

Update

Christmas 2014

Issue 49

Chairman's Message

Hello again,

With the festive season approaching, I offer a few suggestions for presents:

1. For your friends and relations:

• security products, available from the Ferndown Police Community Office at the Barrington Centre (see elsewhere in this publication for contact details)

2. For all your neighbours

• help them to be safe and to feel safe in their homes by suggesting security improvements they can make

3. For neighbours planning to be away

 offer to keep an eye on their home for them - take in the mail, draw curtains and put the bins out on collection days

4. For vulnerable and lonely neighbours

• give your time – keep an eye on their home, talk to them, visit them

5. For your Wimborne and Colehill Home Watch

- help us to expand membership by finding community minded people to set up new schemes, or by taking over duties for your own scheme if it no longer has a Contact
- volunteer your time to help with such things as exhibitions, events, Sheducation visits

6. For burglars (NOT to be recommended)

 make it easy for them to steal your property by not taking appropriate precautions—for example not leaving presents or any other valuables unattended in the car or on display near windows in the home, not securing your house and any outbuildings

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.

Members!

Just to be clear, new free GREEN membership cards were distributed with the last newsletter.

New members pay £2 to join.

Full details on the back page as always.

Let's get neighbourly this Christmas!

Societal changes are having a devastating impact on older people at Christmas, with many set to spend the day alone.

Last Christmas more than 300,000 over 75s were believed to have spent Christmas Day alone, and this year that figure is set to rise as nearly half a million older people are at risk of spending the day alone.

The research, carried out by older people's charity, Royal Voluntary Service, found the most common reason older people are set to be lonely this Christmas was family living far away or even in a different country.

Others are saying it is because they don't speak to their children anymore or because they won't want to put their busy family under any more pressure at Christmas. Sadly, a small number admit they simply haven't been invited to spend the day with anyone.

Nearly half of over 75s, say they think families are fragmented now and under a lot of pressure. Technological advances, although welcomed by charities for those times when face to face contact isn't possible, seem to have replaced an actual visit with 47 per cent saying technology means people make less effort to actually see each other.

With the majority of older people wanting a traditional Christmas spent in company Royal Voluntary Service has partnered with Community Christmas for 2014, with the aim that no older person should have to spend Christmas alone if they don't want to.

The website (communitychristmas.org.uk) is a portal where those who are holding events, activities or offering support to older people on Christmas Day can register them. It provides a one-stop-shop for older people, their families, friends and carers to search for options near them on Christmas Day.

Actress Felicity Kendal, backing the campaign, said: "Christmas Day is a time for celebration, friends and family. It is heartbreaking to think of half a million older people sitting on their own, hidden away, while the nation enjoys themselves. Let's show older people we do care and make sure they know there are invites waiting this Christmas."

Royal Voluntary Service and Community Christmas are calling on anyone who has an event or support available to older people on Christmas Day to register it now at www.communitychristmas.org.uk.

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: 27st Feb

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

Police messages are now on www.dorsetalert.co.uk

Report from Inspector Wayne Nock

As we come to the end of the year few could have missed the media attention focused on The East Dorset Section and indeed Dorset Police. Along with other public services and emergency services Dorset Police has introduced changes to meet the ongoing financial restraints. I can assure you that these

decisions have not been made lightly and that our service delivery to the public has always been the most important factor in any decision making.

Christchurch patrol officers are now based at Ferndown Police Station and while there will be no change for the immediate future, when the time comes for us to vacate the Ferndown Police Site your local Safer Neighbourhood Teams will be based at appropriate and suitable locations within the major towns and population centres of East Dorset and continue to operate as part of the particular community they serve.

Dorset Police are still looking to the future and recruiting new officers, several of the new police recruits were previously Police Community Support Officers who will now continue their career as Police Officers. I can reassure you that within East Dorset plans are already in place to replace them with both PCSO's transferred from other areas and new recruits.

I am pleased to advise you that our service to victims of, and witnesses to crime will be dramatically improved with the adoption of a local service following the signing of a three year contact providing an enhanced service to the county's victims. The new service was commissioned by Mr Martyn Underhill the PCC and the scheme is the first of its type to be established in the country. The phased programme will include the introduction of a 24hr helpline for victims of crime and additional support for victims of anti-social behaviour and business crime. The size of the Victim Support team in Dorset will also double.

