



**South Gippsland Crime Watch News
Bass Coast Police Service Area
Neighbourhood Watch Creating Safer Communities
AUGUST 2011**



**IMPORTANT
NUMBERS**

Emergency 000
Mobiles 112
State Police,
Ambulance or Fire.
Police:
Cowes 5122 1790
Foster 5682 2407
Inverloch 5674 1202
Korumburra 56551244
Leongatha 5662 2285
Loch 5659 4267
Meeniyan 5664 7281
Mirboo Nth 5668 1444
San Remo 5678 5500
Toora 56862485
Wonthaggi 5672 1222
Crime Stoppers
1800 333 000
**Neighbourhood Watch
& Safer Communities
Unit – L/S/C Brett**
Godden 5131 5085
0400 050 749
brett.godden@police.vic.gov.au
Facebook: Senior
Constable Brett
Child Protection
13 12 78
Consumer Affairs
5116 5701.
South Gippsland Laws
5662 9200
**Gippsland Dispute
Settlement Centre**
1800 658 528

**HOT SPOT – POLICE NEED THE PUBLIC’S HELP
BURGLARY AND THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE AT TURTONS CREEK**

Sometime between the 10th and 14th August unknown offenders have broken into a rural property at Turtons Creek after forcing a window. They have then entered outlying sheds on the property stealing various tools as well as a motorcycle and quad bike. The motorcycle is a Yamaha TT 250cc blue in colour and the quad bike is a Suzuki 300cc fawn coloured Quad bike. Around the time of the burglary a vehicle was observed with the quad bike and motorcycle on board. There is no registration number however the description of the vehicle is that it appears to be a V8 or 6 cylinder with extractors and large exhaust and was in good condition with tinted windows. It has a polished wooden tray without sides and no bull bar or aerial.

Police urge anyone who may have information related to this incident to contact Crime Stoppers on: 1800 333 000 or visit: www.crimestoppers.com.au or ring Foster Police on 5682 2407.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH’S NEW WEB SITE UP AND RUNNING



Neighbourhood Watch Victoria’s new web site is up and running.

The new site allows each Police Service Area (PSA) to run its own dedicated site within the site. This new concept for NHW Victoria means local information can reach the community more efficiently and

you can now find local events and newsletters to all Division 5’s NHW PSA’s at the one location.

Division 5 has three PSA’s covering four Local Government Areas; Latrobe, Baw Baw, Bass Coast and South Gippsland with Bass Coast and South Gippsland combining to make the Bass Coast PSA.

When you go to the new site at www.nhw.com.au at the top of the page you will see the four Victoria Police Regions, North West Metro, Southern Metro, Western and Eastern listed at the top of the page. Click on Eastern and a drop box will display all the PSA’s. Click on Latrobe, Baw Baw or Bass Coast to take you to your local site.

Over the coming months we will continually update our local sites to bring you the most up to date West and South Gippsland crime statistics, NHW Crime Watch Newsletters, events and crime prevention information. It may take us a while so keep checking on a regular basis. We are on the job!

SUBSCRIBE TO THE SOUTH GIPPSLAND CRIME WATCH NEWS.

To receive this newsletter electronically by email, simply email Leading Senior Constable Brett Godden at South Gippsland and Bass Coast’s Safer Community Unit at brett.godden@police.vic.gov.au requesting to be added to the electronic mail list.



JULY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH/SAFER COMMUNITIES GROUP REPORTS

FOSTER CRIME REPORT

ASSAULT - 1 for July (2 June) - One offender charged with threats to kill and assault with a weapon.

PROPERTY DAMAGE - 2 for July (Nil June) - Station St was targeted with a front fence damaged whilst on the 3rd July the entrance sign to the hospital was damaged by youths kicking it.

BURGLARY - Nil for July (1 June) -

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (1 June) -

THEFT - 1 for July (1 June) - A cash tin was stolen from a business premises in Station St.

