

Neighbourhood Support Rotorua's Quarterly Newsletter: Over The Fence Lines

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Creating safe, resilient and connected communities

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Celebrating 25 years since official incorporation on 3 July 1995

2020 A Year Of Celebration

Welcome to 2020!



This is a year of celebration for Neighbourhood Support Rotorua! The 25th anniversary of the official establishment of our organisation as an Incorporated Society occurred on 3 July 1995.

A celebration event will be held in conjunction with our AGM on Sunday 7 June this year. Details will be shared as plans are finalised.

It is recognised that there was plenty of activity before this date but unfortunately the present committee does not have access to any detailed early history. If you have details of the early history could you please scan and email them through to the office. If you have contact details of past Members, Committee or Staff please send them in also.

In recognition of the celebration a redesigned newsletter masthead is introduced which will be used throughout the year.

Theft From Vehicles

Many people in today's society suffer angst and stress due to the actions of others impacting on their life. Neighbourhood Support Rotorua daily comes across reports of someone's vehicle which has been broken into and had either possessions stolen or an attempt was made to steal the vehicle.

Police term the breaking into vehicles and stealing items as "theft ex-car" and unfortunately it causes a great deal of concern to the owners when it happens. This results in the owner having to replace stolen items, which often include bank cards, driver's licences and similar property.

To avoid this happening there are some very basic recommendations which seem simple but unfortunately many people seem to ignore:

When you park your vehicle do not leave any valuables in it, e.g. wallets, purses, phones etc.

When you leave your vehicle unoccupied, even for a short time, ensure you lock it and have all windows closed.

If you have to leave items in an unattended vehicle ensure they are well out of sight.

Even when you are at home those recommendations still apply. Follow them when you leave a vehicle unattended anytime, anywhere. If possible park your car off the road and on your property overnight. When parking in town, park in a well-lit area.



Neighbourhood Support Rotorua

Supported By:



How many burglaries occurred in your suburb last year 2019?

This list is assembled from publically available data on the website policedata.nz, correct as of 11 February 2020:

Owhata West 106
Kuirau/CBD Rotorua 101
Western Heights 87
Fairy Springs 84
Mangakakahi 83
Glenholme West 80
Glenholme East 77
Victoria 71
Koutu 69
Springfield/Tihiotonga 67
Tikitere/Rotoiti/Mourea/Okere Falls/Te Akau 61
Ngongotaha North 59
Pukehangi North 56
Fordlands 55
Hillcrest 53
Fenton Park 52
Pukehangi South 45
Owhata East 45
Golden Springs/Broadlands/Waikite/Mihi 38
Lynmore 36
Lake Okareka/Lake Tarawera/Rerewhakaitu/Waimangu 34
Westbrook/Pomare/Matipo Heights 33
Kawaha Point 32
Ngapuna 31
Selwyn Heights 29
Hamurana 28
Ngakuru/Atiamuru/Horohoro/Tumunui 26
Kaingaroa Forest 24
Utuhina 23
Ngongotaha South 17
Sunnybrook 17
Owhata South 15
Mamaku 11
Ohinemutu 8
Whakawerawera 9
Reporoa 9
Waiwhero/Ngongotaha Valley 6
Poets Corner 2
Arahiwi 1

What Can Be Done To Reduce Burglaries?

The following information outlines some practical and simple steps to reduce the risk of being burgled:

- Set up or join a Neighbourhood Support Group in your area and advertise the fact by displaying Neighbourhood Support signs and stickers, available through the office.
- Make sure doors, windows and other entry and exit points from your house have good quality, effective catches and locks - deadlocks if possible. Get into the habit of always using these locks.
- Always lock doors and windows at night, if you're out in the garden or going out or away. Don't leave a door key hidden outside - burglars know all the places to look
- Keep garden sheds and garages secure and lock away tools and ladders
- Have an alarm system professionally installed by a reputable security company and use it!
- Install sensor lights on access paths or around main external doors.
- Install a 'peep-hole' in a front door so you know who's visiting you.
- Ask unannounced visitors who they are and what they want. If you're not satisfied with their answer, don't open the door to them.
- Trim trees or remove shrubbery which might 'hide' a burglar's activity.
- If working in your backyard lock your front door!
- Get to know your neighbours and develop plans to deal with problems or suspicious activity. Exchanging phone numbers or emergency contact details is a good start.
- If you're going away, neighbours can collect your mail or newspaper and make your place look occupied, for example by turning on lights, parking a vehicle in your driveway, hanging washing on your line or mowing lawns.
- Record serial numbers and mark valuable property, keep a record of these numbers.
- Consider placing "Beware of Dog" signs on gates or fences.
- If you have an answer phone, don't record a message that suggests you're out or alone.
- Police are always interested in suspicious activity. Don't hesitate to call Police to report something out of the ordinary and, if you see a crime being committed, call 111.



Above all, remember burglars like easy, tempting opportunities. DON'T overlook the obvious and DO all you can to reduce the risk of being burgled.

If you, or someone you know has been burgled, it is best to take immediate action to improve the security of your home and reduce the risk of being burgled again.

What Have You Done To Be Ready?

In recent months there have been volcanic eruptions, bushfires, flooding, land slips and high winds. Emergencies can happen anytime. Don't waste your time, be ready for an emergency at anytime! Check this website:

<https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/get-ready/prepared-for-an-emergency/>