

www.colehill.gov.uk/homewatch

Update

Autumn 2015

Issue 52

Chairman's Message

Hi everyone,

Firstly, welcome to PCSO Roz Fricker who has joined our SNT following PCSO Phil King's move to Ferndown SNT.

Area Coordinators

Another plea for help! Surely there are a couple of people out there who could offer some of their time?

The areas are currently organised as follows:

W1 - Wimborne Town (Henry Bartlett)

W2 - Leigh Road (Margaret Thompson)

C1 - Colehill West (Joan Taylor)

C2 - Colehill South (Graham Mallett)

C3 - Colehill East (Graham Mallett)

C4 - Furzehill (Keith Baker)

We need help especially in W1 & W2. We could divide up these areas into sub-areas (6 - 8 Contacts, say) if there are volunteers who can help in their own locality, and adjust boundaries if that suits better....

Alternatively, if someone was able to help in any part of Colehill, that could partly free up an Area Coordinator to cover some Contacts in an adjacent area.....

- what can **you** do to help?

'Contacts' - Dorset Alert registration

This a reminder for all Contacts to register on Dorset Alert and set their membership level to 'Scheme Coordinator' please (the terminology on Dorset Alert is different from ours - a 'scheme' is a Contact's group).

'Deputy Contacts'

There was little response to the request in the last issue for each Group to have a nominated 'Deputy Contact' who could stand-in for holiday absences, retirements etc.

Please give this some thought now!

Surgery Meetings

Meetings will continue for a few more months in their present form, but if very few people make use of the opportunity to come along, we will have to review the frequency and/or location of meeting points. See page 4.

And finally...

The Ferndown Community Office will soon be stocking flashing LED bike lights. Especially useful as the darker evenings draw in - please check www.ferndowncommunityoffice.org for news of stock availability.

Best wishes,

Graham Mallett, Chairman (Contact details on page 2)

Do your neighbours know who has your keys and/or alarm code?

Register your keyholder with the Keyholder Scheme, and please tell your immediate neighbours who the keyholder is!

You can 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 if you can, 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.

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

Your Wimborne & Colehill Home Watch Officers:

Graham Mallett (Chair) 01202 884642 (GPM Computers) homewatchwandc@gmail.com

Keith Baker (Vice Chair) keith.furzehill@gmail.com

Joy Ashmore (Secretary) joykathleen1@gmail.com

Tony Dalton (Treasurer & Membership) 01202 049090, anthonyhdalton@yahoo.co.uk

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.

Nextcopydeadline:12thNovember

Graham Mallett

(Editor / Advertising): tel 01202 884642 (GPM Computers) email: g@gpmcs.co.uk

Contact us:

Email g@gpmcs.co.uk or ring 101 and leave a message for our SNT.

www.colehill.gov.uk/ homewatch

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

East Dorset Police Report

Inspector Dave Kewley, East Dorset Neighbourhood Inspector

Hello, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I'm Acting Inspector Dave Kewley and for the next few months I will be your new Neighbourhood Inspector whilst Mr Nock has moved up in the world and is now the Acting Chief Inspector for this side of the county.

We as a Section continue to improve and are developing new ways we can tackle crime and better serve you as a community; part of this involves the implementation and use of new technology.

I am aware Inspector Perry shared some excellent collaborative work we had undertaken with Police in Swindon securing convictions for thieves operating in multiple counties. Well, we as a force have introduced a new system called NICHE and this is the same system as used in many other forces around the country, allowing us to share information with our neighbouring forces far more easily, with the goal of having a far wider reaching impact on criminals who are still insistent on coming into the county with the sole aim to commit crime.

Part of this has been the introduction of new touchscreen computers which our patrol vehicles are now equipped with, meaning officers no longer need to go back to the Police Station to complete their work and meaning that statements and other important enquiries can be completed there and then at the scene of an incident. This makes the service we provide truly mobile and more time can be spent where it matters, being out and about being seen.

A recent incident of dwelling burglary has highlighted just how important modern technology can be. Following a burglary PS Scott McFarland took it upon himself to re-visit the area during a night shift where he used a thermal imaging camera to search the area. He was able to see a human figure in the grounds of the property and was able to detain the male who was later identified as the person responsible for the burglary. It would have been impossible to locate this male without the help of the camera and we are hoping to increase its use to target and prosecute poachers.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that at this time of year we do see an increase in rogue traders offering roofing, gardening and driveway work, often cold calling on the elderly. Also we do still fall foul of opportunistic thieves stealing valuables from vehicles, which have been left out on display.

