

Bellarine Neighbourhood

Issue 4, 2024

Providing support for our community that supports us



BELLARINE POLICE

This issue: Meet The team at Bellarine Police Station. Information on local crime trends, events, community messages, concerns and a whole lot more.

MEMBER OF BELLARINE ALISON MARCHANT FOR THE BELLARINE COMMUNITY SAFETY GROUP

ORANGE DOOR NETWORK BELLARINE ACCESS POINT

It's important that there are local services available for everyone if things at home or in a relationship are not ok and help and support are required.

Last year, The Orange Door network opened a new access point in Drysdale, meaning adults, children and families living in the Bellarine don't have to travel far to access coordinated family violence and child wellbeing services.

The Orange Door network provides access to coordinated help and support for people experiencing family violence, and for families needing support for the wellbeing and development of their children.

This means people can get the different areas of assistance they need in once place locally, where safety and confidentiality is paramount.

The landmark Royal Commission into Family Violence handed down 277 recommendations to improve Victoria's response to family violence. The Orange Door network was one of those key recommendations, and has assisted people and families across Victoria, including 156,000 children since it began in 2018.

The Orange Door network is a free service doesn't require a referral. They can be contacted on 1800 312 820 or via barwon@orangedoor.vic.gov.au from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. More information is available at their website: www.orangedoor.vic.gov.au

I acknowledge there is more to do when it comes to family violence reform, and our government is committed to a future that allows all Victorians, particularly women and children to be safe, healthy and free of violence.

As always, if you require assistance with any State Government matter, please contact my office on 5250 1987 or via email alison.marchant@parliament.vic.gov.au



Member for Bellarine Alison MARCHANT, Prevention of Family Violence Minister Ros SPENCE and former Bellarine Community Health CEO Garry ELLIS at the Orange Door Bellarine opening last year.

WHAT IS 'SEXTORTION'?

(By LSC Anthony SHEEDY)

Sexual extortion, or 'sextortion', is a serious form of image-based abuse which can be in the form of online blackmail where a perpetrator threatens to reveal explicit images of a person unless they give in to their demands. It is important to know that an offence has been committed as soon as someone asks a young person to produce and send a single explicit image or video. This can be considered child sexual abuse and exploitation material.

In these cases, offenders can be manipulative and make a young person feel there is no way out of the situation, including blackmailing victims and threatening to share explicit content online with family, friends and acquaintances. In exchange for not sharing a victim's explicit content, offenders are often seeking additional explicit photographs, videos or even money.

Fear, coercion and manipulation keep the crime going and are how offenders can make victims feel like there is no escape. In addition to the threats and coercion, young victims often feel that they have done something wrong and will be punished by parents or carers or prosecuted by law enforcement if their actions are discovered.

Young people can be targeted through social networking, image or video sharing apps or instant messaging, by people known or unknown to them. An interaction may begin by giving compliments, flattery or offering the child something they value in exchange for sending explicit images.

If your child receives a personal sexual image from someone, they should know to delete it straight away and not share or store it. Talk to your child about how they use their social media accounts and ensure they use strong privacy settings if they are sharing content with others.

Find out who your child is talking to online, encourage them to avoid unknown random 'friend' or 'follower' requests. Ensure your child is critical of online interactions, not everyone is who they say they are. Collect as much evidence as you can including screenshots, URL's, usernames or any other records to make a report to police if needed.

Be open and non-judgemental if your child comes to you for help. If you react negatively, they might avoid coming to you for help with future issues.

If your child is or has been a victim, reassure them that it is not their fault and that there is help available. Remind them that nothing is so bad that they can't tell someone. Ask them how you can help them and what they may need. Be open and ready when they need to talk.

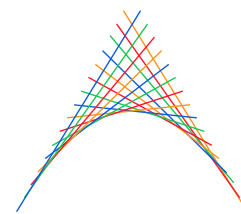
Parents and carers may also consider the following options to help their child manage the situation:

- **Avoid** sending any more images, once you have complied with their demands there is nothing preventing them targeting you again.
- **Encourage** your child to tell the other person they do not have permission to share their content.
- **Block** the person's number/profile/email address.

Offenders will make them feel like they will be in trouble for what has happened to keep the crime going. It is important to let them know they have done nothing wrong.

You **CAN** make it **STOP**. Avoid sending any more images or videos. Do not pay! Once you pay the first time, they will ask you to pay again. Immediately take screenshots from the chat, this will be important for making a report to the police and block the contact.

