

## Chairman's Message

*Hello again,*

With the festive season approaching, I have a few requests and suggestions for each member:

1. Don't give any presents – to burglars! Please take the following precautions:

- do not leave presents or any other valuables unattended in the car or on display near windows in the home
- make your house and any outbuildings secure and burglar resistant
- do not allow any unknown, uninvited callers into your home
- if you are planning to be away from home for a few days, take steps to ensure that your absence is not obvious - for example, have lights come on in the evening, arrange for someone to take in the mail, draw curtains and put out refuse on collection days
- understand if any of your neighbours plan to be away and, if so, suggest the above ideas to them and offer to keep an eye on their home for them.

2. Help to make your community a safe and caring community:

- look out for your neighbours, especially vulnerable and lonely ones. The best present you can give a lonely person is your company
- help neighbours to be safe and to feel safe in their homes by suggesting security improvements they can make.

If you wish to purchase any security products at very competitive prices, you can obtain them from the Community Office in the Barrington Centre in Ferndown (open 10-12 Monday to Saturday), or from Streetwise in West Howe (by phone or internet). If you would like some home security advice speak with your local Safer Neighbourhood Team or your Home Watch Contact.

Finally, your committee members join with me in wishing every one of you a very happy Christmas and a safe and rewarding New Year.

Best wishes,  
John Shave.



## Sheduction

Tuesday 10th Dec:  
Haskins, Longham 10-2

Thursday 12th Dec:  
Stewarts, Broomhill 11-2



*Special offers on alarmed padlocks  
(subject to stock)*

Other dates in East Dorset: see 'Ringmaster' on our website

## A new Co-ordinator

### is still needed for Colehill West (C1)

This is broadly the area comprising 20 Home Watch groups accessed off Wimborne Road from Highland Road to Kyrchil Lane, including Highland Park and The Vineries.

Contact the Chairman, John Shave M.B.E.:

Telephone or text 07802 201778, or email  
[homewatchwandc@gmail.com](mailto:homewatchwandc@gmail.com)



*Dorset Police Male Voice Choir*

**Dorset Police Male Voice Choir**  
is recruiting adult males of all types of voices

*(To be able to read music is not essential)*

The choir consists of about 50 members made up of serving officers, retired officers and civilians....

**Come and join us!**

The choir practices on Tuesday evenings  
at Bournemouth School for Girls.

Contact: Clive Leonard on 01202 886595 or email via the enquiries page at [www.dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk](http://www.dorsetpolicemalevoicechoir.co.uk)

*Next concert: Thursday 19th December, 7.30  
Carol Concert at Wimborne Minster*

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

**John Shave** (Chair)

mobile 07802 201778

homewatchwandc@gmail.com

**Cllr. John Burden** (Vice Chair)

cllrburden@wimborne.gov.uk

01202 889324

**Joy Ashmore** (Secretary)

joykathleen1@gmail.com

**John Poat** (Treasurer &

Membership) 01202 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 7<sup>th</sup> March**

**Graham Mallett**

(Editor / Advertising):

tel 01202 884642 (GPM Computers)

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 Wayne Nock



As we move into the winter there is still much for East Dorset police to focus on. In terms of overall crime this summer, the number of recorded crimes has continued to fall and is the lowest within the last five years. The fact that this has been achieved against the background of financial cuts and restraints, with fewer officers than there were five years ago, is testament to the hard work and commitment of the Police officers and staff working within the section. However I am very aware that this would certainly not have been possible without the ongoing support from the many volunteers that dedicate hours of their time working in various different ways. We have excellent Home Watch volunteers ably led by their co-ordinators; and people give their time to help with initiatives such as the Sheduction trailer and other community events.

