



Neighbourhood Watch BBRs

Beaumaris Black Rock Sandringham
Supporting NHW Brighton

NHW BBRs is organising

An Art Exhibition like no other

A Final Retrospective for a brilliant local Artist, Paul Crompton

Brighton Town Hall

Grand Opening - Friday March 15th 6.00pm - 9.00pm (email nhw3193@gmail.com for an invitation)

General Exhibition - Saturday and Sunday 16th-17th - 10.00am - 6.00pm - all welcome



Artwork unseen for 30 years



Saturday/Sunday special activities

- Free Devonshire Tea
- Walkabout with the Artist
- "Fireside Chats" with Artist and footy legend Neil Roberts

We hope you'll
come and say hello!

Supporting Defence Community Dogs

A charity that trains and gives therapy dogs to ex-service people with PTSD

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A message from the President of NHW BBRs

Beaumaris Black Rock Sandringham



Philip Lovel - President of NHW BBRs

Big changes at NHW 3193.

NHW3193 has now merged with NHW Sandringham and is now called NHW BBRs, Beaumaris, Black Rock Sandringham Inc.

Our coverage is immediately expanded from 10,000 to 13,000 letterboxes and businesses, and eventually will grow to 23,000 once we cover all of Sandringham.

The new NHW Brighton may also join our newsletter which would increase circulation to 30,000+.

We need deliverers in Sandringham and Brighton. Zones are kept small to make it easy. Please email us if you can assist.

As mentioned in our last Newsletter, Friends of Bayside Litter Patrol has also joined us so we now remove litter as well as graffiti!

This year, we will increase our efforts to fight back against criminals and other miscreants.

We get excellent support from the Bayside Police and Bayside Council and operate at senior level with them.

We run many different sessions such as SCAMS, Safety in the home, "Coffee with the Cops" and provide advice to everyone to keep your families safe in the home and on the roads.

NHW BBRs is also active in the Community. Our "Whimsical Christmas Windows" in Beaumaris Concourse was appreciated by all. It involved 54 traders and 25 artists. Next year, we want to expand this to Black Rock and Sandringham.

Another initiative for NHW BBRs is the Paul Crompton Retrospective Art Show to be held from Friday 15th March to Sunday 17th March at the Brighton Town Hall.

Come along. It will be an "exhibition like no other".

So, a big welcome to all the residents of Sandringham.

**Philip Lovel AM
President**

NHW BBRs, Beaumaris Black Rock Sandringham.



Matthew Gallop and Brooke Robinson

Interview by Philip Lovel, President NHW BBRs Matthew Gallop

Manager: Bendigo Community Bank Sandringham

Matthew, this column is to provide our NHW Community with some regular financial information from a trusted source – You!

I want to acknowledge that you have 38 years in the banking business, and 21 years in the Community banking sector (Bendigo Bank). You have the experience and knowledge we need!

Why should our Bayside community come to Community Bank Sandringham?

"Well, we are a bank for the community, we have a great team and are the most trusted bank in Australia.

We provide all the financial products that you need, with truly great customer service.

We can do a home loan review; we have 100% offset accounts on both variable and fixed loans, great rates on term deposits and all the other banking services people require.

We are an approved provider of Federal and State Home buying schemes too.

It's a tough economy so please talk to us. We offer a personal service and have long term relationships with our customers.

Our branch team are all friendly and capable. Brooke Robinson is an experienced lending specialist".

Matthew, please host this column in the future.

Thank you for your support with all our projects, and particularly our newsletter.

Please contact Matthew and the team by visiting the branch in Sandringham or ringing them on 9521 6488. Ask for a home loan check, term deposit rates or even your travel insurance. Make them your first thought for your banking and financial services.

Support the bank that supports your community!

Thank you to Bendigo Bank.

As all the banks desert us in Bayside we have one supporting bank left.

A big thank you to Bendigo Bank for supporting our newsletter as an advertiser and also as a sponsor.