These incidents need to be reported to police. If they are under 18, they are victims of sexual abuse. While it may be embarrassing to talk about, it is important to get help as soon as possible. Their safety and wellbeing are the most important things. Remember the police are here to protect them. They are on their side!



Australian
Centre to Counter
Child Exploitation



To report
or get help:
accce.gov.au



AFP
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

BELLARINE POLICE WARRANTS AND FILES

(By LSC Anthony SHEEDY)

At law, police members have broad discretion in relation to the arrest of persons who have committed an offence. The exercise of this discretion involves balancing the rights of individuals liberty against the need to take action to ensure the safety of persons or to take action against those who break the law.

Victoria Police also has a responsibility to detect and prevent crime. The timely execution of a warrant to arrest on an accused person assists Victoria Police to meet this responsibility by dealing with accused persons in a timely manner.

Bellarine Warrants and Files manages this by way of receiving requests ranging from Court issued warrants to arrest to request to interview of suspects for outstanding investigations from other police members. Their responsibilities don't end there either. They may be requested to take a statement, serve a summons or even pass on messages.

Leading Senior Constables Roger LAWRY and Mark WAKELING take on this responsibility effectively receiving numerous 'files' per day. These two members of Bellarine Police then make their way into the community to effect their vital role.

Someone once told me the most knowledgeable police members of what is happening within an area are those on top of the Warrants and Files. Having the responsibility they do, the exposure to community, proceedings and investigations would certainly put them in good stead.



LSC Roger LAWRY & LSC Mark WAKELING



CRIME STOPPERS VICTORIA

Crime Stoppers is an independent not-for-profit organisation that partners with the community, media and police to encourage people to prevent crime and to confidentially share what they know about unsolved crime or suspicious activity.

Crime Stoppers believes everyone has the right to feel safe from crime. We share practical advice on how you can protect your community, and the people and things that are important to you.

When you make a report, you don't have to leave your personal details with us, your call isn't recorded and, if you make a report online, your IP address isn't stored. You are in control of the reporting process – you choose how much information you share and whether you want to remain anonymous.

Since its start in Victoria in 1987, they have received over 1.33 million tips from the community, resulting in over 27,600 arrests and the recovery of more than \$406 million worth of drugs, property and cash.

**Any info,
any crime,
any time.**

CRIME: WHERE ARE WE AT

For the month of April, we saw a markable increase in burglaries across the Bellarine Peninsula. Bellarine had 4 aggravated burglaries and 9 other whilst Portarlington had 5. Justice procedures and deceptions have been steady as have dishonesty offences.

This outlines the importance of keeping your property safe. Ensure when you leave your residence unattended all steps are taken to provide the best security for your assets you have available to you. If you are leaving your residence unattended for a period of time, it is a good idea to register your details with Services Australia via their Absence From Residence Form. All details on this service, how it works and how to find it are located below this article.

FIRE BURN OFFS, I SEE THEM EVERYWHERE

Driving around over the last couple of weeks you may have noticed smoke or burn offs happening around people's properties or even council lands. With the fire danger period over you may be able to burn off but if you need to use fire in the open air you may require a permit.

Victorians can now apply for a fire permit online at firepermits.vic.gov.au.

If you conduct any activity using fire outside, you can now use a phone, tablet and laptop to:

- Check if you need a fire permit;
- Apply for a fire permit;
- Notify authorities when you plan on using a permit, and;
- Register a burn-off when restrictions are not in place.

Go to [Fire Permits Victoria](https://firepermits.vic.gov.au) and create an account. From there, you can apply for multiple permits and check the progress of your application.

If you're unable to apply online, you can still visit your regional office and apply in person - [contact FRV to find out more](#).

[Fire Permits Victoria](https://firepermits.vic.gov.au) will improve the way fire and rescue services manage fire risk across the state and help reduce unnecessary Triple Zero (000) call outs.

So, if you're planning your next burn off, outdoor catering event or celebration using fireworks, [Fire Permits Victoria](https://firepermits.vic.gov.au) should be your first stop to check, apply and notify.

COMMUNITY SENTIMENT SURVEY

From the 1st of May until the 31st of May, 2024, Victoria Police will be conducting the third annual Community Sentiment Survey.

The third annual survey supports the Neighbourhood Policing Framework and provides an opportunity for Victorians from all backgrounds to share with us their safety concerns, how they would like to interact with police, and help inform ways in which we can focus our efforts to prevent and deter crime.

We're encouraging everyone who lives, works and socialises in Victoria to complete the survey. This includes Victoria Police employees and their extended professional and social networks.

The survey can be accessed on the Engage Victoria website from Wednesday, 1st May 2024.