KORUMBURRA CRIME REPORT

ASSAULT - Nil for July (Nil June)

ARSON - Nil for July (Nil June)

PROPERTY DAMAGE - 6 for July (6 June) - Three offenders charged. In the other three incidents windows were targeted either kicking or hitting them with an object causing them to break.

BURGLARY - 1 for July (1 June) - A premises in the industrial was entered after smashing a glass panel. Once inside the offender has triggered an alarm and then decamped.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT - 4 for July (Nil June) - An electric fence and charger were stolen and a saw from a building site and cash were stolen in the other incidents.

LEONGATHA DISTRICT CRIME REPORT

ASSAULT - 2 for July (5 June) - Two offenders charged with recklessly cause injury during July.

PROPERTY DAMAGE - 3 for July (8 June) - One offender charged. The other two damages occurred at residential premises with a vehicle and letterbox damaged.

BURGLARY - 1 for July (Nil June) - A chainsaw was stolen from a vacant farm shed.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - 2 for July (1 June) - A number plate was stolen from one vehicle whilst a vehicle parked on the street outside the victim's residence had its rear driver's window smashed and the GPS stolen from the windscreen and a laptop from the boot of the vehicle. The vehicle was then rolled down the street where it collided with a tree.

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE - 1 for July (Nil June) - This is the same incident as mentioned above.

THEFT - 3 for July (2 June) - Cash was stolen from a handbag whilst there were two incidents of theft of petrol from a local service station.

SANDY POINT CRIME REPORT

ASSAULT - Nil for July (Nil June)

PROPERTY DAMAGE - Nil for July (Nil June)

BURGLARY - 1 for July (Nil June) - Sometime between 4th and 15th July unknown offenders forced entry to a residential premises in Ocean View Pde. Once inside they have stolen a TV and alcohol.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT - Nil for July (Nil June)

MEENIYAN AND DISTRICT CRIME REPORT

ASSAULT - Nil for July (Nil June)

PROPERTY DAMAGE - Nil for July (Nil June)

BURGLARY - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT - 1 for July (Nil June) - Unknown offenders entered the CFA shed and stolen a jump starter and battery charger sometime between 5th May and 2nd August.

JULY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH/SAFER COMMUNITIES GROUP REPORTS

MIRBOO NORTH CRIME REPORT

ASSAULT - 2 for July (Nil June) - Offenders have been charged with unlawful assault in both incidents.

PROPERTY DAMAGE - 2 for July (1 June) - Trees were damaged in a new garden whilst farm equipment was damaged at another property

BURGLARY - Nil for July (1 June)

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE - Nil for July (Nil June)

THEFT - 1 for July (Nil June) - Construction tools were stolen from a building site between the 13th and 15th July.

LOCH DISTRICT CRIME REPORT

For the second month in a row no crime was reported in Loch.

TOORA CRIME REPORT

The only crime reported was the theft of a mobile phone.

Police remind the community if they see something suspicious they should ring **000** or if they have information in relation to an offence contact Crimestoppers on **1800 333 000** or www.crimestoppers.com.au.

For information on becoming an active participant in NHW by creating a NHWatch/Safer Communities Group in your area, or to invite NHW/SCG to become a part of your organisation thereby attending your meetings, contact Leading Senior Constable Brett Godden on 5131 5085 or 0400 050 749 or email him at brett.godden@police.vic.gov.au

ROADSAFE GIPPSLAND FREE MOTORISED MOBILITY DEVICE PRESENTATIONS



RoadSafe Gippsland is delivering a new program to aid those who have purchased or are thinking of purchasing a mobility scooter.

The sessions will look at information on

- the best mobility scooter to purchase for your needs
- the law in relation to the use of your scooter
- safe use of your scooter
- plus more.

Each participant will be provided with a FREE safety pack including a high visibility flag, high visibility vest, a helmet, high visibility strips and general information.

Monthly sessions will be at the Latrobe City International Power Traffic School, Brisbane Street, Morwell (opposite Kernot Hall) and run from 10am -12.30pm.

