour our beliefs clearly just as our beliefs and that if we believe something, to say "I believe this..." not "This is the Truth" or "God said this." It is when we cling to our beliefs that we become closed minded and cannot accept criticism of them and cannot listen to others who disagree.*

*The Buddha taught one can form a THEORY of how to be happy from secondary authorities, like a teacher [including himself], tradition, religious texts, one's own logic etc, but the ultimate authority is personal experience. One should test that theory in one's life. He did not say "don't pay attention to secondary authorities", but just "don't BLINDLY believe them".*

*Once one tests a theory in one's life, one knows for oneself if it works or not. One does not know it is the Ultimate Truth; that it is true for everyone. Confidence that it would work for others is not KNOWING it will. Claiming to know for others is conceit, which the Buddha taught to eradicate from our minds.*

*Look for part 2 next month.*

## THANK YOU FORESTDALE !!

Following the article in last month's newsletter about the yearly voluntary contribution, we have had a good response from residents which will go a long way to cover costs of our operation.

There have been some outstanding contributions such as \$100 from the Troth family and numerous other contributions above the nominated \$5. The Neighbourhood Watch thanks each and every one of you for your contribution....big or small.....it all helps to keep the group alive and able to provide the usual high standard of services.

If you are on the email mailing list you would have seen bank details which would allow you to electronically transfer your funds should you not receive a visit from your local block co-ordinator.

For those of you that are not on the email list, I have reproduced the banking details below.

Commonwealth Bank  
BSB :064159  
Account No 00906064 F'dale NHW Inc.

Please advise Name, Zone & amount to [steveschuh51@hotmail.com](mailto:steveschuh51@hotmail.com) for our records.

Or you can put your \$5 in an envelope and put it in the letter box of Greg Broad at 122 Forestdale Drive....its the house on the corner of Forestdale Drive and Abbey St.

All contributions greatly appreciated thank you.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Many people in Forestdale own a business whether it be a trade, music teacher, naturopath, panel beater, handyman or service that other Forestdale people might like to use.

Periodically we send out a list of these businesses and services so that you can stick it on the side of your fridge and support your neighbours.

Soooo that being the case if you would like to be on the new Forestdale business listing which will be issued shortly, then make a point of contacting me on [tappy@cirruscomms.com.au](mailto:tappy@cirruscomms.com.au) or phone me on 3800 5880 with a short description such as Carpenter John Smith 3800 1234

It is planned to include the new listing in next month's newsletter.

## GOODONYA LCC!!

A huge thankyou goes out to the Logan City Council for their financial support for recent community events held in Forestdale. Without these funds we wouldn't be able to continue to hold days such as the Australia day party or the carols in the park.....and on that note, a big thankyou to our local councillor Lynne Clarke for lobbying on our behalf!

### ***LYNNE CLARKE WAS THERE!!***

It was great to see Lynne Clarke come along to our last meeting and bring us up to date with council issues.

Lynne reported that the trial cement edging between the road and grass footpath in Paradise Road will now be continued through to and along Forestdale Drive. This type of edging makes it much easier for mowing and looks attractive.

Lynne also mentioned that she is in the middle of discussions with her counterpart in the Brisbane City Council. As you may be aware, Johnson Road forms the boundary of Brisbane and Logan councils and collaboration has to be entered into before rules and regulations can be set that affects this road.

Lynne is investigating rumours that the NSW/QLD rail line is going to be widened to allow for increased rail traffic. (On a separate note, the railways will be replacing the wooden sleepers with concrete sleepers so the trains can go faster amongst other benefits)

Thanks Lynne .....and watch this space for outcomes and resolutions to these issues.

## ***YOU HEARD IT FIRST HERE!***

The Army is planning to burn off the training area in June or July.....weather permitting.

## **PAULINE AND THE GANG WERE VERY APPRECIATIVE.**

Those of you who are on the email Bush telegraph would have seen an email sent out asking for a skip or

something else with which to take collected rubbish away from Glider Forest on clean up Australia Day.

As it turned out the Railways still owns the land and would not give permission for people to go in and clean it up!!!.....Is this bureaucracy gone stupid with the slightest concern for litigation hindering common sense?

Anyway, Pauline and the gang at CARE would like to thank all those people who offered to take the rubbish away

## **NEED A CLEANING LADY??**

Wendy cleans houses and come highly recommended from people in Forestdale who already use her.

Make a note of Wendy's number  
3800 1031

## LETTERBOX THEFTS!

During February there was a spate of letterbox thefts.....opened letters from residents were found scattered around the streets clearly from scumbags looking for valuable contents.

This is one of those crimes that you don't know has happened to you unless a damaged letter is found or you are expecting something and it doesn't arrive. Unfortunately a number of destroyed letters have been found on footpaths.

Perhaps you should consider a lock for your letterbox!

## FORESTDALE WEBSITE

Did you know we have our own website??

David Bloom has kindly offered to take over the day to day running of it and it is chock full of information.

Past newsletters, stuff for sale, golf news, old photos and much much more.

Do yourself a favour and check it out.

