



# Savvy Seniors Safer Homes

Whether you have lived in your community for decades, or you have moved here in the last couple of years, Baw Baw Shire is a great place to enjoy retirement and your Senior lifestyle.

## About the project

The **Savvy Seniors Safer Homes** project is funded by the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program. Local agencies, community and organisations are working together to better understand the experiences of Seniors who are living independently in Baw Baw Shire.

Being savvy about how to keep your home safe in a fast-changing world is as easy as reading this brochure, playing the bingo game on the back page, and starting a conversation with trusted friends and family. The great news is that some of the best things we can do to support safer living are free!

## Where can I find out more?

Be sure to get good information from reliable sources such as Council, Police, and Neighbourhood Watch when you make decisions about your home safety and security.

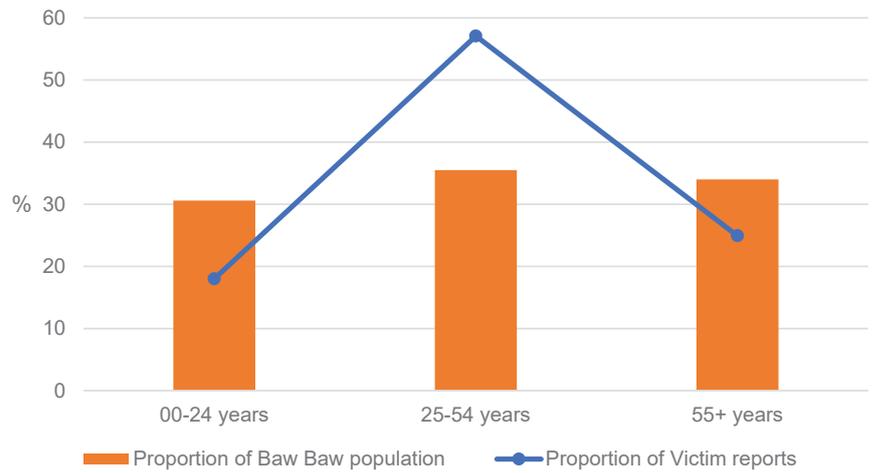
Visit the Baw Baw Shire Council website or call 1300 229 229 for some great tips and reliable, impartial information on home safety behaviours and equipment  
[www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/SavvySeniors](http://www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au/SavvySeniors)



## Crime statistics in Baw Baw Shire

So just how bad is the crime in Baw Baw? It's not as bad as you might think.

For Seniors (who make up 34 percent of our community), they are the victim in only 25 percent of the reports. We would like to reduce this even further.



Source: Publicly available data on the websites of the Crime Statistics Agency and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

## Home Safety Bingo

These things have all been shown to support safer homes. How many circles can you tick?

<b>SAVVY</b>	<p><b>Keep in touch with trusted family and friends.</b></p> <p>They can help when you need it or might notice if something changes.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Seek out help with technology and change passwords.</b></p> <p>This makes it harder for cyber-criminals to hack your accounts.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Connect with your neighbourhood (neighbours, community groups).</b></p> <p>Knowing familiar faces can help you notice suspicious activities.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>
	<p><b>Store keys, tools and valuables securely and out of sight.</b></p> <p>Many crimes are opportunistic – don't make it easy for a thief to gain access!</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SENIORS</b>	<p><b>Be informed and adaptable.</b></p> <p>Get good information and be willing to change as your needs and the world changes.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Make it look like you are home even when you are not.</b></p> <p>Timer lights and mail collection help a lot. This can deter would-be thieves.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Add crime-fighting landscaping around your house.</b></p> <p>Thorny roses near the windows, for example, will help deter a thief from entering this way.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>		<b>SAFER</b>
<p><b>Property maintenance and improvements</b></p> <p>Replace globes, trim overgrown plants, ensure fences are secure.</p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Get reliable, up-to-date information from trusted sources – Council, Police, Neighbourhood Watch.</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Use services that you are entitled to.</b></p> <p>They can support your independence and safety at home. Register with <a href="http://www.MyAgedCare.gov.au">www.MyAgedCare.gov.au</a></p> <input type="checkbox"/>	