## Help protect yourself from Crime

Hello, this is your local Proactive Policing Unit based at Croydon Police Station.

We are police officers and perform the usual police work but in addition we look at Crime and Personal Safety from a different perspective. The majority of our work is engaging with the community.



Over the last 14 years it has been our pleasure and privilege to work with many individuals and agencies in Maroondah in developing programs and initiatives to help people in our community who may need it. It is very important to us that people feel safe and included.

We have learnt a lot as well. We understand that for a community to be healthy and cohesive we need to work together.

In fact, we need your help! We need every member of the community including community groups and organizations to help us to keep our community safe by helping yourselves and others in preventing crime.

You can do this in a few ways.

First of all be really mindful of crime prevention and we want you to have a look at our website <u>Victoria Police - Delivering a Safer Victoria</u> and go to the "crime prevention and community safety" tab on the left hand side. You will find some fantastic crime prevention fact sheets on protecting your self and your property.

You all know about Crime Stoppers and if you need a refresher on reporting crime or suspicious activity then go to the website on Crime Stoppers Victoria - Help us keep Victoria safe. This is another excellent website that you can use in keeping our communities safe.

Of course you have your local Police Stations.

In Maroondah you have:

Ringwood 9871 3000 on hyperlink Victoria Police - Ringwood at 31 Ringwood Street Ringwood and

Croydon 9724 0100 on hyperlink Victoria Police - Croydon at 171-175 Mt Dandenong Road Croydon

We have worked in this area for a long time and we can say that Maroondah is very fortunate to have the most professional and caring police members working with and for us.

We know police throughout the state of Victoria do a very challenging job.

## Of course as always in case of emergency call 000.

Over the next few months your schools have allowed us to contribute to your newsletters with some proactive news, trends and initiatives.

Finally, thank you for allowing us some space and hopefully you will find our articles interesting.

## **Current Trends**

Theft From Motor Vehicles is still ongoing.

Firstly please lock you vehicles up whether it's at your home, driveway, work, shops or anywhere.

Leaving your vehicle unlocked can be an open invitation to thieves.

We want you to make sure you don't leave any valuables in your car. We know that offenders will often walk around cars and look inside to see if anything is worth stealing. If they see wallets, purses, mobile phones, I Pads even loose change this can be a reason to break into your car.

Consider car alarms. Thieves don't like them.

In particular if you are a tradesperson or know a tradesperson then be aware that tools are being stolen from "Tradies" vehicles. From tool boxes, Pods, Cabins anywhere tools can be on display or where offenders think they may be. That means from vehicles parked at homes as well as building sites.

Our advice is to make sure everything is locked up and if possible that the vehicles and tool boxes are fitted with security devices. These devices are readily available and there are many affordable options available.

There is a whole fact sheet dedicated to this on our web site so check it out.

Thanks again for allowing us to speak to you via your newsletter and we will follow up with some more information soon.

Stay safe and travel well.

Your Maroondah Proactive Policing Unit.