The survey is anonymous and takes around five minutes to complete. Accessible formats to the survey are also available this year.

Last year, Victoria Police received almost 11,000 survey responses, which enabled Local Area Commanders (LACs) to better understand the most significant safety concerns in their local areas, informing local tasking, problem-solving and crime targeting.

This year we are seeking to increase both the number and diversity of respondents to allow more meaningful data at the local level. We need your help to achieve this.

HOW CAN WE KEEP YOU SAFER?

Complete the Community Sentiment Survey



NOW OPEN

Scan the QR code or head to engage.vic.gov.au/vicpol-2024



OUR COMMUNITY • YOUR SAFETY • OUR PRIORITY



VICTORIA POLICE PATHWAYS

A CAREER IN THE VICTORIAN PUBLIC SERVICE



Victoria Police employs more than 4,000 employees in the Victorian Public Service (VPS) across the state, providing essential support to frontline police members in a range of challenging and rewarding roles.

Being employed with Victoria Police allows you the opportunity to contribute and make a difference to the community.

OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR A RANGE OF ROLES IN AREAS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- Human Resources
- Forensics Services
- Legal Services
- IT & Infrastructure
- Media Communications & Engagement
- Finance & Payroll
- Information, Systems & Security
- Procurement
- Operational Information
- Intelligence & Covert Support

Positions are located across the state of Victoria in centralised operation offices and local police stations.

KEY TIPS FOR APPLYING FOR A ROLE WITH VICTORIA POLICE

1. Apply for each role separately – you are not automatically entered into a pool of candidates for similar roles.
2. Thoroughly read and understand the job advertisement and position description. Ensure you meet the requirements and have answered any application forms/questions.
3. Call the hiring manager to ask questions about the role.
4. Write your application and ensure it answers all of the application questions and/or key selection criteria requirements, including:
 - Highlighting areas of your experience that are relevant to the role.
 - Ensuring you address both your professional experience and relevant qualifications.
5. If shortlisted for an interview, call the hiring manager again to get a better understanding of the role, its key focuses and enquire about any further research you should do prior to the interview. A good place to start:
 - Read the Community Safety Statement which outlines how government and Victoria Police will approach crime reduction.
 - Understand the capabilities of the VPS Grade you are applying for and think about how you have demonstrated these capabilities in previous experiences.
6. Practice responding to behavioural based interview questions – use the STAR response (Situation, Task, Action, Result).

The CAREERS.VIC website have great tools and advice for applicants on applying and preparing for a role in the public sector. Visit careers.vic.gov.au/how-to-apply for more information.

SIGN UP FOR JOB ALERTS WITH VICTORIA POLICE VIA careers.vic.gov.au/user/signup

- 🌐 police.vic.gov.au/vps-about-role
- ✉️ vpsrecruitment@police.vic.gov.au
- 📘 [/victoriapolice](https://www.facebook.com/victoriapolice)

 **POLICE CAREERS**



VICTORIA POLICE

(By LSC Anthony SHEEDY)

35 YEAR POLICE VETERAN

Police where he spent almost 13 months.

An opportunity then arose for OIC at Mansfield Police. This turned out to be one of the most challenging posts for Sergeant LYONS. Mansfield at this time consisted of 1 x Sergeant (OIC) and limited other ranks. During the winter months, April to the end of September, the station would lose members to duties in the snow fields of Mt Bulla and have to operate with only 2 members 2.5 days of the week.

It was during this time Sergeant LYONS attended jobs that resonate with him until this time. The murder of a 15 year old girl, numerous drownings and numerous fatalities amongst the most effecting.

A decision was made to move and a position became available at Winchelsea. He was to work at Winchelsea as OIC with a young Constable Stan KUZMA. Creswick Police Station was next where Sergeant LYONS spent the longest time in his career serving the community as OIC for 9 years.

Ocean Grove as OIC would be the last station Sergeant LYONS would work. In 1987 he retired. Ocean Grove Police Station then consisting of 1 x Sergeant and 3 x other ranks. Barwon Heads Police Station was also open with the same resources.

Sergeant LYONS loved his career within Victoria Police stating, "I left the job on a good note. Everything I gave to the job, I got back". He moved to Maryborough to retire where he spent 10 years and would spend the next 40 years caravanning around Australia.

Lindsay and June have 12 grand children now and 7 great grand children. He has had a successful marriage of 68 years which is an absolutely astonishing achievement. When asked what he put the success of his marriage down to, he was able to sum it up in one word, "Love".