I therefore make no excuse in appealing to readers to seriously consider getting involved in some shape or form with your local watch groups. They are very effective in crime prevention and reduction and are a valuable crime fighting partner. Some may still have an image of 'curtain twitchers' when they think of Home/Neighbourhood Watch; I can assure you this is not the case and my Safer Neighbourhood Teams work very closely with the watch groups. We have direct communications with them and they are amongst the first to be informed of crime trends or suspicious activity in their respective areas. To ensure the future of Home/Neighbourhood Watch, new members are vital. To find out more have a look at [www.nhwdorset.org.uk](http://www.nhwdorset.org.uk)

Christmas is just around the corner and as in previous years we will be operating some crime prevention initiatives the month before Christmas, particularly around the vulnerable and those planning to go away for the holidays. I know many of you do have good relations with your neighbours and speak to them often, but sadly when making house to house enquiries we find some householders don't know the name of, or speak to their close neighbours. The area's watch groups and Safer Neighbourhood Teams will be encouraging all householders to take the opportunity to talk with their neighbours, find out their plans for Christmas, and hopefully ensure things like bins and post are taken care of.

Recent incidents/operations within the section include:

A number of joint operations with Customs & Excise where two 4 x 4 vehicles have been seized for using red diesel and other matters involving the vehicles also being looked into.

A number of warrants executed across East Dorset where controlled drugs have been seized and suspected stolen items.

Dealing with a male suffering from mental health problems who had mixed alcohol with drugs, armed himself and was injuring himself and damaging property.

**\*Messages for Home Watch\***

*If you can't email... use our voicemail system!*

**Call 0844 579 6949**

**Key in voicemail number 94167**

**Leave your message then hang up.**

(Note: calls cost 5p/min, or considerably more from a mobile)

**Adverts and Traders List**

*Please note that advertisers offering a service have not necessarily been recommended by members unless they also appear on the Traders List.*



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Despite considerable risk to themselves the male was subdued and restrained before he could cause really serious injury to himself. This was a very difficult incident to deal with and is a very good example of the type of incidents police officers are regularly called upon to deal with.

That is all from me for now, but please continue to report anything that appears suspicious or just not right as without the eyes and ears of you, the public, we would not be able to function very effectively at all.

Kind regards, 

*Inspector Wayne Nock,  
East Dorset Neighbourhood Inspector*



Wimborne & Colehill Home Watch

## Vacancy ~ Publicity

### ***We still need a Publicity Officer!***

The post would suit a retired person with word processing skills and access to an email account.

Apply in the first instance to the Chairman  
John Shave M.B.E.

**Telephone or text 07802 201778,  
or email [homewatchwandc@gmail.com](mailto:homewatchwandc@gmail.com)**

## FERNDOWN POLICE COMMUNITY OFFICE

The Ferndown Police Community Office is located in The Barrington Centre in Penny's Walk. We are operated by Police Volunteers and are open daily (except Sunday) from 10.00 until 12.00. Please come in and see the wide variety of security devices and leaflets that we have.

With Christmas coming we have the usual range of free items which can be used as stocking fillers. These include Snap Bands, Purse Chains, Note Pads, UV Marker Pens, Ice Scrapers and Magnifiers. We also have a small supply of low cost items,

As there has been an increase in cycle theft, we now have a D Lock to help protect your cycle. The Police prefer this type of device and we have a supply at an introductory offer of £8, while stocks last.

GuardCams are still being used to good effect in apprehending criminals. These are available at £75 and record up to 60,000 photographs or 750 videos. We do stock some but it is always better to ring first and reserve one (or more). We now stock 4GB SD Cards at £6 which will increase the recording capacity of GuardCams. It is worth noting that if your device records something of interest to the Police they will take away your card as evidence.

We now stock a door restrictor that can be used on UPVC doors without drilling the door (which may void the warranty).

East Dorset Crime Prevention Panel has kindly given us a donation to reduce the cost of Alarmed Padlocks to £8. This will apply to the first 100 sold and will only be available on Sheduction. The Shed will be out and about on the lead up to Christmas and a list of events will be on our website.

During Office hours we can be contacted on 01202 876219, but please be aware that this number should not be used instead of 999 (a crime is being committed or life is in danger) or 101 for other incidents.

We can also be contacted by email :  
[ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com](mailto:ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com)

The Community Office has a website where you can find out about the services and products that we have - see below.

