



# Neighbourhood Watch 3193

Welcome to our new readers in Brighton

December 2023

## Your Neighbourhood Watch 3193 - 2022/2023

*We are proud to support our community. We thank our 200 Members, Bayside Council, Victoria Police, our advertisers and supporters. Nothing would be possible without you all. We would love all residents to become Members. There is NO cost. Whilst volunteers are much appreciated, there is no expectation.*



Landmark Mural Opening



Pet Walls 1,2 & 3



Whimsical Windows 2022/23  
50 paintings by local artists in  
Beaumaris Concourse



Coffee with the Cops  
and Mayor



Scams Revisited Forum



Graffiti Busters 3193  
and Hampton



Safety Sense Forum



Safety and Wellbeing Festival  
at BSC



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## A message from the President of NHW 3193



**Philip Lovel AM - President NHW 3193**

The year has moved on fast, and we go into summer thinking about the good weather and holidays.

NHW 3193 has had a successful year. We held two successful major events during the year, the "Safety Sense" forum in May and the "Scams" evening in September.

Crime and safety in our area, although not seen as bad as other areas, is still not acceptable. So, it is up to all of us to do what we can to protect ourselves and others in the community.

We all know that summer in our lovely Bayside area brings in a lot of visitors. We must live with that but still protect ourselves and our vulnerable residents and kids.

### **Be alert! Be aware!**

#### **Criminals are smart, mobile and opportunistic.**

The Police are stretched. They can't be everywhere so become aware and watch what is happening around you. The Police tell us that over 70% of crimes and car thefts are due to residents not locking their doors or cars. It is frustrating for the Police. Many people leave valuables in their cars. Even keys to their garage or external doors!

This is not meant to be a lecture, but this is what the Police see every day.

NHW 3193 is in there fighting for us all. There is no other organisation doing what we are doing. So please support us.

Don't forget to ring triple 000 in an emergency, but use 131 444 for reporting any past incident.

Search out the Whimsical Windows in the Concourse. Our local artists come together to add Christmas cheer!

Have a happy Christmas and a safe New Year.

**Philip Lovel AM  
President  
NHW 3193**



## A message from the President of NHW Brighton



**Ed Davis - President of newly formed NHW Brighton**

### **To all our Brighton residents it's a big Welcome to you.**

A new Neighbourhood Watch Brighton group has been formed and we welcome volunteers and members. Please join us and help keep Brighton safe.

The number of aggravated burglaries, car thefts, and criminal activities is concerning to most of us. Police resources are doing their best but they are limited. **Neighbourhood Watch Brighton can help prevent crime and look out for the safety of our families and neighbours.**

We will help to create a safer community.

On 31 October we held our launch event, Coffee with the Cops.

Over 70 local Brighton residents attended this event to engage with local Police officers in a Q and A format. Bayside Council Mayor Cr Hanna El Mouallem supported this initiative together with Joan Andrews the Community Safety Manager for Bayside Council.

Phil Lovel, President of NHW 3193 chaired the two-hour meeting which at times was quite emotional.

### **So what do we do next?**

We are asking local residents and business owners to join us to make Brighton safer.

There are several ways that you can be involved.

We are looking for volunteers to distribute our newsletter to homes and businesses. We are also seeking members that would like a more active role either as part of our committee or to host events.

Let's create WhatsApp street groups - get to know your neighbours. Watch out for any suspicious behaviour.

We are also encouraging sponsors and partners to come on board with a range of co-branded materials that will help keep our personal and family safety prompts front of mind.

Neighbourhood Watch Brighton is part of Neighbourhood Watch Victoria, please click on our Facebook page to see our activities.

**Please contact me on 0415 865 485 or ed@eddavis.com.au to join.**

**Ed Davis - President NHW Brighton**

# Friends of Bayside Litter Patrol joins with NHW 3193

*Bayside's highly successful "Friends of Bayside Litter Patrol Group" is joining NHW 3193. The Litter group will continue its operations as before. Derek Jones the founder and leader will join the Committee of NHW 3193.*

Derek Jones was, and is, the driving force behind the group which he started in 2017.