Congratulations on all of your achievements. Your accomplishments and dedication to your duty during your long career serve as an inspiration. Your commitment and efforts have helped shape the community we have creating the foundations for the success of Victoria Police and community as a whole. Your hard work is recognised and may you inspire those around you for years to come.

Thanks Lindsay.

VP11645



LSC Anthony SHEEDY
Ret. SGT Lindsay LYONS

LSC Tracey MONTEITH
June LYONS

Monday the 24th of November, 1952, a 20 year old Lindsay LYONS entered the Victorian Police Academy, Squad 11 of 25 recruits (3 female). Graduating five months later Constable LYONS, as all new constables did at this time, was stationed at Russell Street, before being transferred to Collingwood Police Station.

1955 saw Constable LYONS pack up and move to Wangaratta for the next 6.5 years. It was here he met his wife, June, marrying in 1956. Three daughters followed shortly after Jennifer, Karen and Wendy. Constable LYONS was not the biggest fan of the Officer in Charge (OIC) Wangaratta, Senior Sergeant Stan McKENZIE, so he decide for a change and applied for a position at St Arnaud police station moving on 1961.

It was at St Arnaud Constable LYONS sat his Senior Constable exam and was sent to Russell Street on promotion. From here Senior Constable LYONS went to Fitzroy North working general duties. Originally being from the country, Senior Constable LYONS wasn't a fan of city living so looked at where he could go and found a position as a Sergeant out of Ballarat.

It was here Sergeant LYONS and June had their 4th daughter, Robin, where he spent the following three years. During this time, Sergeant LYONS found himself as a reliever for Hamilton



SCAMS

Scams cost Australians millions of dollars each year. Anyone can be targeted!

Scams are a common way that cybercriminals compromise your online accounts. Scammers' goal is to trick you into paying money or giving away your personal information. They will use email, text messages, phone calls or social media, and often pretend to be a person or organisation you trust.

Knowing what the common types of scams are, and what to look out for could save you from becoming a victim.

Bellarine Neighbourhood will be providing in depth presentations to organised groups throughout 2024. Contact us anytime via our email at BELLARINE-NEIGHBOURHOOD-MGR@police.vic.gov.au to make it happen within your Group.



COFFEE WITH A COP LEOPOLD

(By LSC Anthony SHEEDY)



April 23rd saw members of Bellarine Police attend Gateway Plaza, Leopold, for Coffee with a Cop.

Blax was buzzing with a packed house having the opportunity to grab a coffee and speak to local police members about their concerns. It was a positive atmosphere and well worth the time spent. Member for Bellarine Alison MARCHANT also made herself available to speak to her constituents for the event.

Amid the coffee and crowd, open dialogue was had shining a light on what is happening withing the community and what local police are doing about it. Locals took the opportunity to engage with police members giving them a voice and also allowing the chance to develop and strengthen the communication and trust with police.

Thanks to the effects of Bellarine Police, supported by management of Gateway Plaza, Coffee with a Cop has gained traction and certainly not looking at flatlining any time soon. With such open and honest communication from both sides, the benefits are clear for all. Look out for the next event near you as they will be happening all year long at numerous locations throughout Bellarine Peninsula.



ANZAC DAY BELLARINE

(By LSC Anthony SHEEDY)



As silence adorned memorials across the Bellarine Peninsula, the community came together to pay their respects to all the fallen members across our armed forces. The recognition and sacrifice of these Australian Defence force members is still held strong in the hearts of all Australians with amazing turn outs to these services. Originally a commemoration of the ANZAC's on Gallipoli 25th of April, 1915, this public expression of recognition, gratitude and reflection resonates to this day.

I too, having served eight years as part of the Australian Regular Army, feel I have a deep connection to this remembrance as well as having mates in the armed services still seeing active service today.

Leading Senior Constable Roger LAWRY, seen to the right with son Harrison, is a 30+ year veteran of Victoria Police. He also saw active service in Iran/Iraq as part of his service in the Australian Navy. Roger laid a wreath at the morning service held at Ocean Grove Park, on behalf of Victoria Police.

Harrison proudly wore his great grandfather's medals on the day. His grandfather Claud Sydney RAMAGE was an officer in the RAAF serving as a fighter pilot from 1937. His unit was tasked to the RAF during WWII where he saw active service 1941-1944. Harrison participated in Ocean Grove's march to Ocean Grove Park Memorial laying a wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of St Ignatius, Drysdale.

We will remember them.