As our readership grows, so does the price of producing the newsletter. Our newsletter is a not-for-profit enterprise and, in the past, we have mostly covered the cost through our loyal advertisers. However, we now find ourselves in a “catch 22” situation - We will not increase the number of adverts and don't want to increase the cost for them, because this would make it unsustainable for our advertisers.

The solution is we need sponsors. Community Bank Sandringham has kindly agreed to assist us with some sponsorship of our newsletter, which is published four times per year, recognising it is important to our suburbs.

We have asked them through their Branch Manager, Matthew Gallop to help us and to help you with some financial advice and tips about protecting ourselves against all the unknowns around financial affairs.

In future editions, Matthew will offer some advice as to what Bendigo Bank can offer to its clients. For those that do not know Matthew, he is very calm, always available, and easy to deal with. His decades of experience at Bendigo Bank and with another bank previously mean that he knows what we need. This attitude passes right through his staff and Board.

NHW BBRS to create a new awards scheme for young people



Philip Level, Geoff Bransbury and Matthew Gallop

Community Bank Sandringham have presented a grant of \$15,000 to NHW BBRS to assist them to formulate their visionary project to create a Young Neighbourhood Watch Awards Program.

Bayside Council is also providing strong support via their Community Grants Scheme.

These grants will enable us to develop a worthwhile leadership program for young people which we hope will eventually expand throughout NHW Victoria.

Thank you to Bendigo Bank and Bayside Council.

Young Neighbourhood Watch - a brief overview of the concept

The aim of Neighbourhood Watch has always been to improve community safety and liveability in our suburbs. In recent years, and particularly with NHW 3193, we have evolved to become a dynamic Community Group, involved in many worthwhile community activities.

Generally, however, we fail to attract young people, yet they are the citizens of the future.

The concept of “Young NHW” is to create an Awards Program that is both interesting and relevant to young people and that will provide an experience that will serve them well in later life.

NHW BBRS will involve Schools, Council, Police and more, in the development of this program.

Students enrolled will take part in relevant and excellent learning that doesn't overlap with their school curriculum. They will also be expected to take part in certain community activities, outside school hours.

Graduation will include an awards celebration and valuable Awards Certificate.

If you feel you can contribute - email nhw3193@gmail.com



Mosaic Community Choir

No Auditions – All Welcome

Monday 7.30pm – 9.30pm in school term times
Rehearsals: 2- 12 Chesterville Rd (near Southland)
Find us at www.mosaicchoir.com.au
Enquiries: 0419 599 396



Did you know that singing with others has many benefits: physically, emotionally, socially, and mentally?

Consider the following:



Singing in a choir

Helps to build friendships, creating a strong sense of community, social inclusion and belonging.

Decreases feelings of loneliness and depression, lowering stress and anxiety levels, enhancing feelings of trust and bonding.

Strengthens immune, respiration and cardio-vascular responses: exercises muscles of the upper body, improves the efficiency of your cardiovascular system and increases alertness.

Being part of a group improves your confidence and self-esteem; it allows you to live in the moment by focusing on the sound, breathing, and the pleasure of song, while distracting your mind from negative thoughts.

Your mind is in the here and now, other concerns are left behind.

And - it's fun!

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Here are few tips to keep your garden looking its best coming into the cooler months.

1. Cut back or trim plants lightly, get rid of any dead leaves or flowers
2. Continue watering your garden lightly, being careful not to over water
3. Fertilize to keep nutrients up. Don't overdo it
4. Veggie gardens - harvest late summer crops
5. Prepare your veggie garden for cooler weather crops
6. Continue to mow your lawn regularly
7. Mulch garden beds to keep soil moist as we may still have some warmer days
8. Check for pests, remove leaves or branches and treat with a natural pesticide

A few simple steps to take your garden from the warm, summer days into autumn



Life360

An App to keep you in touch with family members

Do you want to know if your family members are safe?

**Do you want to know if your children have arrived safely at school or at friends place?
Have you tried Life360?**

Life360 is a location sharing app that uses GPS location data, that shares the location of everyone in your group, or "circle" making it easy to stay connected with family and friends.

It sends notifications when someone has left home, or arrived at school for example.

