

## \*\*\*\*\*Project 'eyewatch' and other stories of Interest:

Last week we included a list of jewellery recovered by Strike Force Better. Several people commented on the usefulness of this type of information. Why not then take a look at what Neighbourhood Watch groups are doing on facebook, as part of Project **eyewatch**? Everyone knows someone who can show them facebook. It's more about whether you are motivated! As more and more people realise how facebook can be used in a positive manner, hopefully the message will spread amongst those who are nervous about their privacy. You just need help setting your privacy settings - more next week. buttons.

On facebook you will have access to many relevant news items, from the Police, the SES, Live Traffic Updates, Storm warnings, etc. Consider joining in with Project **eyewatch** and get up-to-the-minute and relevant information. Neighbourhood Watch groups are communicating between Victoria, London, Ireland, the Gold Coast, etc. Their comments and themes are surprisingly very similar regardless of location. We particularly like the Geelong slogan "Neighbours looking after neighbours" and their photo:



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### **GARNER CLANCEY**

**Lecturer, Sydney Institute of Criminology University of Sydney**

Garner was guest speaker for **Gordon Area 3 / 4 Neighbourhood Watch group** at their meeting on Monday night. He gave a very interesting talk, attempting to speak about issues that were particularly relevant to his audience. Thank you Garner. Too much for here, but a snippet:

He pointed out that the good news doesn't often get the emphasis in the media. For instance, in New South Wales we are seeing levels of 'Property Crime' offences in a dramatic decline, back to the lower levels last seen in 1998. It's this longer term bigger picture that's important. Vehicle theft is another example, down by over 50% of the figure a decade ago. This is explained by better car security systems provided by the car manufacturers, making it harder to steal a

vehicle. Subsequently, the bulk of vehicles stolen these days are older models. Immobilisers and keyless entry are common nowadays, so it's more likely that you will have a window broken to remove visible property such as laptop, wallet, or GPS. Alternatively, your number plates may be stolen, put on another vehicle and used for petrol theft from gas stations.

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**Computer Safety Tip#12:** See website [www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com) for the truth on emails doing the round. "The definitive Internet reference source for urban legends, folklore, myths, rumours and misinformation." Try looking at their 'Top Scams' section (eg Nigerian letters, Microsoft employees phoning to tell you there's a problem with your p.c., a massive unclaimed lottery win in your name, etc), or see what they have to say about those emails forwarded by well-meaning friends suggesting you might get cancer by reusing water bottles/reheating plastic in the microwave, how to give yourself heart massage in an emergency, Strawberry Quick Methamphetamine (today's latest warning on facebook) and so on... the list is endless. Please use the Snopes website to check this important-sounding advice before you forward to your contacts. You may save yourself from embaressment. Similar websites are [www.urbanmyths.com](http://www.urbanmyths.com) and [www.hoax-slayer.com](http://www.hoax-slayer.com) .

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**How about? Planting thorny bushes under your windows to put off the burglars. This is called "defensive planting". Clever planting in your gardens, in window boxes and other access points can help increase your sense of security at home and in your garden. Spikey, thorny and jagged bushes, climbers and other plants quickly add protection to a home without having to put in expensive burglar systems. With the advances in DNA, it is always possible that a thief will get a scratch and leave a blood sample on the windowsill, allowing a link to a criminal.**

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Website to watch: Victoria's Crime Stoppers website [www.vic.crimestoppers.com.au](http://www.vic.crimestoppers.com.au)

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Hornsby Police news,  
27/2/12

The following relate to local issues in the Kuring gai Local Area Command.

Incident: Car crash female injured  
Time/Date: About 9 am on Saturday the 25th  
Place: Fishburn Rd, Galston approximately 1 km north of Galston Rd  
Vehicle 1: BMW  
Driver 1: 50 year old male

Details: The BMW was travelling south on Fishburn road. For reasons yet to be established the BMW has left the road and collided with a tree. As a result of the crash the front seat passenger a 51 year old female suffered 2 fractures to her left leg and a fractured thumb. Both the driver and passenger were conveyed by ambulance to Westmead Hospital for treatment. Police are yet to get a version of the collision from the driver.

Incident: Stolen goods charge  
Time/Date: About 10.15 pm on Saturday the 25th  
Place: Forbes street, Hornsby  
Person 1: 20 year old male.

Details: Police attending a nearby home have seen the 20 year old male walking along Forbes street, As the male saw police he tossed a carton on the ground that he was carrying and kept walking. Police chased and stopped the male, then collected the carton. Police saw several electrical items within the carton police allege these to be stolen goods. The male refused to be interviewed and was charged.

Court: The male is to appear at the Hornsby Local Court on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March charged with goods in custody suspected of being stolen.

Incident: Steal from motor vehicle  
Time/Date: Between 11,15 am and 4, 15 pm on Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup>  
Place: Dangar rd, Brooklyn

Details: Unknown person/s have smashed a rear quarter window of a Toyota Rav 4, several items have been stolen from within the car. The stolen items include a Laptop Computer and a GPS unit the total value is estimated at \$1,150.

Police are appealing to witnesses who may have information relating to the above incident to contact Hornsby police on 9476 9799, or phone Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 to report any information relating to the matter anonymously.

END

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**Remember to report any suspicious activity in the neighbourhood directly to Hornsby Police on 02 9476 9799. DON'T DELAY IN REPORTING.**

**Please encourage your neighbours and friends to join our NHW Gordon Mailing list.**  
[Forward](#) this email to a friend

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