Now after over 6 years, there are about 40 volunteers picking up litter all over the Bayside Council area.

*The Patrol looks after 80 kms of Bayside roads plus sections of the coastal path. Since its inception, the Patrol has picked up a total of over 7 thousand bags of litter, and made about 500 reports of dumped rubbish.*

*Typically, items of litter include plastic bottles, single use cups, tissues, paper, cardboard.*



## The beginning

When Derek and Lizzie Jones moved from their farm in the Macedon Ranges to live in Black Rock, they were pleasantly surprised by all the lovely walks in the area.

In Macedon they had taken personal responsibility for keeping a stretch of country road free of litter.

***However, it surprised them how much litter and rubbish had been dumped at the side of the road and they quickly got back into their old routine of picking up litter.***

Derek realised this was a big job clearing up litter, not only along Cheltenham Road but on other roads next to golf courses, sporting grounds, parks, etc. – orphan roads so to speak.

He called into Royal Melbourne Golf Club to ask for help and received support from the Golf Club and its Neighbourhood Players Group to undertake a pilot program on the roads around the golf courses.

## Council support for the Friends of Bayside Litter Patrol

In February 2017 the program was launched at the Golf Club by the then Bayside Mayor, Cr Alex Del Porto. The trial program was an immediate success and convinced the Bayside Council that this was a program worth supporting. Derek then went about advertising the Bayside Roads Litter Patrol and recruiting volunteers from all over Bayside.



Alan Thomas and Alan Gaskell. The latter is President of the Neighbourhood Players



Wendy Anthony and daughters, Nikki and Layla, Members of the Litter Patrol.

***We hope that with Bayside Council and Neighbourhood Watch working together, the Patrol's activities will expand. If you wish to be part of the Litter Patrol please contact [nhw3193@gmail.com](mailto:nhw3193@gmail.com).***

# Report from the Bayside Community Safety Committee.

*The Bayside Community Safety Committee's main objective is to raise awareness and create a whole-of-community approach to identify and respond to safety issues experienced by visitors and residents in Bayside.*

## Current issues being discussed include:

- **Neighbourhood Policing Model Action.**

Operation Trinity is a police operation targeting aggravated burglary and motor car theft. There have been over 1000 arrests across Southern Metro and several youths aged between 13-15yrs (some were local) charged over the past few months with alleged robberies, thefts and criminal damage

- **Victoria Police Youth Gang Strategy**

The strategy launched early this year has been successful in preventing, detecting and disrupting youth crime with many different partners such as Neighbourhood Watch 3193. The focus has been early intervention starting with vulnerable youth. The link to the Police Gang Strategy is:

<https://www.police.vic.gov.au/victoria-police-youth-gang-strategy-2023-2026>

- **CCTV / Street Lighting**

NHW 3193 and Bayside Council are cooperating with business owners regarding CCTV and shopping centre coverage. A bigger problem is the issue with overhanging trees blocking out street lighting and CCTV coverage. The Police have asked residents to report on streets where action is required to clear overhanging trees. The Police will do their check during their night shift operations. Please email [nhw3193@gmail.com](mailto:nhw3193@gmail.com).

- **Neighbourhood Police Warning to Retailers**

The police is warning shop owners about the growing spate of "swarming" offences. The "swarming" offence is when several people run into a business premises, grab what they can and run out again. They are targeting liquor outlets taking bottles and cigarettes, often at closing time. There are usually no acts of violence during these incidents.

- **Aggravated Burglaries - Bayside**

Operation Trinity is throwing considerable resources at this issue. When the operation started there were around 30 aggravated burglaries per week and that has dropped to around 18 per week. The biggest issue is residents' failure to ensure that their homes and cars are locked at night. The police advise that over 70% of break-ins are due to the resident not taking any precautions with securing their house and cars.