The best news is that it is a free app, with the option to upgrade to more features. It's an easy way to connect and stay safe, giving you peace of mind.

Download the app on all your phones and start your "circle".

Considerations for Security Alarms and CCTV

Where to get good advice - not just a sales pitch

CCTV and alarm systems are complex with many options to consider and technology is changing fast. If you're considering installing or upgrading a security system, you need professional advice that is current and appropriate to YOUR needs.

Where do amateurs get their advice? Is it through friends, acquaintances, or social media? Doubtless their advice is well meaning but is it current and appropriate to your situation? Retailers too will give advice but often it is tied to a product range that they carry, and besides is their representative properly trained in both the technical details and their application?

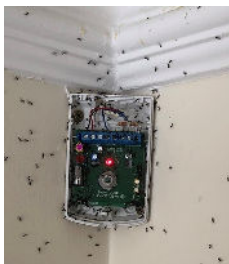
Surely, it's best to get advice from a Licenced Security Adviser who specialises in the area?

Are your cameras and alarms performing as expected?

Surprisingly, many owners know little about their system. It may have been installed years ago. Maybe you moved into a home which already has a CCTV or alarm system.

A service call by a Licenced Security Technician may be a worthwhile investment to check your system or change passwords etc.

It's also an opportunity for you to learn more and to determine whether your system needs upgrading or not. Faults can be simple and sometimes unusual, such as this ant infestation in a motion detector – see photos:



Photos to the left show ant infestation causing alarm system to fail.

- 1) No ants in view on detector
- 2) Ants revealed once lid removed
- 3) Ants in lid

Did you know?

CCTV and Alarm Systems have improved dramatically in recent years:

- Home CCTV Cameras can now differentiate between humans, animals, and vehicles.
- Cameras can view and record full colour EVEN in total darkness.
- Invisible "trip wires" can alert you of trespassers or even act as a doorbell!



CCTV "trip wire" detection

Suggested must-haves for a CCTV system.

If you are considering installing or upgrading your CCTV camera system, we suggest you include a system that can:

- View clearly at night.
- Capture audio.
- Easily access footage to review and download.
- Continue to operate after power or internet drops out.

This article is written by NHW and is NOT a paid advertorial.

However, Security Heroes whom we have trusted for many years, has approved the content for accuracy.

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Voice controlled lights - they're DIY! Home automation is super affordable these days...

Embracing the convenience and versatility of DIY smart bulbs, coupled with seamless integration with virtual assistants like **Alexa and Google Home**, revolutionises home lighting experiences.

These smart bulbs offer a spectrum of benefits. With automation features, such as holiday modes, users can simulate occupancy even when away, enhancing security and peace of mind.

Moreover, voice control functionalities cater to individuals with disabilities or mobility issues, empowering effortless interaction with household lighting. This amalgamation of technology not only elevates convenience but also fosters inclusivity, making home environments more accessible and responsive to diverse needs.

By embracing DIY smart bulbs and their integration with virtual assistants, homeowners have a more connected, efficient, and inclusive living space.



Home security.

Here are the basics again:

- Fit adequate locks on doors and windows.
- Have security lighting and CCTV cameras.
- Fit an alarm system and put signs up.
- Keep shrubbery tidy to minimise hiding places.
- Take care to keep expensive property out of sight.
- Post Police and Emergency Services contact details on the fridge door.
- Maintain contact with neighbours for mutual protection. Start a WhatsApp group - they work.
- Do the 9.00pm routine to check everything is locked.
- Communicate to everyone sharing or living in the house the rules of security.
- Join your local Neighbourhood Watch Group for security ideas and updates.

Aggravated burglary is a serious crime Maximum penalty is 25 years prison.

Section 77 of the *Crimes Act 1958* defines aggravated burglary as a crime involving aggravation, meaning that while offending, a person or persons had in their possession a firearm, imitation firearm, offensive weapon, explosive or imitation explosive, or they enter a building with the knowledge that a person was present, or being reckless as to whether or not a person was present in the building.