[www.forestdale.com.au](http://www.forestdale.com.au)

### ***HOONING A PROBLEM IN YOUR AREA?***

Hooning is a widespread problem and the police wage a constant battle to keep on top of problem areas.

It was reported at the last meeting that the police are more likely to respond to complaints if numerous people ring and give details.....and just because you have done it before that doesn't mean you shouldn't do it again...and again....and again if necessary!

Keep the number of the Browns Plains police handy or in your speed dial and make sure you get your neighbours to ring. This could be a good way to go and introduce yourself to nearby houses.

**THE PHONE NUMBER FOR THE  
BROWN'S PLAINS POLICE IS  
3451 6500**

**A NOTE FROM KAREN STRUTHERS**

**Tougher Laws to Seize the Proceeds of Crime**

The ability of governments to confiscate the proceeds of crime is a very important law enforcement tool. This month in parliament I spoke in support of new laws aimed at strengthening the ability of our government to recover and seize proceeds of crime from serious offenders.

Crime figures in Queensland show that since January 2003 to 30 June 2008, the crime and misconduct commission (CMC) has, with cooperation of the Queensland police service and other law enforcement agencies operating within Queensland, restrained \$66.95 million in assets. During the 2007-2008 financial year, the CMC restrained \$18.56m in assets and confiscated around \$4.67m.

Among other things the new laws will ensure that property held outside Queensland, including property held offshore, can be seized.

**A NOTE FROM OUR ZONE CO-ORDINATOR**

*Thankyou Block Co-ordinators !! We appreciate your efforts and the Forestdale Neighbourhood Watch would like to invite you to a free breakfast so show our appreciation. (If you don't really want the breakfast, we would love to see you for a short while anyway, if you can spare the time.) Lincoln Green Park, 28th March, 8:30am.*

*I expect we will only be about an hour. We look forward to meeting you. From Steve Schuhmacher on behalf of your Neighbourhood Watch Committee.*

**TREASURERS REPORT**

Our treasurer was away this month and as such we don't have an accurate bank balance to report. However as we haven't had many financial changes since last month, it can be expected that we will have a similar amount to last months figure of \$4,353.

**BUSHCARE STUFF**

There are a number of Forestdale residents who get together on the third Sunday morning of every month to work on specific sections of Forestdale that need a little agricultural TLC Would you like to help??..No experience necessary. For more details contact George Robbins on 3800-0598.

Printing of the Forestdale newsletter kindly supported by the electorate office of Karen Struthers MP, State Member for Algeester

Area Co-ordinator	Steve Schuhmacher	3800 5959
Zone 1	Henry Hermann	3800 5732
Zone 2	Marie Travica	3800 9871
Zone 3	Nancye Reid	3800 3540
Zone 4	Perine Hughes	3800 3653
Secretary	Jennifer Wade	3800 9577
Treasurer	Brian Lewis	3800 1840
Newsletter Editor	John Tapp	3800 5880
Distribution	Susan Tapp	3800 5880
Works Organiser	Lloyd Robinson	3800 4939
Function Organisers	Lloyd Robinson	3800 4939
Chair Hire	Ann Schuhmacher	3800 5959

Police Liaison Officer, Constable Shane Whittaker, Browns Plains Police. The number for the Browns Plains police is **3451 6500**



**FORESTDALE  
SOCIAL GOLF CLUB  
COMMITTEE**

President	Ken Salisbury	3800 2768
Captain	Geoff Tate	0421186296
Vice Captain	Stephen Schuhmacher	3800 5959
Treasurer	Kim Littee	3848 1850

The last game of golf was at Keperra and sponsored by Adrian Bramwell who grew up in the area. Thanks Adrian.

Despite the involvement in the recent storm damage, the course was a pleasure to play on and the weather was fantastic. Winner on the day was Geoff Tate, The Leader of the Tate Gang, followed in second place by Derek Tate and third Justin Hollows.

The NTPs went to Derek Tate, Kim Littee, Eric Littee and Justin Hollows who also took out the long drive with what is rumoured to be a seven iron. Justin hits a lonnnnggg ball. The approach was won by Ken Salisbury.

Match plays have also begun so there's a bit of gamesmanship going on, but as they say, *the clubs will do the talking and you don't have to draw a map, just jot down a number!* By the time you get this, we will also have played at Redlands and be waiting for our next game at Windaroo on the 22 March.

New shirts have arrived and the Club will now be sporting more fashionable shirts, but maintaining the traditional logo. Why not come along and meet some other Forestdale people. Look us up on the Forestdale Web site for further information.

Cheers, Ken Salisbury

**INCREASED FINES AS OF 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY**

Did you know that on the 1<sup>st</sup> January traffic fines increased? Some of the more common offences and their new fines are listed below

Speeding Less than 13 km/h over	\$133+1 point
Speeding 13-20 km/h over	\$200+3 points
Speeding 21-30 km/h over	\$333+4 points
Speeding 31-40 km/h over	\$466+6 points
Speeding more than 40 km/h over	\$933+8 points
Failing to stop at Stop sign	\$300+3 points
Fail to stop at red light	\$300+3 points
Use hand held mobile phone	\$300+3 points