An example of that old adage 'crime does not pay' is aptly demonstrated when on 22nd September 2014, Paul Harvey, 43, was sentenced to three years & four months in prison for robbery and possession of an offensive weapon. This related to Harvey committing an armed robbery at the Leigh Park convenience store, Wimborne where he brandished an axe and stole £1200 in cash. He was located and arrested by police less than 10 minutes later, nearby.

Finally I would like to remind you all to be vigilant about home security around this time of year and to be careful with items in open view in your

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)

Contacts and Co-ordinators

There seems to be some confusion about these roles:

Contacts look after a street or two, and are the first point of contact for members

<u>Co-ordinators</u> look after an area containing 5 to 30 Contacts, and are also Committee members.



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cars. A surprising number of vehicles are left unlocked with expensive valuables on display. Don't make it easy for any opportunistic thief.

Kind regards,

Wita

Inspector Wayne Nock, East Dorset Neighbourhood Inspector

Another online scam

A member forwarded this to us, stating that he had received this e-mail 3 or 4 times in recent days. <u>He had never ordered any music on line</u>, and this would certainly appear to be an obvious scam.

From: AllYourMusic

Subject: Payment Reminder

Important! Please settle within 7 days!

Dear (member's actual name & address)

Please note that your account is now overdue!

Unfortunately our accounting department has been unable to track your payment for the attached invoice. Please pay the outstanding debt before 7 days to avoid additional fees:

Invoice number 136363 Total: GBP 117.97

Payment of outstanding debt can be done via bank transfer, online banking or credit card. Please use the payment info:

SWIFT Code: VALLMTMT

IBAN: MT48VALL22013000000040021994964

Account name: Cross Limited

Bank Name/Address: Bank of Valletta plc

Please let us know if you need assistance

If you have any questions or need assistance please do reach out at payment@allyourmusic.net

Best regards, AllYourMusic

Mrs T. A. O'Hare BA, Dip LG Solicitor

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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 **Info:** www.dorsetforyou.com/popp

www.dorsetalert.co.uk

Dorset Alert is a community messaging system operated by Dorset Police, which allows us to exchange information with you by email or phone at no cost to you. The system is designed to allow people who register, to choose the type of information they would like to receive concerning crime and crime prevention.

Sign up online, for email or phone messages this free service is available to everyone, not just members!

** Please make sure you 'MAP' yourself to our Home Watch scheme. Details of how to do this can be found in 'Latest Messages' on our website or on the ADW website www.nhwdorset.org.uk **

Keyholder Scheme

You can now register for free, online at www.dorset.police.uk/default.aspx?page=1343 (or search 'keyholder' at www.dorset.police.uk) or ring 01202 226731 - but please look at the website first to ensure you have the correct information ready.

It is worth registering, whether you have an alarm or not, so that emergency services know who to contact in the event of a problem.

Dorset Police



www.dorset.police.uk

SURGERY **MEETINGS**

An opportunity to speak to your PC / PCSO, and also a Home Watch representative (Tues/Weds only)

First Tuesday of the month 10.30-11.30 Methodist Church, **King Street**

Every other Monday 10.30-11.30 Community Centre, Leigh Park

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

(weather permitting)

YOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Wimborne & Colehill Safer Neighbourhood Team

The team are pleased to report that both Halloween and Guy Fawkes passed with very few reported incidents of anti-social behaviour.









As we look towards the Festive Season it is timely to remind

Natalie Shaw Ian Curtis Matt Brennan Matt Johnson

everyone of some common sense measures to help reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime over Christmas.

Try not to leave a nice pile of beautifully wrapped presents where they can be seen by someone looking through your windows.

After all the excitement of unwrapping your pressies don't leave a pile of cardboard by the bin that tells thieves exactly what lovely goodies you have to steal. Why not take it to the local recycling centre.

The team are trying to increase our subscribers to Dorset Alert. It is completely free and available anywhere in Dorset. The new website provides access to the interactive tools including messaging and has an information reporting facility so you can engage with the local Police and Home Watch. To register go to www.dorsetalert.co.uk and follow the easy online steps or contact the team and we can fill in a form for you!

Please make sure you '**MAP**' yourself to our Home Watch scheme. Details of how to do this can be found in 'Latest Messages' on our website

Do you think there is a problem with speeding in your road and want to do something about it? If you do you could join the Community Speed Watch Volunteer Scheme. They meet once every couple of weeks, or more if practical, and speed check in areas that residents believe speeding to be an issue. Wimborne Community Speed Watch is run very successfully and has seen a reduction in the amount of speeding on the roads where the volunteers and Police have been speed checking. We would like to expand into Colehill but are currently struggling to get the amount of volunteers needed to make it run successfully. If you are interested please contact us on 101 and we will call you back.

