



# Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

4MBS *Classic* FM  
103.7



## 3 OFFENSES FOR OCTOBER

### IT JUST COULDN'T LAST

For



the last three months there has virtually been no crime reported in Forestdale. It would be nice to be able to put a finger on the specific reason but in reality it is a number of reasons and situations that contributed to this fine result.

One of the variables is the colder weather. Half brains don't like patrolling the streets in the dark when it is cold. Now that it is warming up, they are like an angry bear who is just coming out of hibernation.....they need a fix and feel a need for some extra cash. In many cases, police report that the cash is needed to buy drugs.....but you wouldn't be surprised with that answer anyway!

Just because the warmer weather is here, please make sure you still keep your windows securely locked. On acreage it is very easy for someone to come into the house while you are in it.....and you wouldn't even know!!! If you are a regular reader of this column you would see that a crime of that nature appears with monotonous regularity.

If you are up one end of the house watching TV, make sure the windows and doors at the other end are securely locked. And similarly, if you are working in your yard.....particularly operating motorised stuff such as a lawn mower, lock your doors and windows that are out of sight.....

Time and time again, I sit here and write about someone who had a half brain enter their house from the other side while they were in the yard. As much as we would like to think it won't happen....IT DOES!!!

The world has changed.....there seems to be a lot more dysfunctional families around these days and the offspring has a gene or two missing! There are many people out there who want to make your property theirs!!.....

In a lot of cases it isn't necessarily material goods such

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

as cameras, computers etc that they are after....if you have been smart enough to engrave them these half brains know that it is hard to get rid of them at their local pawn shop.

Many times it is purely cash that they are after and again, there are many stories of scumbags quietly entering houses and stealing wallets and purses from kitchen benches and bedroom desks. Please don't let me be writing about your house in here in the future.

And on that note, here are the reported crimes for the month of October

**ABBOTT ST.** Between 10:00pm on 11<sup>th</sup> October and 7:00am on 12<sup>th</sup> October. Unknown thief/s entered a house while the occupants were watching TV. The house was entered by sliding an open double glass and security door. A digital camera was pocketed from the kitchen dining area....and also a handbag was stolen from the same section. The thief/s have then walked into the kitchen area and stolen a wallet. All this while the occupants watched TV!!!!

The thief/s absquatulated in an unknown direction.

**HUNTINGDON ST.** Between 3:10pm and 3:20pm on 29<sup>th</sup> October. A paver was used to smash a rear glass sliding door and gain entry. Car keys and various financial papers were stolen. The thief has also removed the top drawer from the unit beside the bad and taken it with him!!!

The thief absquatulated in an unknown direction and with unknown means.

**SIEKO ST.** Between 9:00pm on 5<sup>th</sup> October and 6:00am on 6<sup>th</sup> October. Half brain has approached the house and thrown at least a dozen eggs at it.

There is no apparent damage however there were some sections of the house that were permanently marked by the egg and will need professional treatment to repair. This will involve claiming on insurance. The reason for the offence is unknown.

#### DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Queensland Police Service unless expressly so quoted. Information contained herein has been obtained from sources we deem reliable. However, we cannot guarantee its accuracy and interested persons should rely on their own enquiries.

# Forestdale Community News

## THANKS KAREN!

If it wasn't for the many people offering their help to get this newsletter out, it just wouldn't happen!

From the people who put it together, distribute it and print it there are many Forestdale residents involved in the cycle.

Apart from all the people involved, special mention should be made of the services provide by Karen Struthers, our local state government member, for the use of the office photo copying machine. Not only does Karen allow us to use the copier, but one of her staff members prints the whole 700 plus copies off for us.

It is things such as this that enables our Neighbourhood Watch to continue to survive and prosper.

Thanks you Karen and also to all the other residents of Forestdale who put their little bit in to ensure the smooth distribution to each and every letterbox.

## OUR LAST MEETING!

It was a slightly overcast night but that didn't stop a group of around 20 residents coming along to the last meeting.

Numerous issues were discussed and the police were there (as always) to answer any questions regarding issues that effect Forestdale....either directly or indirectly.

Also on the night we had a couple of guest speakers....

Danny came along from DSNumbers....he has developed Luminous 603 which is a solar powered house number. The unit has battery backup and is very visible from a long way.

### The Benefits of Luminous 603 are:



- Power saving, environmentally friendly.
- Weather proof.
- Highly visible for up to 30m.
- Maintenance free: No messy wiring, no bulbs to change.
- Simple DIY installation – 2 screws is all it takes.
- From 1 day of charge you receive 120 hours of use.
- 1 year replacement warranty.

The units are very stylish and would compliment any home or fence.

