



Neighbourhood Watch

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November, December
2022 and January 2023



Kureelipa, Dulong & Mapleton Newsletter.

Next meeting: *Tuesday, 8 November 7:00pm - Kureelipa and Dulong Community Hall*

What is Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch is an internationally well-recognised and established brand within the community and has a very strong and committed volunteer base. It is a community-driven program delivered by community members in partnership with the Police. The objective of Neighbourhood Watch is to encourage community members to work together to establish local partnerships with the goal of reducing crime and improving the safety of all people who live, visit and do business in our neighbourhoods.

Neighbourhood Watch - Area Coordinator's Message.

Thanks to all those that attended our Annual General Meeting in August. Your committee was all re-elected. Thank you to Dan, Suzi, Shane, Rosemarie, Annie and Joy for your ongoing contribution. The exception was our Deputy Area Coordinator Rob Davey, whose pressing work commitments prevent him from continuing. Thanks Rob for all your great work. We are now seeking a new Deputy Area Coordinator. Please consider joining our team.

Your committee has been gathering regularly each month for breakfast at the Barn on Flaxton. It is a pleasant gathering where we discuss the matters of the day. There are no meeting formalities or speeches. If you would like to join us, we meet from 8:30am on the last Friday of the month. The next gathering will be on the 25th of November.

We recently met with other local Neighbourhood Watch groups at the Nambour Police Station to discuss future direction. We are actively considering all merging into a Nambour & Hinterland NHW organisation. Communication would be largely via Facebook or similar online apps. We are seeking your feedback. Please provide your input to these plans.

The next General Meeting of the Kureelipa-Dulong-Mapleton Neighbourhood Watch will take place from 7pm on Tuesday the 8th of November. A speaker from Beyond Blue will talk with us about the vitally important issue of mental health. I hope to see you there.

Jack Foley

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3/51 Currie St, Nambour Qld 4560 * P.O. Box 690, Nambour Qld 4560
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Police Report

Unfortunately there is no police report available this quarter.

We thank Queensland Police Service (QPS) for their service.

Community Camera Alliance

The Community Camera Alliance (CCA) is a state-wide QPS-led community safety initiative in which local businesses and residents with closed-circuit television (CCTV) can register their systems with police to assist in preventing and solving crime.

The alliance has been successfully rolled out across 16 areas in Queensland with the Sunshine Coast being one of the newest region to be invited to register their CCTV systems. Community Camera Alliance is an opportunity to register your closed circuit television (CCTV) system with the Queensland Police Service.

Police Commissioner Katrina Carroll said “This initiative is a great example of how the community can partner with police in the pursuit of solving crime and contributing directly to making the Sunshine Coast safe.”

CCTV has become a crucial investigative tool in modern policing. CCTV footage holdings are regularly used to investigate and solve often serious crimes and are invaluable when used as evidence. It provides an unquestionable account of the identity and actions of offenders. CCTV images can potentially reduce investigation times, resulting in swifter outcomes. Historically, investigators have benefited from CCTV systems in business or commercial premises. Recent advancements in technology, affordability and accessibility have resulted in more people choosing to utilise CCTV at their homes for safety and security.

Knowing the location of established CCTV systems within the community will maximise the efficiency of investigative resources and minimise the loss of potential evidence. Locating cameras can be time-consuming and resource-intensive but it is crucial, particularly in serious investigations.

Can you register?

Registration is open to any individual, owner or operator of a CCTV system within police districts supporting the program . All you need to do is to complete the registration form at <https://forms.police.qld.gov.au/CCTVRegistration> and your voluntary registration will be stored in an existing secure database named QPRIME which is utilised and solely accessed by members of the QPS.

How will your CCTV registration be used?

Members of the QPS will be able to access the details of your registration for purposes of investigating crime. CCTV footage may be used for court purposes.

Security of the information you provide will be maintained by the QPS. If you change your mind, you can notify us at any time to have your registration removed from the database.

Your registration advises police where a CCTV system is located. If police believe that your system can assist to solve a crime or help in any other way, you will be contacted and asked to help.

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Guest Speaker from Beyond Blue

Fantastic news - to follow-up on the series of articles in the last newsletter about mental health, we have been able to secure community speaker, Richard West, for our next meeting on Tuesday 8 November at 7pm.

Richard West has had an extensive career in finance based in several countries including the UK, Italy, Greece, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. As a (very) mature student, he completed a journalism degree in 2013 and taught English in China for a year. In 2016, Richard embarked on a lifelong ambition to ride his motorcycle on a solo circumnavigation of Australia. He rode 16,000km in 46 days and during the journey successfully raised \$6,000 for Beyond Blue. Richard followed this adventure with a master's degree in Creative Writing from the University of the Sunshine Coast and published his memoir in 2020.