## Community Office – Products

Products available do change - please check before visiting - the latest list is on :

**[www.ferndowncommunityoffice.org](http://www.ferndowncommunityoffice.org)**

The Ferndown Police Community Office  
The Barrington Centre, Pennys Walk, Ferndown

Open every day (except Sunday)  
from 10.00 until 12.00

Telephone 01202 876219

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

**Mrs T. A. O'Hare** BA, Dip LG  
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4 Cobbs Road, Colehill,  
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[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 TEAM

### Wimborne & Colehill Safer Neighbourhood Team

Seasonal greetings and a warm welcome to you all, even if the weather suggests otherwise!

Now you may have noticed when starting your vehicles on these cold mornings that the frost is already upon us.



PCSO  
Natalie Shaw

PC  
Ian Curtis

PCSO  
Matt Brennan

PCSO  
Matt Johnson

Therefore I would like to take this opportunity to remind you not to leave your vehicles running and unattended. Not only is this an offence I am sure most of you would be extremely upset to find someone has removed your car and all of its contents. There is also the small point that you will not be covered on your insurance, which could prove very expensive with Christmas just around the corner.

Local SNT areas have been suffering from an increase in breaks to sheds and outbuildings over the past few weeks. To raise awareness of the need to secure sheds, garages and outbuildings (and bikes) and to 'property mark' tools and equipment the Sheduction trailer will be at various locations in November/December - see the front page for remaining dates.

Now many of you, I'm sure, will have started your Christmas shopping already therefore I would like to take this opportunity to remind all residents that it is vitally important that we all remain vigilant at this time of year even if statistically Colehill is the safest place in the country to live.

The statistics tell the story; burglaries from residential properties peak, not as commonly believed, in the traditional holiday month of August, but in the November to January period and it's not just your nicely wrapped presents that they'll take.

"Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.  
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,  
but no presents were left as a thief had been there...."

Christmas is around the corner and Santa may not be the only one trying to get in your house at night.

If you would like to keep up to date with all the latest festive news then follow us on Facebook @ Wimborne Police Station Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

## *Can you help?*

There are a variety of things you could help with - volunteer for tasks such as: participating in promotional activities such as manning a stand, writing articles for media publication, delivering *Update*, being a Coordinator, joining the Committee, etc....

Please email Graham: [g@gpmcs.co.uk](mailto:g@gpmcs.co.uk)

## SURGERY MEETINGS

First Tuesday of the month, 10.30-11.30 Methodist Church, King Street  
(new times)

Every other Monday, 10.30am Community Centre, Leigh Park

First Wednesday of the month, 2.30-3.30 Co-Op, Colehill.

*Have a great Christmas and happy new year to you all.*

*Regards, Natalie, Ian, Matt & Matt.*

PC 1503 Ian Curtis, PCSO 5461 Natalie Shaw, PCSO 5492 Matt Brennan,  
PCSO 6788 Matt Johnson

Facebook: Wimborne Police Station Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

## Look after your elderly neighbours

We had a wonderful summer this year, but winter is coming, the shops have been full of Christmas Cards since August and every time you turn on the television you find an advert from one of the major supermarkets or department stores telling you how wonderful they can make your Christmas if you buy their wares.

The enjoyment of catching up with, and sharing quality time with family and friends are what most of us look forward to at Christmas, as well of course as the food and gifts.

But for many older people the reality of Christmas is anything but enjoyable.

Research by AGE UK estimates that 450,000 people over the age of 65 will spend Christmas alone and for a large proportion of those Christmas brings back too many memories of loved ones who have passed away. Yes some people like to spend their time alone, but there are many others who would like to see a friendly face.

So if you have an elderly neighbour who lives alone, why not pop in with a small present, if needn't be much just a packet of biscuits, the real gift will be that someone called on them, even if only for a few minutes.

After all, caring for your neighbours is what Home Watch is all about.

Thank you.