Please continue to look out for your neighbours, especially those more vulnerable and don't make it easy for thieves. Remove all valuables from your cars, make sure you lock up your sheds and don't leave your house insecure when you go away. If you see anything suspicious, report it on 101 or via crimestoppers. You are our eyes and ears, and without you, our job is a great deal harder. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards, Inspector Dave Kewley.

Messages for Home Watch

(voicemail number 94167 has closed)

Please ring 101 and leave a message with our SNT, or ask a friend to email us!

Crimestoppers

You can call 'Crimestoppers' anonymously with information about offenders who have committed crimes on Freephone 0800 555111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org



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'Your Dorset. Your Police. Your View.'

A new way to make your views heard and to help shape the county's policing in the future.

Over the next six months, a series of in-depth features, events and activities will lift the lid on what policing is really about, not just in areas well-known to the public like neighbourhood policing and responding to emergencies, but behind-the-scenes too.

Each month, the spotlight will shine on a different theme. Activities during the first part of each month will provide in-depth information about that theme, with the second part giving people a chance to share their views about what's most important to them and how the Police should be approaching challenges in that area of policing.

Chief Constable Debbie Simpson said, "The last few years have seen an unprecedented pace and scale of change in policing, with every police force needing to make large financial savings, while modernising and continuing to deliver essential policing services.

On a typical day in Dorset, we respond to around 219 emergency calls, handle another 1,300 non-emergency calls, investigate 99 crimes and make 35 arrests. However, this kind of visible activity that the public already knows is at the heart of policing is actually only a small part of what we do.

We will also be carrying out complex and lengthy investigations into crimes such as child abuse, using a range of tactics to tackle serious organised criminality, and working with partners to keep the most vulnerable people in the county safe. Policing demands have changed drastically over the last five years and it's inevitable we will have to make further changes to how we police in the near future.

Through 'Your Dorset. Your Police. Your View', we are giving you the opportunity to learn more about the challenges and complexities of modern policing, while also seeking your views about what's most important so we can consider this when planning how we can best meet your needs and keep you safe in the future."

The monthly themes that will be covered are:

August – Modernising to improve policing: Including how Dorset Police uses technology to keep officers on patrol

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and the different job roles in the Force.

September-Preventative and proactive policing: Exploring areas such as tackling criminal gangs, managing offenders and reducing road deaths.

October – Protecting you from Risk and Harm: A look behind-the-scenes at the often unseen work to protect the most vulnerable people in our county.

November – Local policing in your area: Covering emergency response, Neighbourhood Policing and how the public get in contact with the Force.

December – Working smarter and closer with others: Including other local public organisations, voluntary groups and Devon & Cornwall Police.

There will be a short break to public-facing events in January while feedback from previous months is analysed to identify trends and the most important priorities that the public want Dorset Police to consider, before the final month's topic:

February – Making your views matter: Feeding back the findings so far, seeking views on how to meet multiple priorities identified across different months within the funding available to the Force, and explaining how the Force will be using the results.

More details about each month and the features, events and activities that will be taking place are available online at http://yourview.dorset.police.uk. People can also share their views on this website, or by following Dorset Police on Twitter and Facebook, using the hashtag #YourView.

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 PCSO, and also a Home Watch representative:

> First Tuesday of the month 10.30-11.15

Methodist Church, King Street

Monthly on a Monday (check the centre's noticeboard for dates) 10.30-11.15

Community Centre, Leigh Park

First Wednesday of the month 2.30-3.15 outside the

Co-Op, Colehill (weather permitting)

YOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Wimborne & Colehill Safer Neighbourhood Team

Your Team would like to introduce PCSO 8212 Roz Fricker who has now joined the team covering Wimborne and Colehill.

Safer Neighbourhoods is a commitment by Dorset Police to improving the quality of life within our communities by







PCSO Jess Ousey



Huw Evans Roz Fricker

working together with partners to target the issues identified by you - local people as those that matter most.

