



Gympie District Crime Bulletin



December 2011

Welcome to the Christmas Edition of the Gympie District Crime Bulletin for 2011

The Crime Bulletin is a joint initiative between the NHW Program, Crime Stoppers and the Queensland Police Service. It is a FREE publication which can be found on the QPS website under Programs.

Would you like to be added to or removed from the distribution list of the Gympie Crime Bulletin?

Click on the email icon and right click to open the hyperlink:-



Follow QPS on Twitter
<http://twitter.com/QPSmedia>

The purpose of the Crime Bulletin is to focus on the promotion of community awareness in relation to crime trends, crime prevention initiatives and community safety.

We are now on Facebook

facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/QueenslandPolice>

TELL US WHAT YOU KNOW, NOT WHO YOU ARE!

Do you have information that could help solve a crime? You can anonymously provide information by telephone or online. You may even be eligible for a reward if the information provided leads to the arrest of an offender. Contact Crime Stoppers 24hrs a day by telephone on 1800 333 000 or via their website:- www.crimestoppers.com.au



It is timely around this upcoming holiday period to remind people to lock and secure their vehicles, to prevent the theft of property from vehicles. There is also the risk of vehicles not just being unlawfully entered but stolen as well.



LOCK IT or LOSE IT!

- ✓ Secure all doors and windows
- ✓ Consider anti-theft devices such as steering locks, alarms and engine immobilisers
- ✓ Do not have valuables such as mobile telephones, wallets, sunglasses etc. on display – make all reasonable attempts to conceal them. Consider keeping them on your person or storing them at home or your workplace
- ✓ Secure and affix property such as toolboxes and equipment external to the vehicle – use quality padlocks, chains, reinforcing etc. Consider only carrying around toolboxes and other equipment as is necessary.
- ✓ Consider engraving property such as tools, equipment and jewellery (and whilst your at it your house contents) or enquire with Police about using microdot technology (Nanotag)
- ✓ Park vehicles in a well-lit or high visibility area
- ✓ Report any suspicious persons to local Police or alternatively Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000

CALL POLICELINK ANYTIME TO REPORT A NON-URGENT CRIME OR INCIDENT

**ENSURE YOUR PARTY
IS REMEMBERED FOR THE
RIGHT REASON
SMART PARTY TIPS**

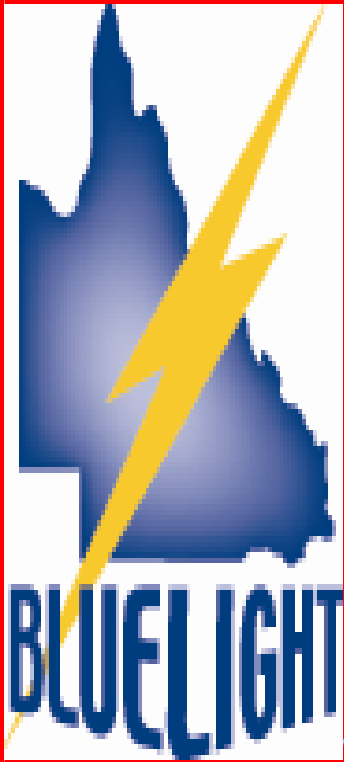
- Register your party with Police
- Send out invitations; know who you are inviting
- Greet your guests as they arrive and hand them a Party Safe Wristbands. That way you know who was invited and who is a gatecrasher!
- Do not advertise on FaceBook or MySpace
- Tell your neighbours
- Be a good host – provide food and non-alcoholic drinks
- As the host you can ask people to leave
- Police can respond anytime of the day or night to a noise complaint

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU
CALL POLICE BEFORE
ANY INCIDENTS GETS
OUT OF CONTROL**



HOLIDAY SECURITY

- ✓ Remember your accommodation name, location and telephone number
- ✓ Ensure your unit/room door is locked when sleeping or away (including sliding glass doors on balconies)
- ✓ Don't leave items of value in view inside your unit
- ✓ Always lock the doors and windows in your vehicle – never leave items of value on display
- ✓ Don't leave any valuable items left unattended on beaches or in public places eg. cameras, mobile phones, laptop computers, backpacks, shopping etc.
- ✓ Be aware of your surroundings, especially when using ATMs.
- ✓ Avoid carrying large amounts of cash
- ✓ Plan your night before you go out – use courtesy buses, taxis or travel in a group, especially if consuming alcohol
- ✓ Choose the safest route out at night – shortest is not necessarily safest
- ✓ Maintain contact with family and friends when you are away for an extended period