Richard will share his journey of hope, recovery and resilience in the face of mental health conditions, talk about what Beyond Blue does and how the audience can seek help or support a friend or family member who may find themselves in a difficult position. Richard's talk typically goes for 30-40 minutes.

Jet's Law - Medical Condition Reporting

Most of us know that drivers over the age of 75 are required to carry a medical certificate confirming that they are medically fit to drive. What many people may not know is that it is not only older drivers who need a medical certificate; any driver with a medical condition that might affect their ability to drive is required to carry a medical certificate with them as a licence condition.

In February 2004 a driver suffering an epileptic seizure lost control of his vehicle and collided with another vehicle, resulting in the death of 22 month old Jet Rowland. The accident severely injured Jet's mother, Anita, and left his older brother, Bailey, confined to a wheelchair. Jet Rowland died because of a driver's medical condition. Following that tragic event medical condition reporting legislation was introduced. In recognition of the little boy whose death inspired the legislation it was called Jet's Law. There is now a mandatory requirement to report any long term or permanent medical condition that may affect a person's ability to drive to Queensland Transport. Licence renewal forms now include specific questions about certain conditions, including epilepsy. Reporting is not confined to licence renewal and must be made as soon as the condition develops.

Some examples of conditions which need to be reported include blackouts, fainting, diabetes, epilepsy, brain injury, eye and hearing problems, heart disease, psychiatric disorders, sleep disorders and stroke. Your health professional is in the best position to determine if you are medically fit to drive or if you need to carry a medical certificate with your licence.

Medical condition reporting is outlined at

<http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Licensing/Medical-condition-reporting.aspx>

Don't take a chance on a repeat of Jet Rowland's tragic death – if you have any medical condition that might affect your ability to keep driving, talk to your doctor.



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Home security during holidays

Christmas, Easter and annual leave are great times in our lives – **don't spoil them by overlooking basic home security.**

One result of the holiday break is that many homes will be empty for a few days, which means that thieves might also decide to have day *outings to interesting places* – such as our homes. Christmas is a time when many homes are empty, albeit for just a few days, like Easter which is another popular time for “holidays and visits”.

Even if you have done it before, now is a good time to “revisit” your home security using the home security tools in the Queensland Police Service website.

<https://www.police.qld.gov.au/safety-and-preventing-crime/home-and-multi-residential-security>

The police provide four key principles to home security –

- Make it easy for an offender to be seen;
- Make it difficult for an offender to gain entry;
- Make it difficult for an offender to exit with your property;
- Make it difficult for an offender to gain benefit from your property.

Ten ways to protect your home while away

- 1. Get a home monitoring system** - Some home security systems even allow you to view live video remotely from your phone, so you can see what's happening in real-time. This small investment is well worth your peace of mind!
- 2. Keep up on regular maintenance** - Do you normally have gardeners keep up your lawn and landscaping? Weekly visits from the pool guy? Keep these schedules.
- 3. Leave a key with a friend or neighbour** - By having a trusted friend or family member stop by every day or two, you can avoid unexpected deliveries being left out and also have normal routines (watering plants, moving wheelie bins) carried out.
- 4. Hold your mail and newspapers** - Fully stuffed mailboxes and yellowing newspapers piled in the driveway are dead giveaways that you aren't home.
- 5. Keep a low profile on social media** - It is fun to “boast” about all the fun you are having during your break but keeping your social media posts until after you come home is another deterrent. Thieves do follow social media and may find out where you live when you or someone else accidentally posts your address.
- 6. Lock up valuables in a safe** - Any run-of-the-mill thief knows to check the bedroom first for valuables, so get a small safe and keep them secure.
- 7. Don't leave a hidden key** - Potential thieves will always look for the hidden key, and they will find it. This spare key is the one you should be giving to a friend or family member.
- 8. Install an outdoor sensor light** - Motion-sensor flood lights can also prove to be useful year-round for general home security whether you're home or not. Also set up timers for a few internal lights.
- 9. Disconnect your garage door** - Garage door openers (depending on what brand they are) can sometimes be opened by universal remotes, so be proactive! Disengage your garage door opener.
- 10. Advertise your security** - Having a security system will most definitely deter burglars, so advertise it! Post these stickers near your most obvious and accessible entry points like your front and back door, as well as side doors off your garage.

Home security while at home

Further things your can do include:

- Ensure that all external doors, including your garage, of your home are solid and fitted with quality deadlocks.

-Consider fitting security screen doors, designed and installed to Australian Standards.

- Install a door viewer that allows you to see the person before you open the door.