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

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

The police station at Hanham Road, Wimborne, BH21 1AS is normally open

Wednesday 9am - 5pm

Friday 9am - 12.30pm

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

### Wimborne & Colehill SNT

PC Ian Curtis

PCSO Natalie Shaw

PCSO Matt Brennan

PCSO Matt Johnson

sntwimborne&colehill@

dorset.pnn.police.uk

mobile: 07825 521773

Facebook: Wimborne Police Station  
Safer Neighbourhood Teams

### Ferndown (Stapehill) SNT

PC Stuart Belfield

PCSO Kate Wakely

ferndowncentralsnt@

dorset.pnn.police.uk

mobile: 07825 521752

### EDDC [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com)

Community Safety Officer:

Martha Perry 01202 639032

Anti Social Behaviour Case Worker:

Gavin Barnes 01202 639040

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Mobile: 07590 519161

[www.minsterbrickwork.co.uk](http://www.minsterbrickwork.co.uk)



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Ferndown Ind. Estate,  
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[www.lacombe.co.uk](http://www.lacombe.co.uk)

## Don't fall for application form scams online

Dorset County Council Trading Standards Service is warning people not to fall for excess charges when applying for official documents.

If you require a passport, driving licence, EHIC Health card or Esta application, or are booking your driving test or theory test, beware of websites which look like they are taking a fee for the full cost of processing and submitting the application. These sites, often mistaken for the official sites, charge a fee to have your application checked or a booking fee for your driving test.

Many people have mistakenly paid for this checking service, with some companies charging up to £80 per enquiry. Any official application fee will then also be payable on top of this, so this scam can double the cost of applying for these documents. Although these sites are not necessarily illegal they can lead the unwary into paying unnecessary fees. Ask yourself these questions:

Does the site appear in the space allowed for advertisers by the search engine company?

- Does the site end “.gov.uk”?
- Does the information provided mention the “official site”?

Remember, when using the copycat and unofficial websites you are giving them a large amount of your personal information, more than enough for identity fraud to be possible.

If you think you have been scammed or ripped off contact Citizens Advice Consumer Services on 08454 040506 for advice, or online at [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

### Official Sites

It is not a requirement to have your passport application checked but for peace of mind the Post Office offers this service at a lower price and they will deliver your form securely to the Passport Office. The official site for passport applications is <https://www.gov.uk/browse/abroad/passports>

To apply for your driving licence, or to amend it see [www.gov.uk/browse/driving/driving-licences](http://www.gov.uk/browse/driving/driving-licences)

Electronic System for Travel Authorization (Esta) is the authorisation required for people who wish to travel to the United States under the Visa Waiver Program, there is a charge for this authorisation. Apply online at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta>

The European Health Insurance Card (previously the E111) entitles UK residents to the same level of national healthcare as nationals in European Union countries and although it provides valuable medical cover, it is not a replacement for travel insurance.

You can apply for this card free of charge via the official EHIC online application form:

<https://www.ehic.org.uk/Internet/startApplication.do>

## 'Ransomware' spam email

The National Crime Agency (NCA) has issued a warning alerting people to this email, which appears to be particularly targeted at businesses, and has a legitimate looking attachment from a bank or financial institution.

It purports to inform about an invoice, suspicious bank payment of fax for example but is in fact a malware that can install Cryptolocker – which is a piece of ransomware.

### The countdown screen

If opened the malware encrypts the user's files as well as that of the local network it is connected to.

Once encrypted, the computer will display a splash screen with a count down timer and a demand for the payment of 2 Bitcoins in ransom (approx £536) for the decryption key.

Lee Miles says “The NCA are actively pursuing organised crime groups committing this type of crime. We are working in cooperation with industry and international partners to identify and bring to justice those responsible and reduce the risk to the public.”

The NCA stresses it would never recommend paying a ransom as there is no guarantee it would be honoured.

If your computer is infected it should be reported to [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) immediately. For further advice on staying safe online see [www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)

## Ten Tips to help you being burgled

1. Tell people you're going away.

Make sure your happy news is spread as far and wide as possible - announcing it on Facebook is a really good way to tell everyone that your property will be empty for two weeks. That way thousands of friends and friends-of-friends will know exactly when your home is vulnerable.

2. But don't tell the neighbours

If you blab it to the neighbours - especially trusted neighbours who have a key - they'll just pop in regularly to check that your home is safe and secure.