What can you lawfully do?

An owner or occupier is allowed to forcefully eject a person who enters unlawfully.

However, it is only permissible to use as much force as is reasonably necessary in the circumstances.

NHW best advice is to call the Police (000), because they are trained, they also have the right equipment to subdue or restrain, if necessary, but more importantly they have the legal right to arrest.

We keep telling everyone to do this, but it is not happening. Please help yourself and do it!

Crime alive and well - We must all take responsibility

In a recent Age newspaper article, these figures point to a real and living issue in Bayside. We pride ourselves as living in a safe suburb. These are the highest aggravated burglary rates by Local Government Area.

BAYSIDE	177 Per 100k population
BOROONDARRA	165
GREATER DANDENONG	151
STONNINGTON	149
MONASH	129
MANNINGTON	125
YARRA	123
KINGSTON	109
CASEY	108
DAREBIN	97

It's not just up to the Police

We must all contribute

How?

- Take the basic precautions - e.g.-Lock up.
- Know the neighbours, set up WhatsApp Groups.
- Report suspicious activities etc.



A response from Victoria Police

Local Area Commander, Inspector Cath Wilkins says that police are listening to community concerns and are working hard to hold offenders to account.

In February 2024, police apprehended a male in the Bayside area who was seen jumping fences and trying door handles at 5pm in the afternoon. Following calls made to Triple Zero, police made a swift arrest. The Moorabbin CIU is investigating if there is a link to further alleged aggravated burglaries in the area. Several neighbours have provided CCTV footage, which is proving useful in the investigation.

Police encourage the community to report to triple 000 if they see any suspicious behaviour that is currently occurring and to the Police Assistance Line ph. 131 444 (24 hours / 7 days a week) for non-emergencies.

Operation Trinity

Victoria Police has a dedicated Melbourne-wide operation in place targeting aggravated home burglaries and associated car thefts. As part of "Operation Trinity", significant numbers of local police are working alongside the Air Wing, Dog Squad and Public Order Response Teams every single night to prevent burglaries and car thefts from occurring.

Since 25 March 2023, Operation Trinity has led to:

- **2,742 arrests, including:**
- **584 arrests in relation to aggravated burglaries and car thefts**
- **2,158 arrests in relation to crimes such as drug and other miscellaneous offences**

**The above statistics as of 10 February 2024 and only includes arrests made overnight as part of Operation Trinity. This does not include follow-up investigations into incidents that occur of this nature*

The operation sees police saturating areas where intelligence indicates offending is most likely to occur, using Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology to identify suspect vehicles, and rapidly responding to incidents when they do occur.

The aggravated burglaries occurring are being driven predominantly by youth offenders targeting unlocked homes, with the intention of stealing car keys. No confrontation is evident in more than 95% of these incidents.

Police will continue targeting those seeking to break into homes and steal cars, however we also implore the community to take simple home security measures, such as locking all doors and windows.

How our Litter Patrol operates

The Bayside Litter Patrol Group, now part of NHW BBRs has done a simply amazing job ridding our streets and parks of litter. It is a credit to founder Derek Jones.

8000 bags of litter removed so far!

The Group covers Bayside from Charman Road Beaumaris, to Glenhuntly Road Elwood, and from the Nepean Highway to St Kilda Street and Beach Road.

There are 45 designated routes, including 7 railway stations.

Each litter patrol is two to three kilometres in length, which is usually patrolled at least twice each month. This includes the Royal Melbourne and Sandringham golf course boundaries. That's around 100 kilometres.

Clearing open spaces and public infrastructure of litter is the main task. Items left by litterers are endless.



Each team does their patrols independently, when it suits them.

There are a number of 'hot-spot' streets that are monitored weekly such as Tulip Street, Sandringham, Cheltenham Road, Black Rock and Martin Street, Gardenvale.

Graffiti and large quantities of dumped rubbish in and around rail stations is reported to Council. Volunteers also report graffiti and vandalism on private and public property, water leaks on roads, fallen trees and branches, as well as hard rubbish dumps.