- **Operation Summer Safe**

This personal safety operation will run from Altona Beach to Point Nepean. Police resources are allocated from Kingston, Glen Eira and Bayside Police stations. One area of extra attention will be the Red Bluff cliff area and Black Rock foreshore.



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# Relax, enjoy your holiday knowing your home is secure



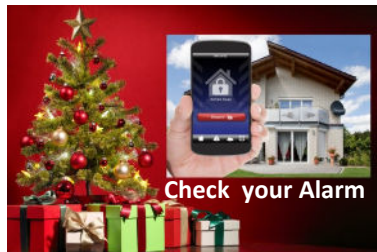
**'tis the Season to be Jolly ....** is the theme song hummed by every burglar as they plan to steal your Christmas gifts, and ruin your holiday plans .



## Some householders make it so easy by:

- Leaving a key under the mat or plant pot
- Bicycles abandoned in the front yard or driveway
- Doors or windows left unlocked
- Pet doors always openly accessible
- Overgrown shrubbery offering shade and hideaways for thieves
- Mail overflowing in the mailbox or newspapers left in the driveway
- Windows or doors not able to be locked properly - the electricity cord for the festive lighting is blocking it!

Review your home security. Burglars easily find your home's most vulnerable access point. A casual look through your front window elicits smiles at the brightly wrapped presents under the tree - exhilarating glee to a thief!



## Seriously, don't leave it until you are on your way to the airport. Now is the time to:

- Test your alarm to confirm it is working correctly;
- Update your alarm response instructions and upskill your house sitter on what to do;
- Service your alarm and replace batteries in readiness;
- Confirm your CCTV cameras are recording and clearly viewable remotely on your mobile smartphones;
- Re-direct your mail and suspend your newspaper deliveries.

You have worked hard all year, so why spoil your holiday with lousy pre-planning?

All too often security providers are inundated with last-minute requests to update alarm control room response instructions or requests for urgent services during the holiday season.

**'tis the Season to be Jolly .... not tears over incidents that could have been avoided.**



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# How to detect phony websites

**Millions are lost through phony website scams. Scammers make their websites look like the real thing. It is particularly worrying when shopping on-line, and this is the time of year to take particular care.**

## Check the domain name:

Scammers often use domain names that are similar to legitimate ones. Check the spelling of the domain name carefully to make sure it's correct.

## Look for a padlock symbol:

A padlock symbol in the address bar indicates that the website is secure and uses encryption to protect your data.

**These are all good points but if you're like me, I'm still unsure whether or not the website I am looking at is real or not. It's too hard to know sometimes.**

## Be wary of deals that seem too good to be true:

Scammers often use deals that are too good to be true to lure victims into their trap.

## Look for poor spelling, design issues:

Fake websites often have poor spelling and grammar and may have design issues or other red flags that indicate they are not legitimate.

## Another option is to install an on-line web-checker

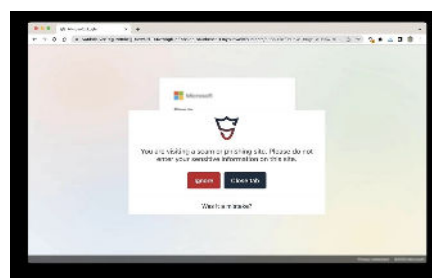
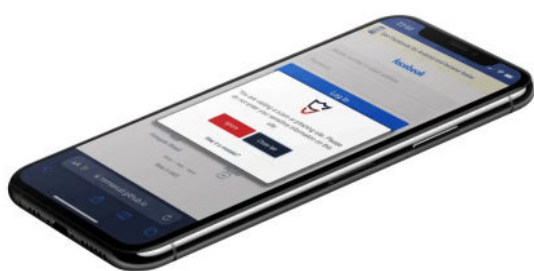
One such product is "**SafeToOpen**." This is from a NZ phishing detection and protection company founded in 2018 and is trusted by Air New Zealand to protect their staff from phishing attacks. SafeToOpen is already providing protection to over 25,000 users.