3. Don't ask anyone to take out your bins

Either leave them out for the whole time you are away, or leave them stinking out the garden. Either way should make it abundantly clear there's no-one home.

4. Neglect the garden for a couple of weeks

The summer is ideal growing time, so make sure you leave the lawn nice and long and the weeds blooming, so they can get out of hand in your absence and indicate to everyone that you're either away or a garden slob.

5. Arrange lots of deliveries

Don't bother cancelling the paper or milk, and make sure you order plenty of things online so your letterbox can fill up nicely and leave mail poking out to advertise your absence.

6. Close curtains or blinds

That way anyone walking past during the day will know you're not there, and can pop back when it's dark in order to burgle you. >>

7. Leave the lights off

Not only will you save money on electricity, but a darkened home should help invite in wary burglars.

8. If you have to use a timer, make it obvious

Some people will insist on using a timer to bring the lights on for a couple of hours in the evening. If you can't break the habit, then make sure you do it in a front room, as close as possible to the street, so everyone will be able to see that the illuminated room is still entirely empty.

9. Mark your luggage carefully

Make sure you write your home address on your luggage, so that any keen airport worker gets an opportunity to see which homes will be empty during holidays.

10. Leave your home unsecured

If all else fails, don't lock the door, and either leave windows ajar, or leave them unlocked. If you have a burglar alarm, make sure you leave that turned off too.

*If you follow these steps carefully, you should ensure you can return home to the kind of ransacked property that makes every holiday so wonderfully relaxing.*

## SHEDUCATION VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!



Shed education displays are manned jointly by the Police and the Watch.

Volunteers demonstrate security products and a small stock is held in the 'shed' for sale. Training is given.

Volunteers typically do an event for a couple of hours a month. If you can help please contact Brian Frecknall in the Community Office - see page 3.

### Useful Links

**The Association of Dorset Watches website has a page of useful links at [www.nhwdorset.org.uk/page12.htm](http://www.nhwdorset.org.uk/page12.htm)**

*for example: scams, thieves, Streetwise, buy with confidence, personal safety, Crimestoppers, and more.*



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## Are you over 50, live in Dorset and need some information?



**Dorset Partnership for Older People Programme (POPP) provides a free and confidential information service, funded by the Dorset County Council and Dorset NHS.**

A Dorset POPP Wayfinder, who works in your community, can provide information or put you in contact with specialist help on many topics including: money/ benefits, transport, learning new skills, keeping your home warm, local clubs, support for you if you are caring for someone, and much more.

*They want to know what is important to you and will help you find the information you need.*

**Contact your local Wayfinder(s):**

Jill Beech 07971 338473  
Nick Hollingworth 07971 338624  
Central contact numbers: 01202 946111  
Email: [wayfindersinfo@helpandcare.org.uk](mailto:wayfindersinfo@helpandcare.org.uk)  
Info: [www.dorsetforyou.com/popp](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/popp)

## Harry Homewatch

Harry was shocked to hear from his coordinator that, in recent months, there had been an increase in break-ins to sheds, garages and other outbuildings across East Dorset.

*What can we do about this problem?*

The most obvious action is to make sure our sheds and garages are securely locked and if possible fitted with some kind of alarm system.

These items and advice on their use are available from the Ferndown Police Community Office in the Barrington Centre, open 10 - 12, Monday - Saturday (see page 3).

Crime Prevention advice and products will also be available from the Sheduction trailer, which will be at various local Garden Centres over the next few weeks (including 10<sup>th</sup> Dec at Haskins, 12<sup>th</sup> Dec at Stewarts, Broomhill. See local press for details).

Also think about security for your Bicycles and Tools. A kit with many types of marking techniques is available for members' use. Ask your Contact for details. Relevant advice and products are also available from the above sources.

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 sight of casual view through your house or car windows.

Harry

Contact John Poat, Membership Sec.,  
tel 01202 849477, [jpoat10694@aol.com](mailto:jpoat10694@aol.com)

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

Home Watch members should note that **renewals (£2) for 2012-2014 were due in Sept 2012**. 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!*

**New members can join for £1 for the remainder of our year.**

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.**