

Chairman's Message

Hello again.

At our recent 10-year Anniversary Tea Party, I explained that the event was intended as a thank you to all our Scheme Contacts, who are key to a successful Watch group. For those Contacts who did not attend, please accept my thanks now for all you do.



Anita Rigler cutting the 10th Anniversary cake

Our thanks are also due to Inspector Mike Darkin for all he has done to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour during his term of office and for working closely in true partnership with our Watch. Mike has always been very approachable and supportive – we shall miss him, and hope that his successor will continue to build on what has been achieved.

Mike's new responsibilities cover the management of volunteer programmes including Watches. Printed below is an extract from an article provided for the ADW (Association of Dorset Watches) newsletter by Assistant Chief Constable James Vaughan which covers his commitment and expectation of the Watch element of the role:-

"Myself and John Shave have recently had a very positive meeting which reaffirmed the importance of the relationship between Dorset Police & the ADW. I am extremely grateful of the support, time and effort given by voluntary watch groups across the County and will always encourage closer collaboration between us. To this end, I hope to attend as many Watch Scheme meetings as possible to ensure momentum is kept up.

Inspector Mike Darkin attended the recent ADW AGM to provide a briefing on his new role, which includes ensuring

effective and efficient engagement is developed between Dorset Police and Watch Schemes across the County.

Key tasks that Mike will explore include:

- Effective recruitment strategy between ADW and Dorset Police to expand membership and coverage
- Contact details for each member for speedy contact when managing 'crimes in action'
- Social networking, such as Twitter and Facebook, as a means to communicate with members locally
- Minimum standards for local Safer Neighbourhood Team/ Neighbourhood and Home Watch engagement
- Better communication with Watch Schemes that occurs regularly and allows us to respond and log information from members more effectively"

Police and Crime Commissioner

As you will no doubt know, independent candidate Martyn Underhill has been elected as Dorset's first Police and Crime Commissioner. So that you know what we can look forward to with Martyn, I have extracted relevant Watch related commitments made in his response to ADW questions for publication in their pre-election newsletter. These are:-

"As Dorset PCC, I would immediately implement:

- A pan Dorset NHW/HW scheme, with one name not two! I would let the members decide the name.
 - A full time pan Dorset NHW Coordinator, working in Police HQ. This person would be supported by 8 part time volunteers covering the main four areas of Dorset.
 - The introduction of social media to NHW = Facebook, Twitter, and email alerts coupled with automated texts to alert members promptly.
 - Prompt and specific SNT statistics for the use of NHW.
 - A target to double the amount of NHW members in 4 years
- I want to expand and support Neighbourhood Watch in Dorset"*

With the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Assistant Chief Constable both expressing strong commitments to the Watch partnership and expanding and improving its effectiveness, the future looks rosy. We must ensure we continue to play our part in shaping our future.

Your committee and I wish you a happy Christmas and a safe New Year.



John Shave.

**Your Wimborne & Colehill
Home Watch Officers:**

John Shave (Chair)

mobile 07802 201778

homewatchwandc@gmail.com

Cllr. John Burden (Vice Chair
from May 2013)

Carole Richens (Secretary)

John Poat (Treasurer &

Membership) 849477,

jpoat10694@aol.com

**For details of how to join
W&CHW see page 8**

Update is a quarterly newsletter published by the W&CHW. The Editor welcomes contributions and letters from Watch members but reserves the right to edit as necessary or decline to publish.