### What is SafeToOpen and how does it work

**SafeToOpen is a simple and easy to use anti-phishing software that can protect you from phishing emails and scam sites across all your devices including PC, Mac as well your smartphones.**

**First load the software onto your PC. SafeToOpen then gets to work!**

**It will check if the site you're visiting is real or doubtful, i.e. if it is a phony site pretending to be Microsoft, Qantas, Australia Post etc, it will let you know whether it is safe to open or not.**



SafeToOpen is "Free" for personal use at home. For corporate use please contact <https://safetooopen.com/contact> or email [mitchell@safetooopen.com](mailto:mitchell@safetooopen.com).

To install, visit [www.safetooopen.com](http://www.safetooopen.com) on your PC, Mac or iPhone, click "Download" to install it on your browser.

Currently they support: Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Safari MacOS, Mozilla Firefox & Safari iOS iPhone

### A "text" CHECKER IS COMING IN 2024

In early 2024, they will be launching the SafeToOpen SMS/TXT verification service where you can forward any suspicious SMS messages to SafeToOpen and they can help verify the legitimacy of the SMS.

**NHW 3193 does not endorse, guarantee or recommend this or other products or software. This is not a paid advert. It appears very interesting to us but do your own review.**

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## Thinking of getting fit in 2024?



Peter Elston is a gym and fitness trainer and co-owner of [CrossFit Red Bluff](#), Arnold St, Cheltenham.

### Pete's tips

- **Make it regular:**  
Set aside specific times and stick to it.
- **Make it fun:**  
We are more likely to stick to something we enjoy.
- **Make it social:**  
It's a chance to catch up with old or new friends. Exercising with a group or friends helps to keep you motivated.
- **Make it physical:**  
Do exercises that fight against the loss of muscle mass, bone density, reflexes, lung capacity, cardiovascular fitness, joint health and mobility.
- **Set achievable goals**  
Work up gradually, review your progress and review and update your goals regularly.
- **Consider a Gym or Personal Trainer**  
They set a program for you that suits your goals and motivates you to keep going.

**Find the reason that exercising and being active is important to you.**

# BRAD ROWSWELL MP

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[Brad.Rowswell@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Rowswell@parliament.vic.gov.au)



## Guy's gardening tips for Summer

- As the weather is starting to warm up, now is the time to start preparing your garden for the hot summer days to come.
- Mulching now is important as it helps keep the soil cool in the hot summer weather and stops moisture loss, keeping your plants hydrated. Take care of new plants but be careful you don't overwater them.
- Remember your pot plants. They need more regular watering than garden beds in the warmer months.
- Water the garden in the early morning before it gets too hot. This prevents water from evaporating.
- Check all hoses and irrigation systems to make sure everything is in working order. That way if anything needs repairing you have time before the hot weather sets in.
- Keep your lawn a little longer. Do not mow it on the shortest setting. This prevents the sun burning the grass and leaving brown patches on your lawn.
- Remember to look after yourself in the hot summer sun. Wear a hat and sunscreen and avoid working in your garden in the middle of the day. Enjoy your summer garden!

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# Coffee with the Cops event attended by over 70 residents The event launches NHW Brighton

**Neighbourhood Watch Brighton held its first event - "Coffee with the Cops" in October at the Dendy Deli. Over 70 residents attended plus Mayor Cr Hanna El Mouallem, five Police Officers and Philip Lovel, President of NHW 3193 with several NHW 3193 Committee members.**

Mr Ed Davis, President of the new, NHW Brighton group, said he was forming the new group to combat the many crime issues in the Brighton precinct which have been concerning all the residents, including himself.

Supporting the new group was the President of NHW 3193's Philip Lovel and Vivian Shannon, who is assisting the new group to set up a Facebook page.

The meeting was addressed by Senior Sergeant Darryn Cooper from the Bayside Police and five other officers who mingled with the attendees.