There are a number of opportunities that the Safer Neighbourhood Team in your area will provide, on an ongoing basis, for you to voice your concerns. Get in touch with your team today to find out how you can raise your issues.

This is your chance to influence the service that we, the Police, and our partners, provide. Your opinions are important to us and this process will not work without you.

Current priorities

Shed and outbuildings burglaries - we have recently had shed and outbuilding burglaries reported in the area. The main items reported being taken are bicycles and power tools that have been kept in sheds and garages. Please ensure you keep doors and windows locked on your sheds and outbuildings and ensure items are not visible. We would also advise you have a record of the serial numbers of all the equipment kept inside and suggest marking your belongings. Your Safer Neighbourhood Team can offer help and advice on improving your security.

Theft from motor vehicles – Recently we have had a few thefts from unattended motor vehicles. During the summer months windows have been left open giving an easy access point into the vehicle. We would like to remind everyone to remove valuables from the vehicle and ensure the windows are closed and the vehicle is locked. The recent incidents that have occurred in the Wimborne area have involved SatNavs and iPads being taken. The Police ask that members of the public stay vigilant and that any suspicious activity or persons be reported via 101 or if the crime is currently in progress 999. Your team are continuing with pro-active, targeted patrols in the areas that have been affected and the areas likely to be affected.

Antisocial Behaviour - Wimborne & Colehill Safer Neighbourhood Team have had numerous reports of antisocial behaviour (ASB) in the area. These areas include Pottle Walk in Leigh Park, Redcotts Recreation Ground and Wesley Woods in Colehill. The Team are increasing patrols in these areas during their shifts. ASB is defined

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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 -

as "behaviour by a person which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as the person" (Antisocial Behaviour Act 2003). The Team encourage members of the public to report any ASB that they are experiencing.

Upcoming events in our area

Why not meet the Team at our Partners and Communities Together (PACT) surgeries and discuss any issues or ask advice?

The **first Tuesday** of every month in the Methodist Church, King Street, Wimborne between 10.30 am & 11.15 am

The **first Wednesday** of every month outside the Co-Operative in Smugglers Lane, Colehill between 2.30 pm & 3.15 pm (weather permitting)

Mondays Monthly, 10.30 - 11.15 am, in the Community Centre, Leigh Park (Please check noticeboard for latest date information).

Other News

As ever Community Speedwatch sessions are very important to us and the community and we want to hold more sessions. However we are keen for more volunteers from the community to join us! Speedwatch involves several members of the public and an officer from Wimborne & Colehill SNT coming together with a "speed gun" to monitor speeds and record the details of speeding vehicles. A warning letter will then be sent by Dorset Police to the registered keeper on the first two occasions that their vehicle is seen exceeding the speed limit. If the vehicle is observed for a third time, an action will be sent to the local SNT for further attention.

Your SNT would like to bring to your attention that we have had reports of bicycles being taken from garages in the area recently, which have occurred during the day. We have also had electronic devices taken from unattended work vehicles in the area, also during the daytime. We urge members of the public to ensure valuables are out of sight or better yet removed from the vehicles and that everything is locked.

We would like to encourage all residents to view the selection of crime reduction products the Home Watch have to offer. Please feel welcome to attend our surgery meetings to meet the Home Watch representative or alternatively contact your SNT.

As we are back into the school term, your SNT would like to remind those parking to abide by the parking regulations and be considerate when parking your vehicles. *Regards*,

PC Ian Curtis, PCSO Jess Ousey, PCSO Huw Evans, PCSO Roz Fricker.

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.

(counter provision at Ferndown HQ has closed).

Wimborne & Colehill SNT

PC Ian Curtis
PCSO Jess Ousey
PCSO Huw Evans
PCSO Roz Fricker

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

PACT Panels

'Partners and Communities Together'

Wimborne PACT

(Home Watch rep: John Shave)

Colehill & Stour PACT

(Home Watch rep: Graham Mallett)

Police, Home Watch, POPP, EDDC, and Councillors meet to discuss issues that need action across multiple agencies.

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Trading Standards News

ROGUE TRADERS TARGET DORSET'S ELDERLY COMMUNITY

Dorset Police and Trading Standards Officers are warning householders in Dorset, particularly pensioners, to be extra vigilant after receiving a large number of calls from across the county relating to suspected rogue traders going door to door. The offenders offer services including; power washing driveways, cutting down trees and tending gardens and selling chainsaws and generators. They also carry out general building work including tarmacing, in exchange for cash.