Next copy deadline 8th Mar

Graham Mallett

(acting Editor / Advertising):

tel 01202 884642

email: g@gpmcs.co.uk

Contact us:

Email g@gpmcs.co.uk or see
box below to leave a message

**www.colehill.gov.uk/
homewatch**

(The latest Ringmaster
messages are usually posted
within 24 hours of issue)

Report from Inspector Mike Darkin



I write this update with a slightly heavy heart to you all as it will in fact be my last as the Neighbourhood Inspector for East Dorset. Quite unexpectedly I have been offered another role which I have accepted. Specifically I have been asked to become the Special Constable and Volunteers Coordinator for Dorset Police. This role includes within its portfolio the coordination and development of Watch Schemes across the County. I have been passionate about these areas of policing for many years now and to have the opportunity to further develop the fantastic support we receive here at East Dorset... but at a force wide level is just something that I cannot say no to. I took on this new role on 19th November, after a short period of annual leave, so effectively my last working day at East Dorset was Thursday 8th November 2012. I am not able to advise you as to whom my successor will be at this time but I can absolutely assure you that East Dorset will be kept in very good hands until such a person is selected. Acting Inspector Alan Setchell will take charge of the Section when I leave and he will be ably assisted by Sergeant Richard Partridge. Business will continue as usual and they will continue to ensure that you receive the very best service possible.

I consider that I have been most privileged to lead at East Dorset over the past 4½ years and my role has been made so much easier because of the support of the communities here within the District. I have said it so many times and I truly believe it, that it is through partnership that we succeed. Our PACT processes have developed close engagement opportunities, allowing speedier access to the authorities that can resolve local issues. Our many Watch schemes and the processes behind them are a shining example for me to take forward and attempt to replicate across the Dorset area. Key to the successes of your schemes is the close partnership that you share with the SNT's. It is through these partnerships that we have lobbied for funding to get new bikes for some SNT's, carry out litter pick ups across the area, part fund diversion activities for youths in the summer months, purchase a speed laser enforcement device for my staff to use, maintain the sale of affordable crime prevention goods through the Barrington Centre at Ferndown and most significantly of late – develop and introduce the Sheducation

Messages for Home Watch

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initiative that continues to provide a fantastic service across East Dorset and beyond. These are just a few examples of what we have achieved in the time that I have been in this chair. So when I say thank you, I hope you can perhaps see the sincerity behind the words. Without your support we could not achieve these results and effectively this all comes from your annual membership fee to your watch scheme. Not bad value for money...but for me it is not the money that is the important factor...it is you...and always has been. So long as we have the support and trust and confidence of our communities then I truly believe that we will continue to keep East Dorset a great place to live...A safe place to live.

I hope and trust that you will continue to receive updates from my successor and more importantly from your SNT's. East Dorset continues to see a fall in crime and ASB. Specifically in the past 7 months 276 less crimes (16% reduction) and a massive 469 (28.5% reduction) less ASB reports have occurred (or not occurred☺) within East Dorset. There are within these figure fluctuations of course and the area that is causing us most worry at the moment remains our old friend of theft from your vehicles! Our efforts and those of our partners are being channelled in this regard and we are out your neighbourhoods trying to combat the rise. You may be surprised to read that 75% of our crime in this field is located within residential streets and driveways...not car parks! So my message and plea is please do not leave things on view in your car. Even if it is of no value to you it may be to a thief and the two things you can do to stop this is to not have anything on show and to lock your car.

As I draw to a close I would like to repeat my very sincere thanks to you all for your continued support in keeping East Dorset Safe. You are our eyes and ears, our witnesses and our friendly neighbours who help us to protect the vulnerable within our communities. Together you help us keep crime low in East Dorset and I am so grateful for your help in that regard.

I will not be turning my back on East Dorset and I will still have a close involvement with the volunteer workforce which includes the NHW and HW groups across the County. So when I say good bye it is only a goodbye from me as the Neighbourhood Inspector...but it is also a Hello and welcome from the new Force Coordinator for Watch Schemes and volunteers.

I look forward to continuing our working relationship in that regard and ask that you kindly continue to support your SNT's as you have done so well my time here... and of course before my arrival.

Thank you all and very best regards for the festive season...and beyond.