If you would like to know more, you can contact our secretary Jenny Wade on 3800 9577 who is taking orders on behalf of Forestdale residents.....A special Forestdale price is \$55!!!

These units have been retailing for \$99 so as you can see, this is quite a saving!

It comes complete with backup rechargeable batteries and 3 sets of numbers

Illuminated house numbers are ideal for friends , emergency vehicles, pizza delivery and all those other people who may come and visit you at night.

Just install and forget...no wires!



## John Simpson was also there.

*John is a Forestdale resident and specialises in financial planning and life insurance.*

*John's philosophy is "Providing quality service that helps you acquire protect and maximise your wealth"*

*If you would like to have your current situation assessed by a qualified financial strategist John is offering a special deal to Forestdale residents.*

*For your convenience, John will come to your house to discuss and advise you on all your financial concerns and offer suggestions on how you can maximise your returns that make you feel totally comfortable.*

*Phone 3809 4708 or 0417 455 289*

## LIKE TO GET YOUR FOOT IN THE DOOR??

Would you like to give a couple of hours to the Forestdale community and meet some new friends??

We are looking for some people who would like to sit on our Christmas committee.....this is the one that sorts out any issues with the Santa Float and arranges for fund raising events such as the selling of glowing novelty lights to the many people who visit to see the Christmas lights.



There is not a lot involved.....a meeting or two. We are looking for new ideas and any input you might have would be greatly appreciated.

For more details, please contact Jenny Wade on 3800 9577. Please come along and get involved. We would love to see you there.

## OOOOOPS!!!!

Contrary to what was suggested in the last newsletter, there was a rumour floating around at the last meeting that Paradise Road may in fact stay as a dirt road .....well at least for the time being.

This is rather sad as it is a miserable little road full of potholes and ruts.....and is certainly a deterrent for trucks to want to use it.....meaning they will use Johnson Road as the better alternative.

As there are very few voters in that area, it is unlikely the Brisbane City Council will have the sealing of Paradise Road anywhere near the top of its road building priorities!!

Should this decision change in the near future, we will keep you posted in the newsletter.

## DID YOU KNOW????

Did you know that this newsletter goes out to over 700 households in the Forestdale estate??

That is a lot of pairs of eyes looking at it and you can get it to work for you.

Do you have something to sell?....or have you a garage sale coming up?.....or perhaps you would like to meet people with a similar interest with view to regular meetings?.....or would you like someone to do some home maintenance?? It doesn't matter what it is.....this newsletter is here for your use and it is free!!!

The newsletter is put together in the first week or so of each month and is distributed a week or so later.

If you would like something included, you can email me the details on [tappy@commail.com.au](mailto:tappy@commail.com.au) or phone me on 3800 5880.

## VINNI'S TIPS

Our police liaison officer Vinni Fioriti is always passing on tips based on what the crims are targeting. Here are Vinni's tips based on criminal activities for the last month.....

➔ It seems that as the price of petrol goes up so do the number of numberplates being stolen. Obviously the culprits are using the plates to attach to their car before doing a runner at the local self service garage.

Please regularly check to see if your number plates are securely attached and see what you can do to affix them with tamperproof screws.

➔ If you leave your house for a short time for any reason at all.....make a point of locking up securely.

➔ If you see anything suspicious or even have a gut feeling that something isn't right, don't hesitate to call

the police. Don't forget to get as much information as possible as it is very difficult to track someone down without identification such as race, colour of hair, length, gender build i.e. fat skinny slim solid. Height, tattoos, beard or anything distinctive about the person.

Vehicle description: make, model, colour, rego or anything else distinctive about the car.

➔ Make sure your house number is clearly visible from the road...this is particularly important should an emergency vehicle need to come to your place.

## NOT GOING TO TELL YOU THE DATE!!

Just between you and me, the police are planning a blitz against hoons on Johnson Road in the near future.

The actual date it will be held is being kept a secret but if you know any hoons who hang around the independent garage you might like to warn them that perhaps they should go and hang around somewhere else.

Whatever happened to a nice card night or a stiff game of Monopoly??

## OUR NEXT MEETINGS!

Stuck in a rut and feel you need to add some excitement to your life??

Do you feel as though life is passing you by and there is no reason to go on?

Well perhaps it means you have never been to one or more of our monthly Neighbourhood Watch meetings. On the first Monday of every month (except January) we have our Neighbourhood Watch meetings where all residents are invited to come along and see what goes on or have a say on issues concerning them.

Some people say they have come away from the meetings inspired and feel they could take on the world.....you can too!!!

The next meeting is the last for the year and as a small way to thank the people who have helped in any aspect of our Neighbourhood Watch group.....even just by supporting the meetings.....there will be snacks and refreshments available at the conclusion of the meeting.