We leave you for the Christmas season with a poem:

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Community Office - Products

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

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

YOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM -

"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...."

Lock it or lose it, don't be a victim of crime over Christmas!

Regards, Natalie, Ian, Matt & Matt.

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

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.

When the new waste bins were introduced we sold thousands of self adhesive numbers for identifying your bins. Due to the very large demand we eventually ran out of some numbers, we are now pleased to announce that we now have a further supply, so please come in and get yours, very reasonable at 10p each. We also have a small supply of waste collection calendars.

The very popular GuardCam has been discontinued by the manufacturer and replaced by an LED version. This is very similar to the old one but has LED lights, this makes it much more economic to run and the LED should last for an average of 40,000 hours. The price will normally be £135 but we have purchased a large amount which has cut the price to £115. A sample is available to see in the Community Office. 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 Floodlight, this is an LED version



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

* Wimborne Police Station *

The police station at Hanham Road, Wimborne, BH21 1AS is closed to the public. To contact your local Police ring 101 or use the yellow phone by the front door.

For counter service please go to the Ferndown HQ (Ameysford Road, Ferndown BH22 9HQ). Phone first to check opening times.

Wimborne & Colehill SNT

PC Ian Curtis
PCSO Natalie Shaw
PCSO Matt Brennan
PCSO Matt Johnson

sntwimborne&colehill@ dorset.pnn.police.uk

Facebook:

Wimborne Police Station Safer Neighbourhood Teams

EDDC www.dorsetforyou.com

Community Safety Team: 01202 795000 or publichealth@christchurchandeastdorset.gov.uk

SCAM BUSTERS POLICE WEBSITE

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www.dorset.police.uk/ default.aspx?page=4821

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which is more economic to run than the previous halogen one, also the lamp should last for at least 50,000 hours. These are being sold for £12

An addition to our Product List is an OutbackCam. This can be used in remote areas such as farms or

stables where electricity is not available. It is powered by 4 AA batteries and can record stills or videos, in colour during daylight or mono at night. It is supplied with a tree strap and has a 4GB SD card, but can take up to 32 GB cards. The night vision range is 10 metres. It does not come with batteries but we will include them in our price of £85. Pictures or videos can be



transferred to your computer. We now stock this item.



Garden Shed and Outbuildings are still being targeted due to the large amount of valuable items kept there, you can discourage criminals by

fitting a Shed Alarm which is available at £10. We also have an Alarmed Padlock at £11, this will activate if tampered with.

As there has been an increase in cycle theft, we now have an alarmed 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. Cycle marking is now available in the Community Office.



The cost is £5 and you receive 2 tamper proof labels, we enter all your details on a national website, should your cycle be stolen it can be tracked back to you.

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

The Community Office has a website where you can find out about the services and products that we have. www.ferndowncommunityoffice.org

Recent Trading Standards News

Good neighbours stop rogue traders

As part of National Consumer Week 2014 (3-7 November), residents in Dorset were asked to look out for rogue doorstep traders who may be visiting vulnerable neighbours.

With as many as 170,000 incidents of doorstep crime occurring nationally each year, the National Consumer Week 2014 'Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders' campaign encourages neighbours, friends, families and carers to look out for signs of uninvited doorstep traders visiting their neighbours. These traders often call uninvited and offer to carry-out repairs which are poor quality, unnecessary and charged at extortionate prices, sometimes even driving their victims to the bank to withdraw money or threatening them.

The council's Cabinet member for community services, Cllr Colin Jamieson, said:

"While Trading Standards Officers strive to track down and prosecute rogue traders, community intervention is the first step in preventing detriment caused by doorstep crime. The 'Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders' campaign highlights the impact community-spirit and the goodness of neighbours, friends and relatives can have in keeping Dorset safe."

The Good Neighbours Stop Rogue Traders campaign is a partnership between the Trading Standards Institute (TSI), Citizens Advice and the National Trading Standards Board and this is supported by Dorset's Trading Standards Service.

Dorset residents have found that displaying a Dorset County Council Trading Standards Partnership 'We do not deal with uninvited traders' door card helps deter uninvited traders from calling. Recently updated to a two part door sticker, supplies can be obtained from many libraries, council receptions.

