

GRAFFITI

In recent times, there has been an increase in criminal damage in the form of Graffiti on the Bellarine Peninsula. Local Police ask that you all please keep an eye out for this and report it appropriately. This will assist Police in keeping on top of things.

REPORTING GRAFFITI

Call 000 to report graffiti in progress.

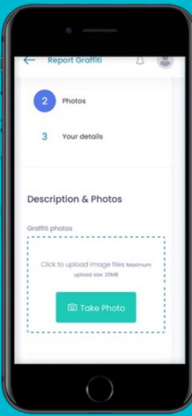
If your property is marked by graffiti, report it to your local police station.

If you have information on illegal graffiti offences, contact your local police station or call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. You can provide information to **Crime Stoppers** without giving your details.

City of Greater Geelong advise on reporting graffiti issues is as follows:

- call the **Graffiti Hotline** on 03 5272 4319
- email graffiti@geelongcity.vic.gov.au or
- submit online: <https://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/ct/forms/rfs.aspx?id=68>

Another option is to report graffiti to the Victorian Graffiti Register website: <https://vicgr.com.au/>. The VICGR app is available at Apple and Android app stores.



Take photos of graffiti for cleanup

Download on the **App Store**

GET IT ON **Google play**

HOME SECURITY VS. FIRE SAFETY

Home Security vs. Fire Safety



We all like to feel safe in our homes but sometimes increasing home security can make it difficult to escape your home in case of a fire.

Each year, a number of residents encounter difficulties escaping from fires due to security measures and sometimes the delay results in fatality. CFA recommend a balance between home security and home fire safety.

Deadlocks are less about keeping burglars out of your home and more about stopping them from carrying out your possessions. When you're not home it's important that you use keyed deadlocks to keep the burglars from carrying your TV out the door but when you're home it is just as important not to lock you or your family in if there is a fire.

Deadlocks

- only install dead locks that can be opened from inside the home without keys
- never deadlock a door when you are in the home. This can prevent you from escaping during a fire
- if you feel you must deadlock a door when you are home, leave the key in the lock
- have all deadlocks keyed alike.

Bars, grills, screens and roller blinds on windows

- windows installed with security devices should incorporate quick release mechanisms
- make sure that grills/bars and screens easily open outward from the inside to allow a quick escape
- make sure that everyone who lives in the home can operate security barred windows and doors
- if grills are key locked, the key should be kept near the lock.

FEEDBACK FROM A BCSR REGISTRANT

This lovely message was received from one of our Registrants recently:

“ I'm a Registrant with the Bellarine Community Support Register Inc. I've come to look forward to receiving a weekly call from my Care Callers both named Jenny! Sometimes another Care Caller might call me if neither Jenny is available and I enjoy that too. Thank you to all of you who volunteer your time because you care. ”

SCAMS



If you think you've been scammed,
tell your bank and phone company immediately.



MISSED CALL OR VOICEMAIL (FLUBOT) SCAMS

Since August 2021, many Australians have been getting scam text messages about missed calls or voicemails, along with a link to download some software. If you receive one of these messages, DO NOT click or tap on the link. Delete the message immediately.

BE SCAM ALERT!!

One of our Registrants called our office recently in a very distressed state. Distressed because this person has been pestered in recent days, and previously, by a scam call supposedly from the **National Crime Authority** wanting access to bank account information as related to **Amazon** and using names and a reference number.

Unfortunately, this is an all too regular occurrence. Be aware of suspicious phone calls and NEVER provide personal information over the phone.

PHONE SCAMS

Scams target everyone. Scammers use stealth, surprise and clever tactics to get what they want, which may be your money or your personal details. No-one is too smart to be scammed. But there are things you can do to help spot—and stop—a phone scam.

HOW TO SPOT A SCAM

Always be wary about any calls or texts that come from people you don't know.

Scammers are very sophisticated, which can make a scam difficult to spot. Scammers may:

- pretend to be from an organisation you trust and ask for your personal details in a call or a text
- say that you have won a prize or there's money waiting for you
- use logos and copy real text messages to look legitimate
- disguise their number to make it look like they're calling from somewhere local
- call over and over, making it hard to ignore
- use 'robocalls' or recorded messages saying your internet will be disconnected and ask for payment or personal data
- lie and tell you stories, like your computer needs urgent attention
- act like it's an emergency and tell you something bad will happen if you don't click a link or call a number to check your details.



It's probably a scam if:

- a call or text sounds too good to be true
- someone you don't know has your personal details
- your bank (or another institution that you trust) calls or texts you to ask for personal information or money
- you're threatened or made to feel afraid
- someone asks to access your computer.