- Fit secure locks to your windows which meet Australian Standards and never leave the keys in the window lock.

- Ensure security grills and shutters are properly installed and allow an exit in case of an emergency.

- Always ensure car keys and house keys, together with mobile phones, handbags and wallets, are stored out of sight.

- Ensure trees and shrubs are trimmed to allow visibility to your property and your house number is clearly visible.

- Lock away items of value such as bikes, lawn mowers and garden implements such as ladders. Always keep your garage or shed door closed and locked with a key.

- Have an emergency evacuation plan and review it regularly.

Queensland Police encourage you to conduct regular audits of your home security.-

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Kureelipa and Dulong Community Hall

The Kureelipa and Dulong Community hall is humming along. We continue to have regular hires for Yoga, Pilates, Mapleton Community Choir, Mapleton Bridge Club, Gospel Church and Spinners Weavers and Fibre Artists, Sewing and Patchworkers.

It is always exciting to host the Mapleton Community Choir recital - this Spring recital is Songs of Hope and Praise. Always done with flourish and polish. Friday October 28th evening and afternoon Sunday 30th .

We have had plans drawn up to improve accessibility for all abilities to our verandah, bathroom facilities and entry. Now to begin the process of grant writing! Offers of help and support are always welcome. You don't have to attend meetings to help us.

Heartfelt thank you to our local resident and garden helper, Brian Hansen. He pops up and keeps our grounds looking good without even needing to be asked. This is type of support is most appreciated as we all lead busy lives and our little hall is much loved by the hirers. A huge thank you to **Central Tree Mulching** for delivering a load of mulch . We urge locals to remember their generosity when you are needing some tree lopping done. For all enquiries email: kureelpahall@gmail.com or phone 0434117249.



Mapleton Hall and Sportsground

Permanent bookings :—

Monday

Yoga with Liv 6 pm

Tuesday

Chimes 9 am
Pre-Junior Ballet and Dance from 3.30 pm
Barre and Bliss 6 pm

Wednesday

Junior Ballet and Dance from 4 pm

Thursday

Precision Yoga 9 am
Petite Performers Dance 10.30 am
Dance Fitness 6 pm

Friday

Pilates 8.30 am

Sunday

Yoga 8am

Monthly:

"Singing Circles" 3rd Sunday (afternoon)
Mapleton Markets 4th Saturday 8-12pm

Woodfordia's "Festival of Small Halls" event on Sunday 16 October was another successful, sold-out event.

Our appreciation of local organisations' involvement — Blackall Range Lions Club (food/meals), Mapleton School P&C. (coffees, teas, cakes), BRLUPA (bar) and our Support Musicians - John Roza & Tom Ryan plus our M.C. Mr.Ian Mackay. Thank you to the generous local businesses (The Flaxton Barn, Mapleton Public House, Roger Loughnan Real Estate) for their support of this event.

In **breaking news** - Children's LEGO Workshops are to commence next school holidays. - dates to be confirmed and will be published on the Hall website once finalised.

For hall bookings contact **Lindsey Wareham 07 5445 7253** website: www.mapletonhall.org.

NHW Contacts:

Area Coordinator

Jack Foley 0488 036 007

Deputy Area Coordinator

Currently Vacant

Zone Coordinator Dulong

Rosemarie Gready 5441 5256

Zone Coordinator Kureelipa

Annie Aitken 0409 760 907

Zone Coordinator Mapleton

Joy Wiseman 5478 6121

Secretary

Suzie March 0417 798 018

Treasurer

Daniel Bishop 0428 277 190

Police Liaison Officer

Senior Constable Andy Simpson

5459 0200

Newsletter Editor

Shane Josey 0417 601 745

NHWkureelipaDulong@gmail.com

Kureelipa and Mapleton

Rural Fire Brigades



For fire safety in your area: www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au

The Mapleton and Kureelipa brigades are seeking volunteer fire-fighters. Training and personal protective equipment is provided. Contact the First Officers for more information.

Fire Wardens and First Officers.

Dulong Warden (Don McIntyre) 5441 2538

Kureelipa Warden (Garrie Scott) 5476 0281

Kureelipa First Officer (Steve De Vere) 0408 710 156

Mapleton Warden and 1st Officer (Geoff Noble) 0499 778 806



Who do you call?

Call 000 if:

- The crime is happening now.
- When your life or property is in immediate danger
- When the event is time critical, for example a fire that concerns you.

PoliceLink 131 444

Call this number if the crime is not happening now, is not life threatening or there is no likelihood of the suspected offender still being in the area. Used for non-urgent reporting and enquiries.

CrimeStoppers 1800 333 000

This is a community program that helps people to provide anonymous information about criminal activity.