Gympie Blue Light 2012 Disco Dates

27 January 24 February 23 March
20 April 25 May 27 July 28 September
26 October 23 November

Note: There is no June, August or December Disco

Gympie Civic Centre (unless otherwise advised)
Ages 8-14 years • Tickets \$10 • 6:30-9:30pm SHARP
www.gympiebluelight.org

**THINK BEFORE YOU
DRINK.
THINK TWICE BEFORE
YOU DRIVE.**

**Plan ahead – How are you
getting home?**

- Catch a cab
- Walk
- Call someone
- Stay overnight
- Have a designated driver

THE FACTS

Alcohol impairs your ability to drive safely. It also affects your judgement, vision, coordination and reflexes and increases your risk of having a crash.

SAFETY IN A SOCIAL SCENE

If you are going to be drinking alcohol or are with friends who are, you are encouraged to consider and implement strategies that most suit your needs and your lifestyle. In all situations, if you feel your safety is being threatened call triple zero (000).

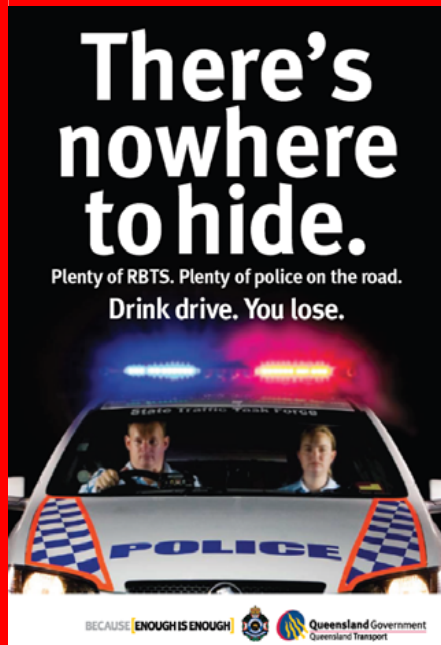
PLAN

- How to get home safely
- To drink – don't drive
- How many drinks you will have and stick to the plan

AVOID

- Shouts – drink at your own pace
- Mixing drinks
- Top-ups – finish each drink before you have another
- Mixing alcohol & drugs (including prescription medications)
- Situations that may lead to confrontation or conflict

On average drink driving contributes to more than one in four fatalities (25.2%) on Queensland roads each year.



There's nowhere to hide.

Plenty of RBTS. Plenty of police on the road.
Drink drive. You lose.



You can't drive straight on drugs

Queensland
Government
Queensland Transport

SAFE DRINKING PRACTICES

- Eat before and during drinking to slow the absorption of alcohol into your bloodstream (avoid salty foods)
- Pace yourself. Try having a 'spacer', a non-alcoholic drink or water every second or third drink.
- Use standard drinks: Monitor how much alcohol you drink.
- Be assertive. Don't be pressured into drinking more than you want or intend to. Tell your friends 'thanks, but no thanks'. It is easier to keep track.
- Get involved in other activities eg. dancing or a game with the kids. Don't just sit at the table and drink!
- Don't leave a venue with people you don't know or trust – stay with and look after your friends.
- Be aware of *drink spiking!* It is when alcohol or another substance is added to someone's drink without them knowing, leaving the person seriously vulnerable to abuse within a very short period of time.

TIPS TO PREVENT DRINK SPIKING

- Take your own drinks to parties
- Avoid leaving drinks unattended
- Only accept drinks from trusted people
- Watch your drink being poured
- Don't accept an open container of drink from anyone
- If you feel intoxicated in a disproportionate amount of time to the amount of drinks that you have consumed, immediately tell a friend, seek medical assistance and then report the matter to Police.

FACTS

A standard drink is equal to .02%. (10ml of alcohol). Only time will reduce your blood alcohol concentration.

MYTHS

Drinking a strong coffee, large quantities of water, exercising, sleep, a cold shower or inducing vomiting will not cause you to become sober.



