

Crime Stoppers WA put the brakes on bike theft with *Bikelinc*

To help reduce bike theft in WA, Crime Stoppers WA has developed *Bikelinc* - an online community tool that helps bike-minded people keep bikes with their rightful owners.

Over 9,000 bikes have been reported stolen in WA each year for the past five years, with a 64% increase in stolen bikes over the past 10 years.

Bikelinc connects you, your bike, the WA Police Force and cycling community. Bike owners and retailers create a free profile of their bike/s on *Bikelinc* using the bike's serial number to link it to them as the rightful owner.

Police officers are very successful in recovering and retrieving bikes but have difficulty in returning them to their owners. This searchable tool allows police officers to check *Bikelinc* in order to confirm the ownership of bikes that come into their possession, or to check the bona fides of people claiming to own bikes.

Bike retailers also have the ability to upload their high-end stock to *Bikelinc* and transfer a bike to its new owner's profile upon purchase. With the history of ram raids on bicycle shops, the retailers are also very supportive of *Bikelinc*.

Developed by Crime Stoppers WA, endorsed by the WA Police Force and supported by WestCycle, your personal information is kept safe and secure on this Crime Stoppers WA platform.

Bikelinc is for anyone who enjoys bike riding as a form of commuting, recreation or sport and doesn't want bike thieves disrupting their cycling lifestyle. For peace of mind, anyone thinking of buying a second-hand bike can also check *Bikelinc* to see that the bike isn't listed as stolen.

Bikelinc has been facilitated through an allocation from the State Government's Proceeds of Crime funding, grant money from Commonwealth Government and seed funding from P&N Bank.

Comments attributed to Hon Michelle Roberts, Minister for Police, Road Safety:

"All cyclists should upload their bike details on *Bikelinc*. This is especially important over the Christmas period when some people are giving and receiving bikes."

Comments attributed to CEO Crime Stoppers WA, Dr Vince Hughes:

"*Bikelinc* will be a game changer regarding the reduction of bike theft in WA, allowing a community of bike-minded people and the WA Police Force to make a significant difference in tackling this problem".

cont.....

No crime is committed in secret.

If you know or suspect something, report it anonymously to Crime Stoppers at www.crimestopperswa.com.au or call 1800 333 000. Help us keep your family and community safe.

Crime Stoppers is a registered charity and an independent, not for profit organisation.

Comments attributed to WestCycle CEO, Matt Fulton:

“Many Western Australians love cycling and want the best chance of being reunited with their bike if it’s lost or stolen. *Bikelinc* will connect everyone wanting to reduce bike theft and help strengthen the interest in cycling in WA”.

Join *Bikelinc* for free today at www.bikelinc.com.au

-END -



No crime is committed in secret.

If you know or suspect something, report it anonymously to Crime Stoppers at www.crimestopperswa.com.au or call 1800 333 000. Help us keep your family and community safe.

Crime Stoppers is a registered charity and an independent, not for profit organisation.