**Mayor Hanna El Mouallem opened proceedings by asking everyone attending to support this initiative as it was important that the Police have the support of the residents.**



John Turner, Chris Dawson, Ed Davis, Darryn Cooper, Alice Beashel, Ryan Kelly, Cr Hanna El Mouallem



Philip Lovel addresses the meeting

The meeting addressed and talked about many issues of policing and the resources needed to maintain a safe community. Senior Sergeant Darryn Cooper (Officer in Charge at Sandringham Police complex), provided a spirited response to the many questions thrown at him by the residents.

The creation of NHW Brighton is a major step forward and needs a lot of support from residents and local businesses. Mr Davis said he would be canvassing all his contacts and friends to help him form this very dynamic group.

**As a parting comment, Ed Davis said that "criminals are now much smarter, more mobile and creative than in the past. and, if they see a chance, they will take a chance".**

**Look out for neighbours – Report suspicious activity when your neighbours are away.**



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131 444 Police Assistance Line - If not urgent

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## Home holiday time Safety Tips

*We know you know all this but do you actually do it ?*

*Take a minute or two. Better still, plan ahead. It might be worth it!*

- Make sure ALL doors and windows are locked, including internal doors from the garage into your home. Check appliances are off!
- Hide all keys and remotes
- Do not leave valuables like laptops, mobile phones or other electronics in plain sight
- Do not leave ladders or rubbish bins easily accessible. These can be used to gain entry to 2<sup>nd</sup> storey windows
- Ask a neighbour to collect your mail or put it on hold with PO.
- Ask a neighbour to place rubbish bins out and bring them in when emptied.
- Cut lawns or arrange for them to be cut
- Use a timer to switch lights on and off in your home and have sensor lights outside
- Avoid posting holiday snaps on social media
- Check your alarm (read article on page 5)

## Relax and enjoy your holiday



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Wishing you all a safe and peaceful summer and festive season.



**ZOE DANIEL MP**

Independent Federal Member for Goldstein  
[zodedaniel.com.au](http://zodedaniel.com.au)

Authorised by Zoe Daniel MP, 677 Nepean Highway, Brighton East, VIC 3187

## Thank you Rob and Team at C J Print



CJ Print has been printing our newsletters and other flyers for 5 years and we think it's time we gave them a big pat on the back.

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## Christmas in Black Rock



To be held in  
Black Rock Village

Saturday 16th  
December

9.30 - 12.30

Lots of fun

**Come along!**

## Black Rock celebrates Diwali India's Festival of Light

The Indian Community led by Pinkie, Anannt and Tejjas, new owners of the Black Rock Grocer 7-11 Bluff Rd held a wonderful event to celebrate Diwali.

Our new Mayor, Cr Fiona Stitfold bravely learned new dance steps from Dr Yogita Gupta! Cr Laurie Evans too was seen on the dance floor.

It was a festive evening with superb food, Bollywood singing and dancing. The Indian Community certainly knows how to enjoy themselves.

Community Groups such as NHW 3193 and Black Rock House were invited. It was a great honour.

Drop into the Black Rock Grocer and say hi to Pinkie and Anannt.



Mayor Cr Fiona Stitfold leaning new dance steps from Dr Yogita Gupta

## Carols in Beaumaris



**Christmas Eve - 9.30am - St Martins  
Church**

After 45 years, the Beaumaris Christmas Eve Carols will not take place at the Beaumaris Community Centre off Reserve Road as the Carols Committee, who ran the Carols for 45 years, has disbanded.

St Martins Uniting Church Gibbs Street Beaumaris will have Carols on Christmas Eve at 9.30am where the Beaumaris Carols started nearly 50 years ago.

**All are welcome.**

**Contact person Roger Wilson  
mobile 0418 395 946**

## Whimsical Windows 2023



It's on again! Some 50 Concourse Traders will have "Whimsical Christmas scenes" painted on their Windows by 20 local artists, plus students from BSC.

It's another way to make Christmas a joyous time.