Mike Darkin, East Dorset Neighbourhood Inspector

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## Traders List update

Please make sure you have the following amendments to 'Handyman' on your copy:

- Mike Jarvis, retired
- Tony Lockett, passed away

*The latest copy is always available on our website*

**[www.colehill.gov.uk/homewatch](http://www.colehill.gov.uk/homewatch)**

(about half way down the page)

## AGM FEEDBACK

Agreed 2013 Focus Areas:

- Working with SNTs to recruit new Contacts & Committee members
- Using demo kit and Sheduction to provide crime prevention advice and products for sale
- At least one promotional or crime prevention event per month from 2013

### Year-end change to Constitution

It was agreed at the AGM that the financial year would be changed to April through March, with the current financial "year" ending on 31st March 2014.

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Dorset Police

[www.dorset.police.uk](http://www.dorset.police.uk)

### SCAM BUSTERS POLICE WEBSITE

includes scams that have been an actual problem rather than more speculative messages about possible scams

[www.dorset.police.uk/default.aspx?page=4821](http://www.dorset.police.uk/default.aspx?page=4821)

### Community Office

The Barrington Centre,  
Penny's Walk, Ferndown.

Open 10am-noon (except Sun)

[ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com](mailto:ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com)

01202 876219

### HW Street Signs

We have a few plastic ones available, for use on private land/fences/etc.

Contact the editor,  
Graham Mallett (see p2).

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## YOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS

### Wimborne Town & Leigh Park Safer Neighbourhood Team

#### Santa might not be the only one visiting your home this Christmas!

Opportunist thefts can increase at this time of year. Don't let a burglar spoil your Christmas; make sure your homes, sheds and garages are secure.

Advice to cut crime over the festive season is to "Light up and Lock up". Homes in darkness from 4pm to 9pm can be a target for thieves. A well-lit home gives the impression that someone is in. Keep valuable items out of view, lock all windows and doors and keep gates secured.

To book a Crime Prevention Survey for your home, contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team on 101.

#### THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR DRINK DRIVING

What drink driving could cost you....

- A court conviction
- A driving ban of at least 12 months
- An endorsement of your driving licence for 11 years
- A criminal record

If you get caught drink driving the consequences listed above is the minimum that will happen. You may also be liable to a fine of up to £5000 and up to 6 months in prison.

#### FRAUD

Action Fraud is the new national reporting centre for all fraud and cyber crime. It means that members of the public and businesses will be able to report incidents of fraud to this 'one stop shop' rather than to their local police force, unless they are reporting a crime that is an immediate call to the Police.

Action Fraud number is 0300 123 2040

#### GOOD NEWS

The offenders from the recent shop burglaries in Wimborne Town have been arrested.

The bridge from Waitrose green to Crown Mead is now at a stage where they are confident that, once legally finalised, it will be built in the first half of the year in 2013.

#### SHEDUCATION VAN

Look out for the Sheduction trailer around Wimborne. Crime prevention products are on sale (also available from the Community Office – see page 6) and some freebies available.

#### Wimborne Town and Leigh Park Surgeries

**4th Dec.** 10-12 The Methodist Church, King Street

**10th Dec.** 10-12 Leigh Park Community Centre

*Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Natalie, Stuart and Matt.*

*PC 1072 Stuart Belfield*

*PCSO 5461 Natalie Shaw*

*PCSO 5492 Matt Brennan*



## Colehill & Stour Safer Neighbourhood Team

'Tis the Season to be jolly -

### Don't make it a Merry Christmas for Criminals !

As we approach the period of festivities people will be getting into the Christmas spirit and thieves will be preparing to take advantage of the opportunities presented by those who are unnecessarily leaving themselves vulnerable to crime.

**Presents** – When you are out Christmas shopping do not leave your vehicle unattended with all the gifts you have just purchased on view. If you like to display your presents under the Christmas tree make sure they are not visible from the windows. After Christmas take the boxes for your expensive electronic goods straight to the recycling centre rather than leaving them out on bin day. This is better for the environment and means burglars do not see what lovely new consumer durables you have. It is good practice to make a note of serial numbers and use a uv pen to mark items with your house number and postcode.