LSC Roger LAWRY with son Harrison LAWRY

POLICE ASSISTANCE LINE

Police 131 444
 Save 000 for emergencies

All Victorians are encouraged to contact the Police Assistance Line on [131 444](tel:131444) or visit the Victoria Police Online Reporting service to report non-urgent crimes and events.

The Police Assistance Line and Online Reporting service will take reports or give advice at any time on non-urgent crimes and events anywhere in the state, including:

- property damage
- lost or located property
- theft
- absence from residence registrations
- PartySafe registrations
- other general non-urgent police enquiries

The Online Reporting service is available through the new look Victoria Police website, which improves the way police information and services are found and understood online.

The Police Assistance Line calls are taken by civilian staff at a contact centre in Ballarat, under the supervision of police.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

HEADING NORTH FOR THE WINTER? HAVE YOU COMPLETED AN ABSENCE FROM RESIDENCE FORM?

As the weather cools here, many residents are planning their annual trips north to seek warmer climates for the winter. One important aspect of your planning should be to complete a Victoria Police Absence from Residence form.

Perhaps you are heading overseas, or in hospital for a prolonged period. You can be away from your home for many reasons.

Letting police know is a proactive way you can help keep your home and community safe.

This is even more important if you'll be away a long time. When you register with police, you provide:

- Your contact information.
- Times and dates you'll be away.
- Who to contact while you're away.

Police stations have an absence from residence register. This information could be used to reach you or your emergency contact if there is an incident at your home or to perform patrols in the area. Due to the dynamic nature of calls for police services, Victoria Police cannot guarantee that police will attend your property during your absence from your home.

Be sure to notify police if returning earlier than planned.

Register online

To register your absence from residence online, visit <https://service.vic.gov.au/find-services/housing-and-property/register-your-absence-from-residence>

You can also register at your local police station. To do so, download and complete the absence from residence form: <https://www.police.vic.gov.au/home-and-property#absence-from-residence>

Take the completed form to your local police station to be noted in the station's register.

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR HOME WHEN YOU GO AWAY

Once you have completed your Absence from Residence form and lodged it with the Bellarine Police, it is now time to think about your home's security while you are away.

If you're going on holiday, making your home look occupied when you're not there is a good way to put off unwanted intruders.

Most break-ins happen when there's no-one home. Before you go away, take time to secure your home and reduce the chance of a thief breaking in by following these simple tips.

- **Lock up**

Make sure all doors and windows are shut and locked, including sheds, garages and gates.

- **Make it seem like you're at home**

Get timer switches for your lights and radio or television, if you don't have smart home technology. Set them to turn on and off at times of the day when you would normally use them.

Make sure the lights come on in the living areas of your home, and not in the hallway, for example. Tuning your radio to a station which is mostly talking is better than a music station.

- **Don't broadcast your holiday**

Don't announce on social media that you're going away. You can post your holiday snaps once you've safely returned home.

Set your social media accounts to "private" or "friends only" and delete any followers you don't know.

For more important tips to protect your home while you are away, visit <https://nhw.com.au/home-and-property/how-to-protect-your-home-when-you-go-away/>



BELLARINE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER



Bellarine Community Support Register
is seeking
Expressions of
Interest for their
Chairperson
position.



If you have an interest
in supporting a local
charity, contact:

Rhonda Rotherham
✉ r.rotherham@bordernet.com.au

This position is voluntary and formally commences in October 2024.
20 hours per month • Based in Ocean Grove

Search for New Chairperson for the Bellarine Register begins

Is making a difference in our community important to you? Do you have an interest in driving positive change? If so, we want YOU to be the next Chairperson of our local charity!

At the organisation's AGM in October, outgoing President, Leonie Saundry will complete her 3 year term at the helm of the Bellarine Community Support Register.

This free service is operated entirely by Volunteers who have successfully transitioned their office operations from a paper-based system to a cloud-based one with the pro-bono assistance of UtilitiseIT.

The Bellarine Register holds confidential information that can be accessed by police in case of a personal emergency. This includes main contact phone numbers for next of kin and pet carers, a spare key location and GP information.

It does this by making calls to people who request it, by issuing a uniquely numbered ID card and keytag and providing a window sticker that identifies the property as being registered with the Bellarine Police.

Leonie commented that 'The Bellarine Community Support Register has been part of the local community for nearly 20 years. It was set up after a woman was found dead in her home for more than 2 years. It's relevance continues to resonate not just with senior residents but with many people who were in need of additional safety and support.'

