



MARYBOROUGH POLICE DISTRICT CRIME BULLETIN



31th August 2009

Volume 2, 2009

What the local opportunistic thief is targeting in your home



A Crime Prevention Message:-

Stop and Think

"LOCK IT OR LOSE IT"



Before you leave your car - close and lock all doors and windows.

EVERY TIME

Not securing/locking your vehicle is an offence and you may be issued with a \$40-00 Traffic Infringement Notice

Welcome to the second edition of the Maryborough Crime Bulletin. The main topics being focused upon in this issue are scam warnings in relation to swine flu & credit card scam targeting small businesses, Chinese extortion warning, 10 Ways to a Better Neighbourhood and the New Queensland Drivers License.

The "Maryborough Crime Bulletin" is an electronic newsletter that is produced monthly by the Maryborough District Crime Prevention Unit. The Crime Bulletin has a focus on promoting community awareness of crime issues, community safety and crime prevention initiatives.

The production and distribution of the Maryborough Crime Bulletin:-

- *facilitates public involvement through enhanced access to crime related information;*
- *provides information targeting specific crimes and hot spot areas;*
- *provides crime prevention advice to promote personal safety and property security strategies;*
- *promotes community participation in crime prevention, solution and reduction; and*
- *provides current information to the community in a timely and cost effective manner.*

Please forward this bulletin to friends, neighbours and business associates.





Neighbourhood Watch Meeting for September

Hervey Bay Area

Hervey Bay Area 6 – Torquay
Tuesday 1 at 7:00pm, Torquay State School, Tavistock Street, Torquay

Hervey Bay Area 4 – Point Vernon
Saturday 5 at 4:00pm, 7 Corfield Street

Hervey Bay Area 10 – Central Park
Wednesday 9 at 7:00pm, Tafe College, Urraween Road, Urraween

Maryborough Area

Maryborough Area 3 – Bell Hill Top
Tuesday 8 at 9:00am, 27 Sprake Dr

Maryborough Area 1 – Newtown
Tuesday 8 at 7:30pm, 203 Cheapside St

Howard Area

Howard Area 3 – Howard - Tuesday 8 at 11:00am, CWA Hall, Steley St

Howard Area 2 – Toogoom - Tuesday 15th at 7:30pm CWA Hall, Steley St

For more information about the Neighbourhood Watch program please visit

www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/crimeprevention/nhw/innhw

SCAMS WARNING

Phishing and Spam relating to Swine Flu.

A side effect of the attention given to swine flu outbreak has been a proliferation of swine flu related internet sites. These sites have been set up by cyber criminals to defraud internet users by selling bogus flu vaccines, or simply harvesting credit card details.

Security technology vendors are also reporting that swine flu related messages already account for up to 4 per cent of the world's SPAM. Whilst much of the SPAM may be trivial, they are often used by hackers to encourage users to execute malicious attachments, or visit compromised sites with a view to having spyware or other malware (malicious software) installed on their computers.

Swine flu scams

SCAMwatch is warning consumers to be on the look out for scammers seeking to profit from the recent swine flu health threat.

There has been a surge in reports overseas of cyber criminals capitalising on fears about swine flu to scam internet users.

Cyber criminals are sending billions of spam emails mentioning swine flu to trick people into opening messages. The majority of spam emails appear to be coming from Brazil, the United States and Germany.

Spammers are exploiting the virus to sell bogus pharmaceuticals or infect computers with malicious software.

Authorities overseas warn that scammers have created bogus websites to provide information about swine flu and to sell pills/survival kits. The scammer may also try to trick people into sending money or providing personal information.

Scamwatch advises consumers not to open spam emails. Consumers are also advised not to send money and provide personal details to people they don't know and trust.

For more information about swine flu, visit the [Department of Health and Ageing](#)



Are you calling Triple Zero (000) because it is an emergency?

Do you want Police, Fire or Ambulance?

Always call Triple Zero (000) in situations where life is in danger, a crime is taking place or in time critical situations.