**Parties** – Many of us will be attending works parties and some of these will be in pubs, clubs and restaurants. It is nice to have a drink and relax with friends and colleagues but when you become overly drunk you cannot look after yourself or your possessions. Keep your personal valuables with you; unattended bags are an easy target for thieves. Do not go showing off your latest expensive smartphone or waving large amounts of cash about at the bar, you never know who is watching. Be careful about leaving drinks unattended.

**Drink Driving** – Beware of morning-after drink driving. Every December Dorset Police run a Christmas Drink Driving Campaign. Many of the operations will be carried out during the morning rush hour to target people who are still over the limit on the way to work.

**Going Away** – If you are spending Christmas away from home think about preparing your house so it is less vulnerable while you are not there. A house in darkness is more noticeable during the winter months. Put some lights on timer switches. Consider the same for a radio tuned to a talk only station. Let your neighbours know when you will be away and ask someone to clear the post from your door.

*Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,  
Steve, Joe and Matt, Colehill & Stour Safer Neighbourhood Team*

If you need to contact your SNT officers use the email or call Wimborne Police Station via 101.

\*\*\*\* **New Opening Times** \*\*\*\*

The police station at Hanham Road, Wimborne, BH21 1AS is normally open **Wednesday** 10am-6pm, **Thursday** 10am-2pm, **Friday** 10am-6pm. Please come along and visit Chris.

**NOTE: The reception desk may not always be staffed at these times.**

### Wimborne SNT

**PC Stuart Belfield**

**PCSO Natalie Shaw**

**PCSO Matt Brennan**

wimboretowncentresnt@

dorset.pnn.police.uk or

leighparksnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk

**mobile: 07825 521773**

### Colehill & Stour SNT

**PC Steve Brett**

**PCSO Matt Johnson**

**PCSO Joe Cherrett**

colehill&stoursnt@

dorset.pnn.police.uk

### Ferndown (Staplehill) SNT

**PC Ian Curtis**

ferndowncentralsnt@

dorset.pnn.police.uk

**mobile: 07825 521752**

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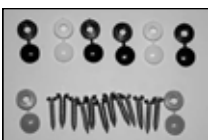
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Telephone 01202 876219  
Email [ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com](mailto:ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com)  
Website [www.ferndowncommunityoffice.org](http://www.ferndowncommunityoffice.org)

Our Watch now has its own portable wheel-along demo kit of the main products available for sale from them, funded by the District Council. This is intended for use by any of our committee members and scheme contacts with their members, e.g. for display at meetings.



## DOG FOULING

Very often members of the public confront the culprits whom they have witnessed failing to pick up after their dogs, and get a real mouthful back from the culprits, often becoming hostile. By not confronting them and taking note of the points below, it helps me to build a profile of the area, what time the fouling is taking place, the location, and what type of dogs to look out for. I can then patrol the appropriate areas and hopefully catch the culprits red handed and fine them or further pay them a visit and issue a warning that a member of the public has reported that they were **allegedly** seen failing to pick up after their dog which is an offence.



I would like the public to take note of the date, time, type of dog and address of owner or registration no of the culprit's vehicle (if at a Rec.) and report this to East Dorset District Council on 01202 886201 for the attention of the Dog Warden as soon as possible.

Under the CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ENVIROMENT ACT 2005 the Dog Control Orders FOULING OF LAND BY DOGS (EAST DORSET) ORDER 2010 was brought into being and is used to enforce dog fouling. The act reads IF A DOG DEFECATES AT ANY TIME ON LAND TO WHICH THIS ORDER APPLIES AND A PERSON WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE DOG AT THE TIME FAILS TO REMOVE THE FAECES FROM THE LAND FORTHWITH, THAT PERSON SHALL BE GUILTY OF AN OFFENCE.

This order states that the land enforceable is any land within the district of East Dorset which is open to air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment).

If witnessed by the Dog warden, anyone found guilty of committing this offence can be taken to court, and if found guilty a maximum fine of £1000 can be imposed, or the person has the option of accepting a Fixed penalty Notice for £75.