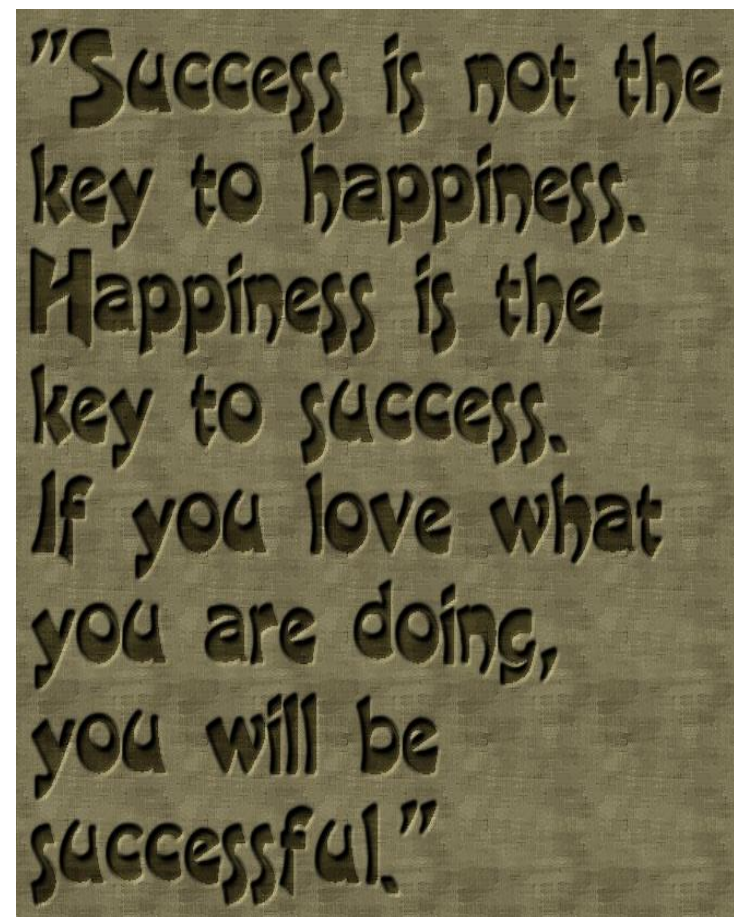
Vice Chair, Rhonda Rotherham noted that 'The Committee of Management has supported Leonie to ensure that the Register has remained relevant to the needs of the community, whilst supporting our local police in their community safety initiatives. The new Chairperson will play a pivotal role in guiding us into our next strategic planning phase and beyond.'

If you would like to know more about the position or the Bellarine Register in particular, please contact Rhonda by email at r.rotherham@bordernet.com.au

Visit our website - <https://bellarineregister.org.au> and follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/bcsrinc/> or phone our Office on (03) 5255 3968



QUOTE OF THE MONTH



- Albert Schweitzer

WORKSHOP ON THEFTS, ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, BANNING, REPORTING CRIME AND TRESPASSING

(By SGT Shane CONNOLLY)

Centre Manager Annette COTTER at Gateway Plaza recently organised a meeting with Local MP Alison Marchant, Business Retail Managers, Security and Personnel to converse on issues surrounding the safe operations of shopping centres.

It was a timely meeting due to the recent tragedy at Bondi Junction NSW. The meeting covered the reporting procedures in both urgent and non-urgent incidents, updating on how police conduct investigations, their initial collating of evidence and information which is crucial to assist police and the use of Police Assistance Line (PAL) 131444 in non-urgent property crime thefts.

Centre Management at Gateway Plaza recently updated their facility with state-of-the-art CCTV which provides fantastic evidentiary value when identifying crime, suspects and offenders.

It is important Gateway Plaza and all shopping centres on the Bellarine Peninsula are viewed as a safe place to shop and enjoy the café and amenities available. Staff education on gathering information when dealing with difficult and aggressive persons and anti-social behaviour particularly repeat offenders is important. There are strategies that police are able to enact such as Banning procedures and the offences of trespassing under the Summary offences Act.

Bellarine Neighbourhood police members enjoyed meeting many new faces and are available for conversations if your business is interested in these topics.



Gateway Plaza Leopold

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY TO ALL OUR MUMS!

(By LSC Anthony SHEEDY)

Happy Mother's Day to all those special mums out there. Here is a photo of my wife Senior Constable Amanda SHEEDY who I think is the most amazing mum in the whole wide world! Working full time as a valued member of Bellarine Police her accomplishments are no less than astounding.



Here are some lessons mums teach bringing us to where we are today:

My mum taught me LOGIC... "If you fall off that swing and break your neck, you can't go to the shops with me."

My mum taught me MEDICINE... "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they're going to freeze that way."