Sparkling wine	Wine	Light beer	Regular beer	Fortified wine	Spirits
100 ml	100 ml	425 ml	285 ml	60 ml	30 ml



Be cautious if you get an unsolicited call and the caller requests personal information. It may be a scam. Hang up and verify who they are by independently finding their contact details from a trustworthy source such as a phone book and if necessary contact them directly.

Protect your personal information and financial details. Don't provide your details to anyone who has contacted you out of the blue or you don't know and trust. Even if they claim to be from a reputable company or government department, it may still be a scam.

If you get a call from someone claiming you are entitled to a refund, have won a holiday or have a virus on your computer, hang up immediately. Contact



2011 COMMISSIONER'S CHRISTMAS GIFT DRIVE

For most of us, the fast approaching Christmas season is all about the excitement of presents, eating too much food and enjoying the festivities with family and friends. Sadly for some, that's not the case. Christmas is just another reminder of what they are missing.

The Commissioner's Christmas Gift Drive brings a smile to the faces of at-risk or disadvantaged children by collecting gifts donated by QPS members and matching them up with nearly 700 excited kids. The Commissioner's Christmas Gift Drive Elves have begun wrapping and allocating gifts which have been donated by QPS members or purchased using donated funds.

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to donate a gift you can still help out by placing an unwrapped gift in the sleigh at Police Headquarters or making a deposit into the following Qld Police Credit Union account:

your bank immediately if you think you have provided your details to a scammer.



QPCU Account Holders:

Internal transfer to: 1015102s1.1
Reference: Your name

External transfers to:

Account Name: Commissioners Gift Drive
BSB: 704052
A/C Number: 100139370
Reference: Your name

The annual gift drive has become an institution in the QPS, with members from around the state supporting the event. Established in 1992 by the Police Headquarters Switch Board, it is now enthusiastically organised by the Policelink team with support from the Oxley Police Academy, QPCU and Variety Queensland.

The Commissioner's Christmas Gift Drive presentation of gifts will occur at 1000hrs on 13 December 2011 at Police Headquarters.

If you have any enquiries, please contact Sergeant Julie Ferguson at Ferguson.JulieM@police.qld.gov.au or Mrs Natalie McMillan at [McMillan.NatalieM\[IMD\]](mailto:McMillan.NatalieM[IMD]) or telephone 3055 6000.

NOISE COMPLAINTS

Such complaints can be received from a member of the public or be initiated by a Police Officer when excessive noise is being emitted from a place by:

- Musical instrument
- An appliance for electronically producing or amplifying music or other sounds
- A gathering of people for a meeting, party, celebration or similar occasion

If a Police Officer is satisfied that the noise is clearly audible at or near residential or commercial premises and is excessive in the circumstances:

The Police Officer may enter the place without a warrant and require the person responsible for the noise to state:

Correct name, date of birth and address AND

Provide identification to confirm those details.

1st complaint received:



The officer must give the person responsible for the noise, a Noise Abatement Direction to immediately abate the excessive noise and comply with direction for 12 hours afterwards

2nd Complaint received and a direction has already been given then designated responsible person will be investigated and may end up before the court. (Sect 582 Police Powers & Responsibility Act)

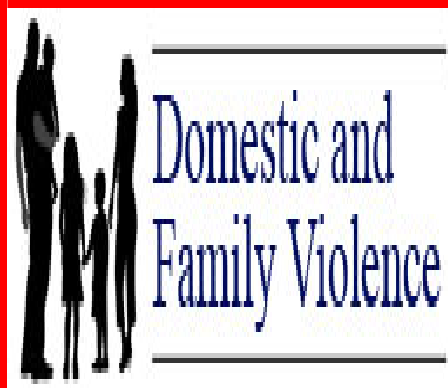
Maximum Penalty \$1,000

In relation to the property that is or was being used to produce or contribute to the production of the noise, a Police Officer can:

- Lock, seal or otherwise deal with it in a way to prevent its further use
- Seize and remove it from the place; or
- Make it inoperable by removing any part and seizing and removing the part or parts from the place.

Note: Noise Complaints about motor vehicles can be reported to Police

Note: Complaints about open-air concerts, commercial entertainment, or public meetings should be referred to appropriate authority i.e. EPA, Council, Liquor Licensing



Who's
Chatting to
your kids?



**ONE PUNCH
CAN KILL**