Scheduled Sessions: 24 August, 28 September, 2 November, 30 November, 14 December, 25 January, 29 February, 28 March, 18 April, 30 May and 27 June 2012.

To register and book in for your session, please contact Alana on (03) 5172 2651 or visit: www.roadsafe.org.au



CRIME PREVENTION TIPS - HOUSE NUMBERS

Make sure your home is clearly identifiable with a house number. Some councils are now making it an offence to not have an appropriately displayed house number, hitting the hip pocket where it hurts. An easy to see house number allows emergency services to easily find your home when you call for assistance. It also means your pizza will arrive hot!

By the same token, if you live on a rural property it can be difficult for the emergency services to find your property because it is not unusual for there to be a line of letterboxes at the top or end of the street. This is convenient for road side mail delivery but it does not help emergency services identify your property. Place an identifying feature at the entrance to your driveway to make it easy for services and visitors to locate your property. Colourful fence posts, business signs, signs with property names, an old milk can or even an old piece of farming equipment can assist the police, ambulance and fire services to locate your property in an emergency.



PROTECTING YOUR RURAL PROPERTY FROM THEFT FROM FARMS AND COUNTRY SHEDS



"Times have been tough enough for the man on the land in recent years. With so much to cope with, it is easy to forget something minor like locking your shed. That's what happened to me, and it cost me thousands of dollars' worth of equipment. I've learned my lesson. It is pretty hard to stop determined thieves but your chances are a lot better if you make life as difficult as possible for them." Farmer, Western District

Crime Stoppers and Victoria Police are concerned about the volume of equipment, from sophisticated tractors to rolls of fencing wire, being stolen from farms. Farms are often relatively easy targets for thieves. The end result is increased insurance, security and law enforcement costs which we all have to bear.

There is plenty people living on isolated properties can do to protect themselves from thieves:

- Be alert and secure your property
- Remove keys from machinery
- Lock doors of machinery cabs
- Use lockable fuel caps
- Store large farm equipment in secure sheds or highly visible areas
- Store valuable equipment in a secure building out of sight, behind a locked door
- Return broken down machinery to the shed
- Use high security padlocks and lock outbuildings when you are not using them
- Consider building a lockable metal cage inside a building for tool storage
- Install outdoor security lights where you have valuable equipment

If you become aware of any information about individuals who have engaged in theft from farms and other country properties, contact your local police or Crime Stoppers. The smallest piece of information could lead to a criminal charge and a safer environment for you and your family.

PROTECTING YOUR LIVESTOCK



"It was only a couple of cows that went missing. I'm sure they would have been taken by someone nearby, but I don't reckon the police have time to worry about a few animals. Besides, I wouldn't want the word to get out that I'd pointed the finger at anyone around here." Farmer, Gippsland

Victoria Police estimate the value of stolen livestock in Victoria at more than half a million dollars per year. It is a significant cost to farmers and ultimately to the community as a whole.

Many farmers fail to report livestock theft because they do not think police can do much about a relatively small scale report. But that one report might provide the final piece of information needed for an investigating officer to solve a livestock theft investigation and charge a thief.

Protect yourself from stock loss. Don't wait until the day before sale to tag your livestock.

The National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) is Australia's system for livestock identification. It enables livestock to be tracked from their property of birth to slaughter.

Always report livestock loss, no matter how small the incident.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS - GOOD NEIGHBOURS ARE GOOD WATCH DOGS



Neighbourhood Watch is about the community looking after itself and neighbour looking out for neighbour. A good neighbour is as effective a crime prevention tool as police patrolling your streets. A good neighbour protects your home while you are away, particularly if you let them know you are away for a day or two or twenty. Make sure you leave them with your contact number and ask them to call police if they see anything suspicious. They will also keep an eye out for visitors and will remove junk mail from your letter box, particularly if you get the post office to hold your normal mail.