Police believe that criminals who carry out this type of fraud are doing so whilst travelling through the county, but there are also people who live in the area who try to con the elderly.

Dorset Police's Crime Prevention Advisor, Debbie Oldfield, said:

"Reports have come in from all over Dorset, but we are experiencing a higher volume of calls from elderly people in the areas in and around Ferndown. We ask that the residents of Dorset be vigilant and not forced or coerced into commissioning work, even if you are told it's urgent. The work is often costly and unnecessary.

Do not buy tools from people selling them from their vehicles, as they could be stolen or counterfeit. You could get arrested for handling stolen goods if you are found in possession of them. Tell the trader 'no thank you', shut the door and call the Police on 101, giving as much detail as you can, including descriptions and vehicle registration numbers if possible. If the trader won't leave your house, dial 999."

She also advises against giving details out to cold callers – a scam where fraudsters pretend to be from a reputable company and then defraud victims.

Ms Oldfield continues: "If someone calls you unexpectedly asking for your bank details - again, say 'no thank you', put the phone down, dial 1471 and write down the number. Call the police immediately on 101. If you have already bought services and goods at the door and you are not satisfied, call Citizens Advice on 03454 040506. They will be able to give you advice and report the matter to Trading Standards on your behalf. We ask friends, family members and neighbours to be mindful that these types of scams are happening and to look out for elderly or vulnerable people they know, especially if they are having work carried out at their property. By working together we can try and stop this sort of heinous crime."

There were 15 reports of rogue trader type offences between January and July 2014, and 38 reports for the same period in 2015.

Stickers for doors and telephones are available from libraries across Dorset or by calling Trading Standards on 03454 040506. Further information is available on the Buy With Confidence website – www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk

If you know someone who is committing this crime or you want to report suspicious behaviour, please call Dorset Police on 101, Trading Standards on 03454 040506 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Police guidance:

Keep your doors locked, even if you're in the premises, and put a chain on if you have one.

Don't let anyone into your property that you don't know.

Don't accept work from people calling at your door, no matter how urgent they say the work is.

Never go to the bank with someone you don't know or trust.

Call the police on 101 if you think you have been a victim of a crime or you see any suspicious behaviour.

Spot Scams, Stop Scams

Each year millions of people in the UK fall prey to scammers. Some frontline scam fighters estimate the cost to consumers of mass-marketed scams could be as much as £5 billion pounds. The truth is, with reporting levels as low as 5% for some types of scams, we don't really know.

So the figures don't always help. Talking in hundreds, thousands, millions or even billions of pounds undervalues the true cost of scams such as the blight they bring to lonely lives, the emotional trauma for families, the widespread loss of confidence among consumers.

Sometimes the impact is ruinous with a lifetime of careful planning and saving wiped clean in the space of a telephone conversation, at the stroke of a pen, in the click of a mouse. For other scams smaller losses can build considerably month by month over long periods of time.

Scams can come in all shapes and sizes and include fake lotteries and prize draws, fancy goods catalogues, vitamins and healthcare products, investments, romance agencies and clairvoyants to name but a few.

Dorset County Council trading standards' top tips for spotting a scam:

- The call, letter, email or text has arrived unexpectedly
- It can have a sense of authority such as crests, seals or come from important sounding people but you have never heard of them before
- · You are asked to send money in advance
- You're being urged to respond quickly so you don't have time to think about it or talk to family or friends
- They are telling you to keep it a secret

To help identify scams check unexpected calls, letters and online contacts with a trusted friend, relative or neighbour.

If it looks like a scam then get advice and report it to the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 04 05 06 who can pass details on to trading standards.

Where we identify people who need our help, Trading Standards offer practical advice and support to reduce this type of crime, increase consumer confidence and help to maintain independent living.

Do you remember when you last read the Highway Code?

If not, the Dorset Driver Gold programme may be right for you. Dorset Driver Gold provides an opportunity to update your driving skills and confidence on the road, as well as refresh your knowledge on topics such as the Highway Code, modern driving techniques and how to keep driving safely for longer.

The programme is aimed at older drivers aged 75+ but drivers of all ages and experience are welcome.