Ivan Hancock, Trading Standards Service Manager for Dorset County Council, said: "Helping local residents feel safe and secure in their own home is a priority for us as it contributes to people remaining independent for longer. We encourage residents to display a door sticker to deter uninvited traders and to encourage their neighbours to do the same."

Breeder's false dog tale leads to prosecution

A dog breeder who misled a Dorset woman about the condition of a puppy has been prosecuted following a Trading Standards investigation.

The Wimborne woman, who purchased the female bullmastiff puppy from Hampshire breeder Mr

McGougan, was worried about its weeping eye. She was told by the trader that it had been standing in a draught, when in fact it had a serious condition that would need surgery once the dog was fully grown. Mr McGougan had been previously told by a vet that this was the case and that he must inform the buyer.

A complaint was made through the Citizens Advice consumer helpline which was investigated by Dorset County Council's Trading Standards Service.

Thomas McGougan, 53, of Andover was found guilty of two offences under The Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008, at Bournemouth Magistrates' Court, (7 November).

He received an 18-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £600 compensation to the buyer of the puppy and £200 in prosecution costs, after taking into account his own health problems, and reliance on state benefits.

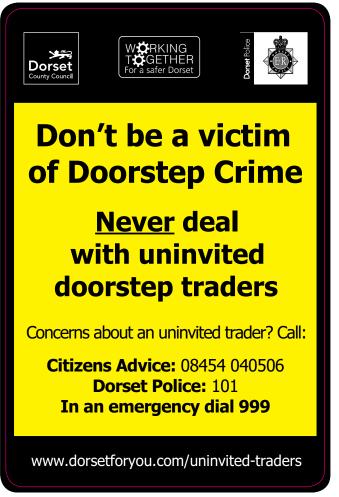
One key aspect that the court considered was whether the breeder was acting as a trader when he sold the dog and if he was subject to the consumer protection regulations. They decided that he was a trader given that Kennel Club records showed that he had bred 37 puppies over three years, which would have raised around £26,000, that he advertised on several websites and that he was a Kennel Club registered breeder. McGougan argued that he bred dogs merely to subsidise the cost of keeping his own dogs.

Kennel Club Secretary, Caroline Kisko, said:

"The Kennel Club expects breeders to be transparent and honest about the health of their pups and pass on the relevant veterinary paperwork to the new owner. We would always advise going to a Kennel Club Assured Breeder when looking for a healthy and happy puppy, as it is the only scheme in the UK where dog breeders have to follow high standards and are inspected to ensure they are committed to the best possible breeding practices. If there is a prosecution and conviction against any individual then the Kennel Club has the right to follow up with relevant disciplinary action which may include a ban on registration of puppies."

The council's Cabinet Member for Community Services, Cllr Colin Jamieson, said: "Our Trading Standards department offers advice to Dorset-based businesses of any sort, including dog breeders, to help them comply with fair trading legislation. This work helps support local business and protects consumers. If any local breeder is unsure of their legal requirements I would suggest they contact the Trading Standards business advice line on 01305 224702."





Harry Homewatch

Hark the merry till bells ringing. Yes it is that time of year again, when the majority of us like to give to our family and friends. Unfortunately a small minority like to take from us instead. Harry was once told that the best way of getting rid of unwanted rubbish was to wrap it up in Christmas paper and leave it in full view of any passing opportunist thief.

Seriously though do be sensible about where you leave presents, especially in the car when out shopping. It is simple for a thief to see what you have bought and follow you to your car. You then deposit the first load and return to the shops. To stop Mr thief always put the items in the boot out of sight, never on the seat of the vehicle and make sure you have locked the car before returning to the shops. Also look back after you have walked a little way to see if anything suspicious is going on around your vehicle.

The other place we tend to put our presents on view is around the Christmas tree, which is often placed in the window nearest to the road and of course lit up even when we go out. Keep them out of view until Christmas day.

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

Follow Harry in further Issues of Update.

Harry Homewatch

Contact John Poat, Membership Sec., tel 01202 849477, jpoat10694@aol.com



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Home Watch subs 2014 - 2016

Year-end change to '31st March'

In order to align subs with our new year-end, members with current subs which expire on 30th September 2014 will be eligible for free renewal for the 18 months up to 31st March 2016.

Existing members will receive a new GREEN membership card in September, valid until 31st March 2016.

New members (or lapsed members) will pay a 'ioining sub' of £2 from 1st April 2014.

Note that membership is per household, not per person.

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 - 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; 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).