**An award for the "best Trader" painting will be  
made on Saturday 13th January at 12.00  
at Ginger Fox - Come along**

**Whimsical Windows was conceived by Michele Laragy and  
is sponsored by NHW 3193**

**Neighbourhood Watch wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**

Thank you and well done for organising the 2023 activities in the Beaumaris Concourse:  
Trevor (I Found It) Trent (Ginger Fox) Janina (Maximum Business Solutions), David (Concourse  
Pharmacy) and volunteers from Rotary and Neighbourhood Watch 3193



Halloween trick or treating on the Concourse was a fabulous success with dozens of kids dressed up having a great time.

*Many traders got involved with the festivities and this is fast becoming a calendar event for the Concourse each year.*



The Car and Bike show was held again this year.

It's always a great spectacle enjoyed by all - not just the "petrol-heads"

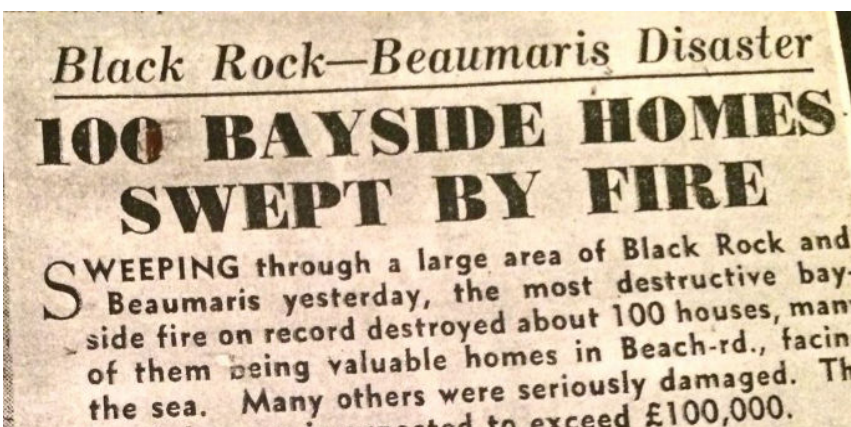
The Christmas Festival was held on Friday  
1st December - Too late for this newsletter.

## A timely reminder - 3193 was devastated by fire in 1944

We're told this year will be hot with possible risk of fires and high temperatures. Nobody wants a fire like this to happen again.

Please take care this summer. Make sure you are not careless with your BBQ. Drink lots of water and protect yourself and your kids from the sun.

Fill up the water bowl for the dog and keep water up in your bird bath!



Please STAY SAFE. Lock your doors, be aware of scammers.

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## *Unseen for 30 years – 80 + superb watercolours*



*A collection of over 80 superb paintings, unseen for 30 years has been “discovered” in Paul Crompton’s studio.*

*Art connoisseurs who have viewed the paintings are amazed at the quality, detail and use of light.*

*His artworks are an eclectic mix of places, scenes, people and events. Also included is a complete collection of paintings of Ansett aircraft and helicopters flown in their first 60 years of operation - some 40 paintings. A unique and original collection.*

**Paul's art background is impeccable.** His studies in Fine Arts, Architecture Design and Drafting, enabled him to pursue a uniquely creative and 'hands on' career, further recognised with Membership of the Royal Watercolour Society (the UK's prestigious "Old Watercolour Society," among whose alumni is JMW Turner). In Australia, he also held four Watercolour Society Memberships.

Paul's artwork is represented worldwide with over 650 pieces sold and housed in public and private collections. What an incredible achievement!

***Inexplicably, Paul finally stopped painting 15 years ago. Now, his unseen artworks have been rediscovered!***



Paul has been a Bayside resident for over 50 years and is a quiet achiever who has made a significant contribution to our community. For example, he designed and made “surprise boxes” for dementia patients. He has made honour boards for Black Rock House and videos for Beaumaris Probus. He has been active with Blaze Aid helping repair fences for fire victims. For the RSL he donated paintings of Vietnam war action which were displayed at the Shrine. He is a Committee Member of Beaumaris Men's Shed. There is much more but no space here!

***Paul's artwork will be sold at his “Retrospective” to be held at Brighton Town Hall between 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Paul wishes to donate some of the proceeds to charity. NHW 3193 is sponsoring this event.***



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