The Dorset Driver Gold theory sessions, which take place at various locations in the county, are now available. To find out more and book a place, go to www.dorsetforyou.com/roadsafety/gold or call 01305 221031.

Streetlighting

Less lighting has no impact on crime or collisions From BBC News

Reduced street lighting at night does not lead to an increase in crime or car crashes, a report suggests.

Researchers analysed 14 years of data from 62 councils in England and Wales which had tried strategies such as permanently switching off lights or dimming them.

They said the findings could help save money and reduce carbon emissions.

The AA said the results were "extremely surprising" and differed from their own analysis of inquest findings.

The Local Government Association (LGA) said that reducing street lighting does not happen everywhere, but the research appeared to support some councils' decision "to save taxpayers' money and improve the environment without compromising public safety".

'No evidence'

The study, led by the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in partnership with University College London and published in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health, looked at councils which had implemented a range of schemes.

The research found no evidence of a link between reduced

street lighting and night-time collisions

These included switching lights off permanently, reducing the number of hours that lamps are switched on at night, dimming lights, and replacing traditional lamps with energyefficient LED lamps.

To assess crime, they looked at data from 2010 to 2013 to analyse how many crimes took place in different areas and the types of street lighting used there.

They focused on offences more likely to occur at night, including burglary, theft of or from a vehicle, robbery, violence and sexual assault.

Overall, there was no evidence of an association between reduced lighting and increased crime.

They also looked at all roads in participating authorities, examining what type of street lighting was used and the number of traffic collisions that happened at night relative to the day during 2000 to 2013.

They found no evidence of a link between reduced street lighting and night-time collisions.

'Little chance'

Lead investigator Dr Phil Edwards said: "An estimated £300m is spent every year on street lights in the UK.

At a time when local authorities need to make spending cuts, our findings show that by carefully assessing risks, street lighting can be reduced without an increase in car crashes and crime"

Co-author Prof Shane Johnson said while the findings were "very encouraging", any changes to lighting "should be managed carefully".

AApresident Edmund King said the motoring group's analysis of inquest findings uncovered six road deaths from 2009 to 2013 where coroners said the switching off of street lights had been a contributory factor.

"Police crash investigators said the drivers had little or no chance of avoiding the collisions," he said.

He said the AA advised its members to drive using their full beams on roads where street lights have been switched off, except where they might dazzle other road users.

National Health Service Retirement Fellowship

Did you work for the NHS, related health services or any other caring organisations?

If so, why not join your local (East Dorset and Ringwood)
National Health Service Retirement Fellowship? Your family
members are also welcome. We provide:

- · Friendship and fellowship to all members
- · Monthly meetings with a variety of visiting speakers
 - · Regular outings to places of interest
- Lunches out and opportunities for members to socialise

We meet at 10:00am on the second Tuesday of each month at the St. Leonards Village Hall, Braeside Road, BH24 2PH.

For a friendly chat and further information please contact our Membership Secretary, Deirdre, on 01425 472940 or email our Secretary, Linda, at lindadickins@hotmail.co.uk



Harry Homewatch

At the last AGM, it was stated that the Dorset Alert system was going to improve during the year. Harry was pleased to see that the message rate had increased considerably since that time. Also the content seemed to be more far reaching than just the local area messages. They now covered adjacent areas to East Dorset as well as many aspects of national crime.

Some would say that national crime information was not of any great interest in our relatively crime free area. However in these days of telephone scams and cyber crime, there is virtually no limit to area or national boundary for criminal activity now.

How many of you, who use email, still receive messages saying that you have won or have inherited enormous sums of money and they just need a small sum to cover legal expenses etc. If you are gullible enough to send money they will come up with another excuse for further sums. Some people have lost thousands in this way.

Remember if you have not taken part in a competion or draw you are unlikely to have won it!

Enjoy what remains of the summer.

Follow Harry in further issues of *Update*.

Harry Homewatch Contact John Poat, jpoat10694@aol.com

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existing windows

Home Watch subs 2015 - 2016

Year-end '31st March'

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

Existing members received a new GREEN membership card last September, valid until 31st March 2016.

New members (or lapsed members) from March 2015 will pay a 'joining sub' of £1 for the remaining year or part.

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 (details on page 5); or speak to your local W&CHW Coordinator or Contact.