Want to help? email nhw3193@gmail.com



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Miranda and Sally from Holistic Health Store

Vandals rob letter boxes - take care

Litter is everywhere despite the superb efforts of our intrepid Litter Patrol Members.

The photo below is concerning. It shows stolen letters from local streets just dumped in the bushes.



A member reported that many letters and bills were dumped all the way from Spring Street, Highett and across to Sandringham outside the baseball pavilion in Tulip Street.

Perhaps lock your letter box!

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Black Rock's local GP Clinic

29 Bluff Road, Black Rock, VIC 3193 T: 8202 3000 W: thevillagegpblackrock.com
Visit our website to meet our doctors and to learn more about the clinic.

Is someone in your household aged between 14 and 24?

Great news!

The Village GP Black Rock is participating in the RAd Health Trial, a study by The University of Melbourne to improve the health of young people. There are no out-of-pocket costs and all data is de-identified, ensuring your privacy.

Health assessments allow your GP and Nurse to discuss various topics and detect any health issues early. They may talk to you about home life, friendships, smoking/vaping, school/work, alcohol, drugs, nutrition, sex, exercise, and mental health.

Where do you normally get answers to your health questions? Friends? Social media? Sometimes this information may not be exactly accurate! Your GP can give you medically accurate information about health matters that are important to you in a safe and confidential space to bring these issues into the open. Our GPs and nurses navigate sensitive subjects, building trust to understand issues and offer support.

Interested?

Call our practice on 03 8202 3000
Email info@thevillagegpblackrock.com



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Topics of interest involving car theft

A break down of Victorian police records into three main categories for motor vehicle theft shows the following:

- Residential locations 8,976 or 47.0%
- Community locations 7,533 or 39.5%
- Retail and business locations 2,564 or 13.5%

These are alarming figures, and they are growing each year. The police are doing all they can but generally after the fact. We all need to be more aware of our own situation.

*One of the most common locations for vehicles to be stolen from is one of the places where you should feel your vehicle is safest - **your house!***

- Houses were by far the most common location for motor vehicle theft in 2023, with over 4,438 vehicles stolen.

- Apartments, units, and flats - 513
- Farmhouses/council houses/caravan parks - 102

Minimize the risk of vehicle theft from your home. A lot of these crimes are "opportunistic" crimes.

- Obviously, if you can, park in a locked garage, or at least behind locked gates, this is safer.
- Install sensor lights and security cameras.
- Ensure garage access points are highly visible to the street, and never let an unfamiliar car follow you into a communal garage.

Contact Philip Lovel, NHW BBRS with any comments or experiences.

(Information from Bambi Gordon, CEO of NHW Victoria)

NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD



Beach Parking Permits allow you to park for free along the foreshore and all paid parking sections in Bayside. Bayside is trialling digital parking permits and your number plate serves as the permit. Contact Bayside Council on 9599 4444 or visit www.bayside.vic.gov.au, and complete their form.



Bayside are seeking Expressions of Interest from community members to join the **Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Committee**. If you want to play a crucial role in ensuring that the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is guided by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and perspectives and to make informed decisions about the RAP, express your interest today. For further information please contact Josh Connell, Community Wellbeing Coordinator on 9599 4712 or email joshuaconnell@bayside.vic.gov.au



“This is my Happy Place” picture book launch with Emma Bowd.

To celebrate International Day of Happiness, enjoy the launch of the brilliant new children’s picture book “This is my Happy Place” written by internationally published and award-winning Australian Author Emma Bowd. Wednesday 20th March 11—11.30am at Sandringham Library.

Writing as Therapy with Dr Sian Prior. A class exploring expressive writing—which research has shown can enhance your mood, improve your physical health and even boost your memory. Saturday 16th March 1—3.30pm Sandringham Library. Cost \$10. Includes afternoon tea. Booking essential www/bayside.vic.gov.au/sianprior.



