



# Neighbourhood Watch

Twin Waters Neighbourhood Watch (Coolum 5)

**DECEMBER 2020**



<http://coolum.nhwq.org/>

<b>Emergency 24/7</b> (Ambulance, Fire, Police)	<b>000</b>
<b>Policelink</b> (Non-urgent Matters) 24/7	<b>131 444</b>
<b>Crime Stoppers</b> (Report Crime Information)	<b>1800 333 000</b>
<b>Hoon Hotline 24/7</b>	<b>134 666</b>
<b>Coolum Police</b> (Local Police Advice)	<b>5440 2777</b>
<b>S.E.S.</b> (Disaster, Cyclone, Flood, Storm, Rescue) 24/7	<b>132 500</b>
<b>DV Connect</b> women (Domestic Violence Hotline) men	<b>1800 811 811</b> <b>1800 600 636</b>
<b>Lifeline</b>	<b>131 114</b>
<b>Relationships Australia</b>	<b>1300 364 277</b>
<b>Kids' Help Line</b>	<b>1800 551 800</b>



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[www.mypolice.qld.gov.au/sunshinecoast](http://www.mypolice.qld.gov.au/sunshinecoast)

## Protect against Coronavirus

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.

If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. Cough into your elbow.



## Neighbourhood Watch

[nhw.twinwaters.qld@gmail.com](mailto:nhw.twinwaters.qld@gmail.com)

### Area Co-ordinator

David Hughes	5448 8747
<u>Barcoola</u>	
Rob	5448 9998
<u>Baywater</u>	
Jenny	5450 5881
<u>Fairways Island</u>	
Rob	5450 5711
<u>Karinya Island</u>	
Anthony	0428 237 762
<u>Magnolia Lane</u>	
Judy	5448 9892
<u>Podium</u>	
Desleigh	0402 756 580
<u>The Banks</u>	
John & Ruth	5450 7046
<u>The Cove</u>	
Hugh & Marion	5450 5279
<u>The Landings</u>	
Merryl	5448 9414
<u>The Links</u>	
Peter	5450 5857
Lloyd (Lytham Ct)	5448 8920
<u>The Shores</u>	
Fred	5450 5938
Bob & Judy	5450 5038
Rob	5448 9998
Bill	5450 5387
<u>The Sound (incl Water Gallery)</u>	
Barry	5450 5545
<u>Twin Waters Retirement Village</u>	
David	5448 8747
<u>Viewpoint</u>	
Max	5448 8973

## COOLUM POLICE REPORT

by Senior Constable Maria O'Brien, Coolum Beach Police

During the upcoming holiday period, Coolum Police would like to once again remind residents and holiday-makers to deter opportunistic offenders by keeping doors and windows locked and keeping valuables out of site. If/when enjoying the beach during the warmer weather, please do not leave valuables unattended on the beach whilst you are swimming. There have been several recent stealing offences of wallets, mobile phones, car keys etc being taken from the beach while the owners are in the water. Please do not relax on security measures during the holiday months. If you are staying in holiday accommodation or at caravan sites, it is important to lock doors and windows and secure valuable items.



## ROAD RULES: U-TURNS

At traffic lights: Only allowed when there is a U-Turn Permitted sign. Give way to all other vehicles (even if they are facing a stop or a give-way sign) and pedestrians.

At intersections without traffic lights or at breaks in the centre island of the road, you must not do a U-turn if there is a no U-turn sign.

You must not do a U-Turn across a single or double, continuous centre line; across a continuous centre line to the left of a broken line; or over a painted island in the centre of the road.

To safely make a U-Turn, you must have a clear view of approaching traffic; complete the turn without blocking the free movement of traffic; give way to all vehicles and pedestrians.



## A BURGLAR SHARES HIS TIPS

Written by ViP Bill Jeffs

The secretary of a NHWQ group that has been around for more than 30 years, is currently reducing the amount of paper documents held, by scanning and filing important documents such as meeting minutes, newsletters and other correspondence. The scanner takes its own time to scan and save documents so there has been time to read some of them.

A 1995 Watch newsletter reported on a guest speaker at the previous meeting— “John” (no, not his real name) spoke about his life as a burglar, claiming to have committed around 400 break-ins. “John”, in his early 30s, started on a crime spree to fund his lifestyle of “having a good time”, particularly gambling. He said that he preyed on people who had left their balcony sliding doors or windows open and usually stole cash or small electrical items that he could pawn. To beat people like him he advised :

- ◆ *Even if you are at home, don't leave handbags or wallets in view of windows or doors; it encourages opportunistic thieves to break in*
- ◆ *Always lock windows and doors, even when you are in the house and especially if you are in the back yard*
- ◆ *Leave an internal light on when you go out*
- ◆ *High fences around houses allow burglars to work without being noticed*
- ◆ *If a burglar is in the house, don't confront him or her due to the risk of injury*
- ◆ *Most burglars by-pass houses with dogs or alarms*
- ◆ *Join a Neighbourhood Watch group. Street signs, letterbox plaques, window stickers, engraved property and alert neighbours all combine to deter would-be thieves.*

Here we are 25 years later and most of what “John” said at that watch meeting is still very valid. These days, funding drug habits can be added to the reasons why people steal from others, while cash and small electrical items, as well as jewellery, are still targets for thieves.

Thieves don't want to be seen or heard and definitely don't want to alert residents. CCTV camera systems are reasonably cheap these days and the fear of being recorded can also deter would-be thieves.

It is imperative that we listen to the experts, whether they be burglars or police officers, and take on board home security tips.

*(cont. next column)*

### A Burglar Shares His Tips (cont.)

Hopefully, “John” is older and wiser now but his story is just as real now as it was in 1995.

Now might be a good time to look around your own home and to complete your own home security assessment using the form **Home Security Guide** <https://www.police.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-06/Home%20Security%20Guide%20-%20English.pdf>

## PUPPY SCAMS—A BONE OF CONTENTION



Despite the media attention after former AFL player Andrew Leoncelli lost nearly \$3000 in a puppy scam, people are still being caught out. In October, 17% of online buying scams reported to IDCARE's National Case Management Centre involved puppies and kittens. And 7% of these scams involved someone in the “military”.

With Christmas coming, there is a likelihood the number of these scams will increase.

If you can't buy a puppy from a shelter, research the breeder thoroughly.

Supplied by IDCare <https://www.idcare.org/>



## CRIME ALERT: SECURE YOUR NUMBER PLATES

By Senior Constable Sandy Atkinson

This year, there have been 339 number plate thefts reported in the Sunshine Coast Police District, with 16 of those incidents occurring in October.

Crimes of this nature are of great concern to the community, as stolen number plates are often used by offenders in attempts to make their identification more difficult while committing further offences.

Sunshine Coast Police urge all vehicle owners to secure their number plates with one-way screws which cannot be removed with conventional tools. The removal tools are only available at local police stations and are restricted for sale.

One-way screws are available for purchase from leading auto retailers, or you can drop into your local police station for further information to prevent number plate theft.

For a limited time, some local stations throughout the district have supplies of these one-way screws that will be distributed to the local community for free.