Remember stay focused, stay relevant and stay on the line to ensure the operator has all the information and the precise location for emergency services to attend.

SCAMS WARNING

Credit card scam targeting small businesses

SCAMwatch is warning small to medium businesses to be on the look out for unusual or complicated orders from overseas particularly orders which are being paid for by credit card.

The 'prospective buyer' claims that they have made a credit card payment for more than the agreed price. They will then request the unsuspecting business owner to forward the excess money onto freight companies, travel agents or various other businesses usually via wire or money transfer. This scam appears to be a variation on the cheque overpayment scam.

SCAMwatch understands that large or complicated orders were placed by a person or business based overseas. These orders were placed for both goods and services, such as restaurant and hotel bookings. No specific business sector is targeted, with industries ranging from garden turf to tyres.

In many instances, businesses have reported that the order was clearly suspicious. For example, a buyer in West Africa placed an order for garden turf. Other business owners became suspicious as the prospective buyer offered to pay for the goods or services through a complicated set of transactions involving the transfer of monies from one or more parties.

However, other businesses reported losses.

Given the economic downturn, a lucrative order can be seen as a windfall, but businesses should be cautious and warn staff responsible for taking orders or making payments about this scam.

CHINESE EXTORTION WARNING

Since the beginning of June 2009 a number of complaints have been made to Police in relation to menacing / threatening telephone calls being received by persons within the Chinese community in Queensland.

The Chinese speaking caller engages the recipient of the call and makes a demand of a large sum of money followed by threats of violence to the called person and their family.

To date in Queensland there have been no threats carried out.



Break and Enters



We have had a total of 76 offences occur in the Maryborough District in the last month. The majority of offences occurred due to dwelling not being properly secured.

Thieves are targeting

- ◆ wallets
- ◆ purses
- ◆ cameras
- ◆ mobile phones
- ◆ keys
- ◆ personal paperwork (telephone bills)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO:

- ◆ Lock all doors and windows.
- ◆ Lock Security doors with a key and place elsewhere.
- ◆ Keep roller doors secured.
- ◆ Keep valuables out of sight.

“10 Ways To”

A BETTER NEIGHBOURHOOD

CRIME – ARE YOU MAKING IT EASY?

1. Get to know your neighbours.
2. Encourage interaction and a sense of responsibility between neighbours and your community.
3. Tell reliable neighbours when you are going away.
4. Ask neighbours or friends to collect your mail and newspapers when you are away.
5. Ask neighbours to contact Police or Crime Stoppers immediately if they see anything suspicious around your residence.
6. Make your house look occupied when you are away – timers for lights / radios and yard maintained.
7. Ask neighbours to park their car in your driveway occasionally when you are away.
8. Keep an eye on public facilities such as public telephones, schools, park equipment and bus shelters – report the activities of vandals.
9. Improve your household security and personal safety which will contribute to overall neighbourhood safety.
10. Consider joining or establishing a Neighbourhood Watch in your area.

‘10 Ways To’ Crime Prevention Campaign North Coast Region



A community volunteer organisation working in partnership with the Queensland Police Service



Offences to Vehicles



These offences included

- ◆ Attempted Enter Vehicle
- ◆ Attempted Steal Vehicle
- ◆ Unlawfully Steal Vehicle
- ◆ Unlawfully Enter vehicle

We have had a total of 120 offences occur in the Maryborough District.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO:

- ◆ Secure all doors and windows
- ◆ Remove valuables (money, computer equipment, GPS)
- ◆ Don't leave keys on the floor

New Queensland Driver License



The Department of Transport and Main Roads is introducing a more secure new Queensland driver license that will replace the laminated license that has been used for nearly 20 years.

Other photographic cards issued by the department including a new Adult Proof of Age card (which will replace the current Card 18+) driver authorisations for passenger transport and a variety of industry licensing authorisations will also transition from laminated cards to smartcards. A Marine License Indicator card will also be introduced for people who do not have a Queensland driver license.

The equipment and staff training needed to issue the smartcards will be progressively rolled out across the State with implementation expected to be complete in 2010.