How to protect yourself from phone scams

- **Don't** answer, don't click on links, don't give personal details, and don't give money.
- **Don't** answer if you don't know who it is. Let the call go to voicemail first. If the caller leaves a number, check that it matches the one on their website.
- **Don't** reply or click on any links in text messages.
- **Don't** ever send money.
- **Don't** ever tell anyone your personal details—passwords or other sensitive information.
- **Don't** ever let someone take control of your computer.

You should:

- Block callers: your phone company can tell you how.
- On a mobile phone, there may be a setting to block specific numbers. You can also use an app (but watch out for charges).
- On your home phone, you can get a handset that lets you block calls, or you can get a device for your existing phone that can block callers.
- Use a password on your mobile.
- Check text messages carefully. Look for things that don't look right - bad spelling, strange sender name or number.

**Remember
the rule ...
...If in doubt,
don't.**

Two important websites with information about scams and to report scams, visit:

Scamwatch <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au/report-a-scam> and

Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) <https://www.acma.gov.au/phone-scams>

GRANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

During the past twelve months the Register has been on the lookout for donations and grants to assist in the effective delivery of our services and to ensure that our volunteers' health and wellbeing is maintained.

To date we have been successful in obtaining six grants from a variety of providers with amounts varying from \$500 to \$3,340.

Recently we were successful in obtaining a grant of \$1,500 from the Borough of Queenscliff's **Community Activation & Social Isolation Initiative** to provide mental health training for our volunteers. Unfortunately with the various COVID shutdowns we have not yet been able to deliver this hands-on training but will at the earliest opportunity.

A very useful grant of \$500 was received from the **Geelong Connected Communities (GCC)** to assist the Register in meeting the increased costs of printing and posting the quarterly newsletter. GCC is a community company established for the benefit of all residents in the Geelong Region and more details of their community work can be found on www.geelongconnectedcommunities.com.au



OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE THE BEST!

Having just been through yet another lockdown, our service continued to operate throughout, switching from Office based to remote operation, without any disruption to service to our Registrants.

And it is all due to our amazing volunteers who are so skilled now in adjusting to meet the needs of the times. Thank you all.

Thank you

MY AGED CARE PACKAGES

As you get older, living independently in your own home can become more difficult. If you're finding it harder to do the things you used to, you can ask for some help at home.

Asking for help doesn't mean losing your independence; it's quite the opposite.

Getting a little help with daily activities means you can stay independent in your own home for longer. In fact, a little support can lead to a much better life.

Help at home looks different for different people. It may mean getting help with shopping and cooking. Or it could be receiving personal care to bath, dress, and get in and out of bed. It may even mean getting modifications to improve your safety and movement around the house.

Getting some help at home can enable you to continue to live independently in your own home for as long as possible.

How does it work?

The Australian Government subsidises the cost of home support services that you can receive in the comfort of your own home. What you need to pay depends on your services and in some cases, your financial situation.

Depending on your care needs, services can be accessed through the Commonwealth Home Support Programme or a Home Care Package. An assessment process determines what program is more suitable for you.

For more information, visit:

- <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/help-at-home>
- <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/help-at-home/home-care-packages>
- <https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/help-at-home/commonwealth-home-support-programme>

COVID-19 VACCINATION HUB

The Victorian Government strongly encourages all Victorians to get the COVID-19 vaccination. When you get vaccinated for COVID-19, you are helping to protect yourself, your family and the whole community from serious illness and potentially loss of life.

The vaccination is free.

To make a booking phone 1800 675 398 or scan the QR code using your mobile phone camera.

<https://www.barwonhealth.org.au/coronavirus/booking-a-vaccination>



The Barwon Health Community Vaccination Hub is located at 2-30 North Shore Road, Norlane (in the old Ford Factory). There is parking onsite and it is close to bus stops.

If you are unable to get the Barwon Health COVID-19 Vaccination Hub, community transport is available through Volunteering Geelong.

To see if you are eligible, please call 5221 1377.



BELLARINE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER INC.

PO BOX 819,OCEAN GROVE. VIC 3226 TELEPHONE: 0480 228 674

DONATION FORM

NAME: _____ ID NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

I ENCLOSE A DONATION OF: \$5 \$10 \$20 \$100 Other: _____
Please tick the appropriate amount.

All donations of \$2 and over are income tax deductible.

Receipts will be issued only on request. Please tick the appropriate box. YES NO

Donations will be accepted at any Bendigo Bank Branch in the Geelong Region.

Our account details are: **BENDIGO BANK** Branch **633 108** Account **127 715 209**.

BELLARINE COMMUNITY SUPPORT REGISTER INC

Proudly supported by



If undeliverable please return to:
Bellarine Community Support Register
PO Box 819
Ocean Grove Vic 3226



**POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA**

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a return address or additional information.