Career Industry Expo Beaumaris Secondary College 24th March 9am-1pm An opportunity for students to explore local industry, employment and training groups and other support networks within the community. An engaging and fun-filled morning



ANZAC Day Poppy Installation—25th April—6am SSAP & 5000 POPPIES are proud to co-ordinate this Sandringham ANZAC commemoration including our beautiful Crescent Gardens on Beach Rd and in the heart of Sandy Village, with the support of Bayside City Council. (The actual "poppy planting" will take place immediately prior to ANZAC Day and the poppies left in place for community viewing.) Any questions? Please contact sandystreetartproject@outlook.com or phone 0425 733 246




Easter Bunny is coming to Sandringham Village Square, Saturday 23rd March 10am-3pm. Easter egg hunt, fun games, live music, face painting. **SAVE THE DATE.**



1-16 March A Year with Frog and Toad A whimsical show that follows two great friends. Beaumaris Theatre Co at 82 Wells Rd, Beaumaris. For more information 9583 6896.



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Theft of car number plates on the rise - Secure yours before you lose them!

Information from the Police Crime Reporting Agency says that over 15,622 number plates were stolen in 2023, an increase of 6% over previous year. Why is number plate theft on the rise?

Offenders use stolen number plates on cars to help them carry out other crimes without being traced and identified for burglaries and ram raids, drug trafficking, avoiding speeding and parking fines etc.

If stolen number plates are used, fees and fines will be sent to the registered owner instead of the offender, often weeks in arrears of the offence. This makes it much harder for everyone to sort it out.

How do you prevent number plate theft?

It is easy! Take some time to secure your number plates. All you need to do for all your family cars is to install anti-theft screws. (called safe plate screws, one-way screws, or security screws)



Anti-theft screws can be installed with a bladed screwdriver but need a special tool to be removed by the Police.

NHW has held many "Safety Plate days" and will do one in 2024. *Last time we had a "plate day", one driver arrived to have anti-theft screws fitted only to find his front plates had been stolen!*



Black Rock Cellars

Offer in-store tastings
every Friday 4pm to 7pm.

Our next Wine Dinner at
TRUE SOUTH, is a French
Wine & Champagne event
Date TBA

Ph. 9589 2586

Black Rock Cellars is owned and operated by Matt Surman and opened its doors for business in October 2016. Matt has over 15 years' experience in owning and managing bottleshops which included McKinnon Cellars.

Matt loves Black Rock Village and the local community! Black Rock Cellars' range is orientated to meet their customers' needs at competitive pricing.

Matt, Store Manager Danny, and their team of knowledgeable casuals, are all focused on customer service and their shopping experience.

Matt is also involved with his parents' winery Wild Dog and assists his brother with distilling. The Wild Dog range of Wines and Spirits are stocked at Black Rock Cellars

Black Rock Cellars 596 Balcombe Rd. Black Rock. Follow us FB. Black Rock Cellars. Insta. blackrockcellars

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2024
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13 April
11 May
8 June



Coffee with the Dogs - a huge success!

Coffee with the Cops and Coffee with the Mayor are popular NHW events. We did something different in February, we had Coffee with the Dogs!

We invited The Village GP of Black Rock, Dr Maureen Burke and husband and Practice Operations Manager, Jacob Blackmore to bring their two beautiful therapy dogs to "Coffee" at Black Rock House.

DOGTOR Paddy and DOGTOR Orla were introduced to the meeting and were a huge success!



The primary role of therapy dogs is to provide companionship and emotional support to appropriate places such as nursing homes, psychologist's counselling rooms and rehabilitation centres.

Guide Dogs Victoria does not offer training for pet dogs to become therapy dogs and are not able to assist in registering your pet dog as a "support" animal.

Therapy dogs are not "assistance" dogs and therefore do not have public access rights like a guide dog.

Therapy dogs from a charity called Defence Community Dogs are trained and given to ex-service people with PTSD. These dogs literally save lives.

As you see on the front page, NHW BBRS are organising an Art Retrospective at Brighton Town Hall between 15th and 17th March, and we aim to donate significant funds to this charity - come along!

Brighton Residents
Join your new Neighbourhood Watch Brighton Group
email Ed Davis at ed.eddavis.com.au



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