My mum taught me TO THINK AHEAD... "If you don't pass your spelling test, you'll never get a good job!"

My mum taught me ESP... "Put your jumper on; don't you think that I know when you're cold?"

My mum taught me TO MEET A CHALLENGE... "What were you thinking? Answer me when I talk to you... Don't talk back to me!"

My mum taught me HUMOR... "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."

My mum taught me how to BECOME AN ADULT... "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."

My mum taught me ABOUT SEX... "How do you think you got here?"

My mum taught me about GENETICS... "You are just like your father!"

My mum taught me about my ROOTS... "Do you think you were born in a barn?"

My mum taught me about the WISDOM of AGE... "When you get to be my age, you will understand."

My mum taught me about ANTICIPATION... "Just wait until your father gets home."

My mum taught me about RECEIVING... "You are going to get it when we get home."

And, My mum taught me - JUSTICE... "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like YOU -- then you'll see what it's like."

Thanks mum, Happy Mother's Day, love you XX

GEELONG HIGHWAY PATROL

(By SGT Dave BROCKWAY)

CARS STOLEN - OFFENDER CAUGHT!

(By SGT Shane CONNOLLY)



Geelong Highway Patrol cover a large vast operational area including the Bellarine Peninsula all the way down to Lorne on the Surf Coast. The Highway Patrol are responsible for any road related issues from attending collision to catching offenders committing various offences from drink driving to speeding.

The Highway Patrol is tasked to work alongside local Bellarine units to target specific traffic issues when they arise along the Bellarine. Lately the Highway Patrol have been targeting speed detection on rural roads in line with our target to reduce road trauma which has been highly successful. This is just one of many issues that the Bellarine and Highway Patrol face and target on the Bellarine.

Highway Patrol is also very passionate about safety among children therefore you may have seen us in several school zones around the Bellarine to ensure students and staff get to school safely on a regular basis. This includes current enforcement and safety messages around E Scooters.

There have been several near misses in the community and there have been plenty of reports to the Highway Patrol about young children not obeying the rules around eScooters. If you are unsure, please make yourself aware so we can avoid any injuries and a fine. [E-scooters in Victoria : VicRoads.](#)

It is important to remember that a lot of the Highway Patrol live in and around the community so are very passionate about keeping everyone safe as it directly affects their families as well.

To conclude we all, need to take care on our roads and ensure that we work together in the community to stamp out bad road behaviour. You may have seen our vehicles around the Bellarine so don't be alarmed we are here to keep everyone on the road safe so please say Hi when you see us!



On Saturday the 4th of May, 2024, Constable LINDBERG received a report of theft of a Toyota Prado from BP Leopold. CCTV was obtained and showed a female driver exit from the vehicle and enter the BP when another male quickly got into the driver's seat and drove off stealing the car. The female driver of the Prado had left her keys inside the motor vehicle.

A description of the male and stolen motor vehicle was broadcast on police radio at the time.

Approximately 4hrs later, a report of a petrol drive off for theft of petrol was taken by Senior Constable GOWER for a silver Prado but a different number plate was on the vehicle. CCTV was obtained where Leading Senior Constable HOARE identified the male offender in both thefts as the same offender. The number plate on the Prado was stolen from the Curlewis area just prior that evening.

On the 6th of May, 2024, a red Toyota Hilux was stolen from Settlement Road, Belmont. Leading Senior Constable HILDEBRAND received information this vehicle was in the Bellarine area and notified Bellarine Police personal.

On Tuesday 7th May, 2024, at 9.30am Senior Constable PEDERSEN and Leading Senior Constable HOARE were on morning van patrol and saw the stolen Hilux parked out the rear of the BP Service Station, Leopold.

The male offender previously seen on CCTV was located inside the vehicle and was subsequently arrested. Leading Senior Constable HOARE identified the offender in all the offences committed and was subsequently charged with numerous thefts and theft of motor vehicles including breach of bail.

The stolen Prado still has not been located and the male arrested denied any knowledge of this theft. The male was from the northern areas of Victoria and not a resident in the Greater Geelong region.