If you fall into the category of having never come along to any of the meetings then this is an ideal introduction to what our neighbourhood watch is all about. ....*knowing what is going on in the community and providing opportunities for neighbour to meet neighbour*.....plus don't forget there is the extra special bonus of being able to partake in some Christmas goodies and cheer!

**WHEN??** Monday December 3rd  
**WHERE??** 199 Forestdale Drive.  
**TIME??** 7:30pm

Make an effort.....just as the regular 30 or 40 residents do each month....it is a bit of fun and can be quite informative. You never know; you just might enjoy yourself on the night!!!

Write the above date on your calendar now....you will kick yourself if you forget!

## GOING AWAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS??

Our police liaison officer Vinni Fioriti will be at our next meeting to give you some tips and suggestions on how best you can secure your house over the holiday period.

Even such things as letting the police know that you will be away might be something you hadn't thought about. Of course this is particularly useful should you have an alarm system and it is set off during your absence.

Or were you aware of the "Party Safe" programme? A programme where you can register your party or your child's party with the police and they will make a point of putting your house on the call run.

Come along and hear what Vinni has to say as it could save you a lot of grief down the track.

### FORESTDALE NHW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

|                             |                   |              |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Area Co-ordinator           | Greg Broad        | 3800 2024    |
| Assistant Area Co-ordinator | John Menere       | 0409 470 375 |
| Zone 1                      | Henry Hermann     | 3800 5732    |
| Zone 2                      | Marie Travica     | 3800 9871    |
| Zone 3                      | Nancye Read       | 3800 3540    |
| Zone 4                      | Renee Rowley      | 3800 3260    |
| 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                  | Steve Schuhmacher | 3800 5959    |

Police Liaison Officer, Senior constable Vinni Fioriti, Browns Plains Police. The number for the Browns Plains police is **3451 6500**

## SOME GENERAL SECURITY TIPS.

You may have seen some of these before however even if one of the tips is useful to you, it will mean your house can be that little bit more secure.

It is unwise to leave messages on doors. They can tell a potential thief that no-one is home and it is virtually inviting him in to come and help himself.

If you are having goods delivered while you are out, have a neighbour collect them. A parcel on the doorstep also indicates that no-one is home.

Funeral and wedding notices containing an address can tell a potential thief when to strike. If attending such events, have a friend stay over or have a neighbour watch your house.

If you live alone it is best not to advertise the fact in the telephone book or your letter box...ie Jean Smith. Consider leaving a light on and the radio playing to give the impression that someone is home.

Keep cash and valuables out of easy reach and out of sight. If you have quality home safe, use it!! Consider a safety deposit box for especially valuable items.

If you hear an intruder in your home, do not risk injury. Concentrate on raising the alarm and staying safe. If you are at a neighbours house and see signs of a break-in, do not enter. The intruder may still be inside.

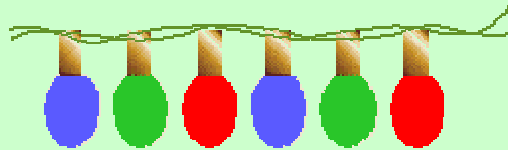
Go to a neighbours house and seek help to call police and wait there until they arrive.

Although you think it will never happen to you, it is a good idea to include the local police station and emergency 000 into the touch buttons. The number for the Browns Plains police is **3451 6500**

Consider connecting a telephone extension to your bedroom. Messages on answering machines should never indicate that you are out or you live alone.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Just when it seems as though you have put your lights and displays away for another year it is time to drag them out again.



You better get cracking to get your lights up as it is only a few weeks until Christmas.

## TREASURERS REPORT

Most residents would be aware of the success of the recent motor show that was organised by the Neighbourhood Watch committee. Overall it achieved everything the committee wanted it to.....get local residents out and about and provide a relaxed environment to enable neighbour to say hi to neighbour.

On the other side of the coin, financially the car show managed a small loss. However, as we are not in the business to make money, the overall public relation exercise was a huge success and it is certainly on the cards to run another one next year.

As at the end of the month, we had just over \$6,000 in the bank. All going well and assuming we can get enough people to put their hands up to help out, we could be planning another party in the park shortly. Otherwise our traditional FREE Australia Day bash in the park will be the next get together.



## FORESTDALE SOCIAL GOLF CLUB

### FORESTDALE SOCIAL GOLF CLUB COMMITTEE

|                         |                   |              |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| President               | Noel Griffin      | 3800 8817    |
| Captain                 | Geoff Tate        | 0410 168 246 |
| Vice Captain            | Steve Schuhmacher | 3800 5959    |
| Secretary/<br>Treasurer | Peter Frazier     | 0418 729 790 |

The golf club would love you to come along for a game. Ring any of the committee for details.