Current driver license holders will not be required to apply for the new Queensland Driver License until their existing license expires. When the smartcard license is introduced people who are due to renew their driver license (in an area where the smartcard is available) will receive information with their license renewal notice. Queensland driver licenses are valid for up to five years so it will take up to five years for all Queenslanders to replace their laminated licenses with smartcards.

How do I apply?

Driver licences are issued at most [Department of Transport and Main Roads customer service centres](#), as well as some [Queensland Government Agent Program \(QGAP\) offices](#) and [police stations](#) in rural and remote areas.

How will I receive my new Queensland Driver License?

The introduction of smartcard technology and more strict security processes will mean some changes to the way the license is produced and distributed. Instead of being issued over the counter at the time of application smartcard licenses will be loaded and printed from one secure central location. Customers will continue to apply for their license at an approved service outlet and will receive a driver license receipt as an interim authority to drive a vehicle. The smartcard will then be mailed to them just as financial institutions currently do with credit cards. The department will also offer a support phone number for people who have not received their smartcards within the specified timeframe.

The Adult Proof of Age, Industry Authority and Marine License Indicator cards will also be distributed from a central location and will not be issued over the counter at time of application.

The cardholder will need to apply for their new driver license in person to get their digital photo taken and so that the department can undertake the necessary checks associated with facial image verification. A digitised signature will also be captured at this point.



Information received from the public when persons were acting suspiciously at Yarliee School has lead to the arrest of persons involved in Break and Enters in the Hervey Bay area including the computers stolen from the Riverside College in Maryborough

Thank You



Any person with any information which may assist Police with their investigations in relation to any matter is asked to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000

or via the internet at
www.crimestoppers.com.au



New and optional features



View and update personal details conveniently

By inserting the new Queensland Driver License into a card reader logging on to this website and entering some secure information cardholders will be able to:

- update their address
- update their emergency contact information
- change their PIN
- use their 'shared secrets' information (these are a security measure for the card)
- change their 'shared secrets'.

Simple smartcard readers are widely available and cost around the same price as a computer mouse.

Store emergency contact information

Cardholders will be able to choose to store emergency contact information on the chip contained within the smartcards. This optional feature will be available for the new Queensland Driver License, Adult Proof of Age and the Marine License Indicator cards.



**National
Police Remembrance Day 2009**



National Police Remembrance Day is observed throughout Australia annually on September 29 when we remember and honour our police officers killed in the line of duty.

A number of city and provincial centres hold services to remember those officers who have given their lives in the performance of their duty. The services are an opportunity for police officers, their families and the community to honour the memory of those killed and to focus attention on the men and women of the police services throughout Australia whose responsibility it is to ensure public peace and good order, and the difficulties they face in bearing that responsibility.

All police officers and the community at large are encouraged to wear a blue and white chequered ribbon as a reminder of those who have paid the ultimate price to keep the peace and enforce the law. These blue ribbons will be available at local police stations and there will be a supply of the metal badges available to purchase at the Bundaberg service.

Arguably one of the most important days on the policing calendar, National Police Remembrance Day is a time for members of the Service and the community to remember, honour and say 'thank you' to the dedicated men and women who have died whilst on duty.

The Maryborough Memorial Service will be held at **Saint Marys Catholic Church, 269 Adelaide Street, Maryborough on Tuesday September 29, 2009** commencing at 10.00am.

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Would you like to be added to the distribution of the Crime Bulletin? Click on the link and send an email to DCPC.Maryborough@police.qld.gov.au

Do you have any information about any cases? You can remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.



The Crime Bulletin is a joint initiative between the NHW program, Crime Stoppers, and the Queensland Police Service. It can be found on QPS website under programs For more information about the NHW program in your area please visit

www.police.qld.gov.au/programs/crimePrevention/nhw/innhw





DISCLAIMER These figures are not official service statistics. Official Police Service statistics are released only through the Information Resource Centre after available data is collected, classified and collated in accordance with nationally accepted rules. Information contained in this bulletin is relevant at date of release to the public.