Constable Will GRAY and Constable Pieta LINDBERG recovering stolen motor vehicle



COMMUNITY SERVICES SHOWCASE

Join us for the launch of 'Bellarine Wellbeing Connect' – an alliance of diverse, community based organisation working to support the health and wellbeing of our communities

MAY 29, 2024
1.00 PM - 4.00 PM
PARKS HALL PORTARLINGTON

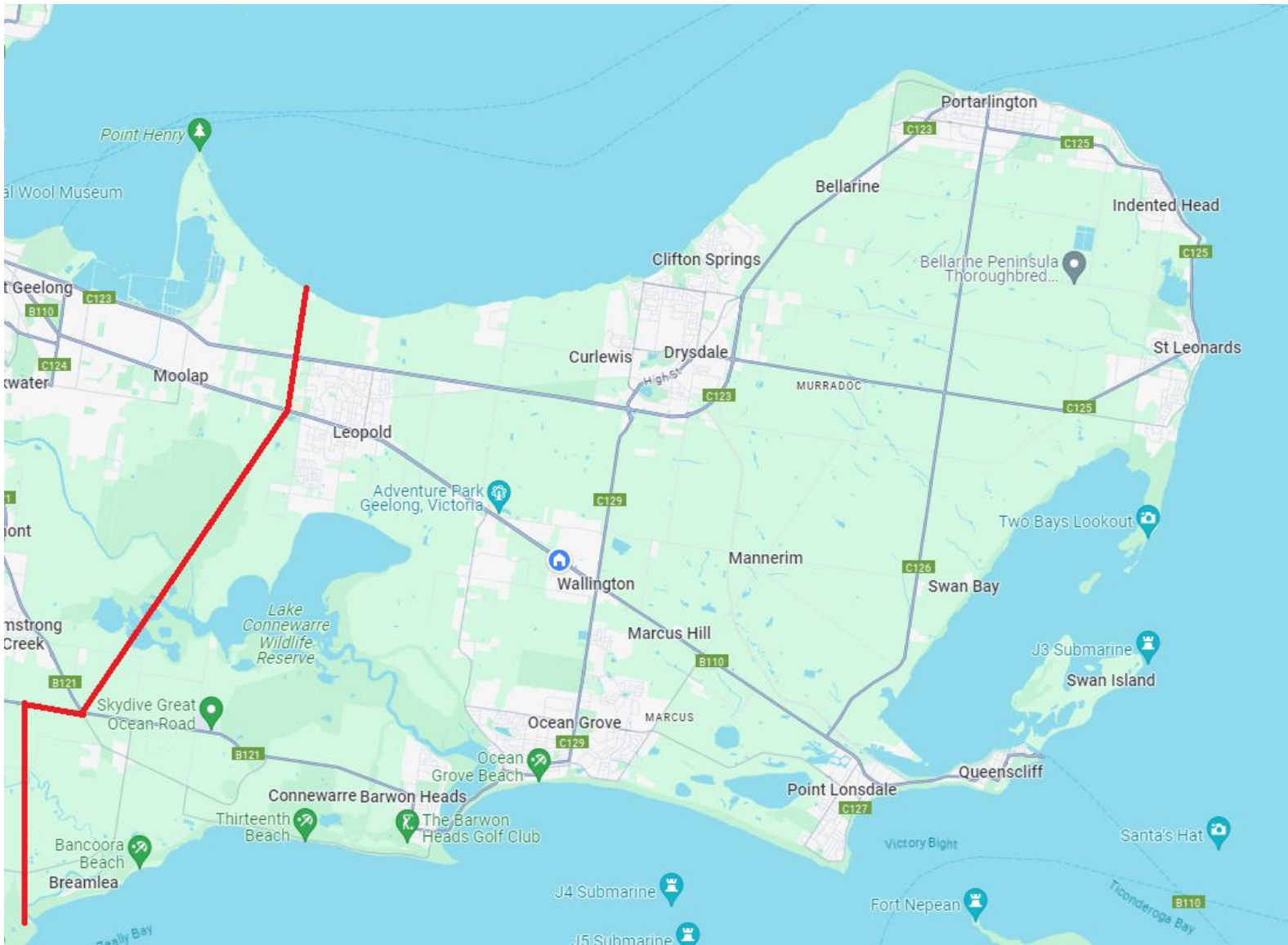
HEAR A PANEL OF EXPERTS DISCUSS:

- ✓ Liveability on the Bellarine
- ✓ Healthy ageing on the Bellarine
- ✓ Support for young people on the Bellarine
- ✓ View a showcase of community services available to support you
- ✓ Get a FREE 'Legal Health' check
- ✓ Get a FREE blood pressure check



LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

BELLARINE POLICE COVERAGE MAP



Have something you would like to say?

Have an article to contribute to our newsletter to be distributed to our community groups?

Have a community event you would like to add?

Anything else? Email us at:

BELLARINE-NEIGHBOURHOOD-MGR@police.vic.gov.au

LSC Anthony SHEEDY