I look forward to receiving information on dog fouling and being able to act on it, and hopefully reduce the level of dog fouling in the district.

*Grant Cole, Enforcement Officer (Dogs), C'church and East Dorset Councils*

Tel: 01202 886201 ext 2344

Email: [GCole@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk](mailto:GCole@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk)

Web: [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com)

## Give cold callers the cold shoulder

Residents across Dorset are being urged to help combat doorstep crime and stand up to aggressive cold callers.



Since April, Trading Standards officers have provided rapid responses to intervene and advise where to rogue doorstep traders have been involved on 13 occasions. Seven were in relation to driveway work, with others involving tree cutting, roofing, fencing and insulation.

Formal action has been taken in four cases including prosecutions for fraud and misleading consumers, with sentences including community orders to do unpaid work and suspended prison terms, as well as compensation orders.

To avoid such incidents, people are advised to use trusted traders available through the county's Buy With Confidence scheme.

This features a wide range of reputable businesses which have been vetted by Trading Standards and which are committed to good customer service.



County Council Trading Standards Manager Ivan Hancock said: "As a rule, we always advise people never to deal with cold callers, they could be anyone.

*Display a card in your door to deter unwanted callers. If someone does knock on your door trying to sell you something, be polite but firm in turning them away. And if they persist, you are within your rights to call the police – if the person on your doorstep or in your house does not leave when asked, he/she is committing a criminal offence.*

*We have taken a firm line with enforcement action against rogue traders cold calling Dorset residents and misleading them, or failing to give them the cancellation rights they are entitled to.*

*Don't deal with uninvited doorstep traders – the risks are too great."*

For local business you can trust, visit [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk) or call

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## Harry Homewatch

Recently Harry noticed that there had been a couple of burglaries in Wimborne Town. As a result of this crime the Neighbourhood Police, with the assistance of some Home Watch volunteers, had arranged a display of the Sheduction vehicle. This was to make residents aware of alarms and locks which could have prevented the burglaries. This display was well attended and several hundred pounds worth of discounted anti-crime devices were purchased.

To Harry this seemed a little like closing the stable door after the horse had bolted. Surely he thought it was far better to be proactive and equip your premises with these devices before the event, thus deterring any criminal activity.

The Sheduction trailer will be in many areas this coming year or you can see/buy the same products at the Community Office (p6).

Now the weather has turned colder Harry hopes that all members will, as well as keeping an eye out for crime and anti social behaviour, also look out for the more vulnerable in their areas. Making sure that the elderly are warm and having enough to eat is vital when the temperatures drop. A friendly visit may well save a life in extreme conditions.

Harry would like to wish all of his readers a Happy Christmas and a crime free New Year.

Don't forget; keep those Christmas presents out of site of casual view through your house or car windows.

Follow Harry in further Issues of Update

Contact John Poat, Membership Sec., tel 849477, [jpoat10694@aol.com](mailto:jpoat10694@aol.com)



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## Home Watch membership - it's a great time to (re)join

Home Watch members should note that **renewals (£2) for 2012-2014 were due in September**. Members received a yellow membership card, valid until **30th September 2014**. Note that membership is per household, not per person.

**If you haven't been asked for your sub please speak to your Contact NOW!**

If you move house within our Home Watch area your membership can be transferred to your new address free of charge and a new card will be issued to you. Members who move out of the area will forfeit any subs paid and new occupiers will need to join up in their own names.

If you're already a member of W&CHW we'd like you to tell your friends or relatives who live locally about the many benefits. Help us to make our community safer – join today (details on our website). Your involvement makes a real difference in keeping us, our homes and our community safe.

Help fight crime and anti-social behaviour in our communities. To join contact Graham Mallett at [g@gpmcs.co.uk](mailto:g@gpmcs.co.uk); talk to your Safer Neighbourhood Team officers (find details on page 5); speak to your local W&CHW coordinator/contact; or leave a telephone message (see page 2).

**Street Contacts are reminded to notify details of any membership changes to their Co-ordinators.**