

## Chairman's Message

*Hi everyone,*

### *AGM report*

On 11th May, 31 people attended the meeting in the Village Green Café at The Allendale – a better turnout than the past few years! Thank you to everyone who attended.

All votes were passed and the new Constitution is available on the website, along with the draft minutes.

A number of issues were raised with the Police and feedback will be added to our website in due course.

### *Chairman's Report to the AGM:*

“Our priority this year has been to maintain Home Watch coverage - in particular in finding replacement Contacts for current or lapsed groups, where we've had some success especially in C1 – thanks Joan. We also have a couple of new groups, though we have lost several groups that had lapsed and nobody is interested in restarting.

Deputy Contacts - it would be a great help if all the Contacts had a nominated deputy, to fill in during absence and/or take over the group if needed. Then there is a much better prospect of continuity.

Following the division of the Wimborne HW area into smaller groups, we now have 3 Co-ordinators in Wimborne but we still have a vacancy for 'Leigh Road & off'.

A special thank you to John Lake who has just retired as a Contact in Venator Place; he was also 'Wimborne 1' Coordinator for 6 years.

We still need people to join up to the Dorset Alert messaging system – the coverage is nowhere near the coverage we had with Ringmaster.

Police Surgeries in Wimborne and Colehill are continuing, and an occasional surgery in Leigh Park.

PACT Panels (Wimborne rep. John Shave, Colehill rep. Graham Mallett) – meet quarterly.

Speed Watch has started in Colehill, and has re-started in Wimborne.

We have about 2/3 of the subs in – please chase up your members when Update goes out at the beginning of June. We took a decision to keep subs collection to a minimum hence the 4 year membership period at this time, but please keep inviting new neighbours to join - just £2 - as the annual income for new members is also significant - £122 last year for example.

Officers: I took over from John Shave as Chairman last year, to enable the Watch to keep going, but I'm open to offers

### **SUBS !**

We now have about 3/4 of the subs in – **please speak to your Contact if you have not yet been asked for your sub.**

We took a decision to keep subs collections to a minimum hence the 4 year membership period at this time, so it is excellent value!

**Contacts** – please invite new neighbours to join – just £2 – this annual income helps cover costs.

if someone would like to volunteer! Similarly, Keith Baker stepped in when the previous Treasurer left, initially for a year, so we will need a new Treasurer too.”

The report from ADW was not read out at the meeting so it is provided below.

*Best wishes,*

*Graham Mallett, Chairman (Contact details on page 2)*

### **Association of Dorset Watches Achievements & Current Plans**

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS in 2015/16**

- Bought Advertising Freebies for major events – purse bells, pens, contactless debit/credit card protection sleeves
- Purchased 2 Stop that Thief kits for use in rural areas
- Ordered 50,000 Members Guides
- Prepared 10 questions of interest to Watch members for PCC Candidates to address, and posted answers on ADW website
- Obtained confirmation of PCC funding for 2016/17
- Recruited 2 new volunteers to join the ADW Executive
- Commissioned new website

#### **PLANS for 2016/17**

- Launch new website
- Produce regular members' newsletter
- Fund Dorset Alert training for a few selected volunteers to enable us to send out messages and links to newsletters
- Arrange for distribution and storage of new Members Guides
- Fund up to 20 days hire charges of the East Dorset Sheduction trailer to encourage use across the County
- Recruit new volunteers

*To Volunteer, or for more information:*

[nhwdorset@gmail.com](mailto:nhwdorset@gmail.com), 07464 857801,  
or view website [www.nhwdorset.org.uk](http://www.nhwdorset.org.uk)

**Have you linked ('mapped') your registration on Dorset Alert to W&CHW yet? [www.dorsetalert.co.uk](http://www.dorsetalert.co.uk)**

## Your Wimborne & Colehill Home Watch Officers:

**Graham Mallett** (Chair)

01202 884642 (GPM Computers)

homewatchwandc@gmail.com

**Keith Baker** (Treasurer & V.Chair)

keith.furzehill@gmail.com

**Joy Ashmore** (Secretary)

joykathleen1@gmail.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: 26<sup>th</sup> August**

**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 NPT.

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

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

## Buy with Confidence

Similar to *CheckaTrade* and other directories, *Buy with Confidence* is run by Trading Standards. It provides a register of businesses that have been thoroughly vetted and approved by Trading Standards.

In order to become a *Buy with Confidence* member, a business must first apply or be recommended to join the scheme and must

then pass a set of tailored background checks. Membership of the scheme is not given lightly – amongst other checks, each applicant will have their complaints history reviewed and will receive a visit from Trading Standards. Good references are required from previous customers and applicants must agree to abide by the scheme's code of conduct. Criminal records basic disclosure may also be required in some circumstances.

If all the scheme requirements are met, a business will be granted membership, and their conduct will continue to be monitored thereafter. We cannot promise that members' work will be perfect every time, but you can expect any problems to be dealt with fairly by the business, and you can turn to Trading Standards for advice in the event of an unresolved issue.

All prospective members are thoroughly vetted. The performance of members is continuously monitored via the Citizen's Advice Consumer Service and through customer feedback. In the unlikely event that concerns are raised about a member we take appropriate action and if necessary will remove them from the scheme.

Finding a trader is quite simple: enter the trade and your postcode to bring up lists of approved traders within a radius of about 25 miles. The website is less helpful than *CheckaTrade*, e.g. there are no search filters to refine distance etc.

A quick search for plumbers produced a list of about 60 traders. Many have yet to be rated by customers. However, it is clearly a well-governed and trust-worthy facility. *Buy with Confidence* is a good one to try.

See page 6 for information about how to report problems to Trading Standards.



## What does being Buy With Confidence Trading Standards Approved mean?

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**buywithconfidence.gov.uk**

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## Petition launched against new CCTV ruling

National Neighbourhood Watch is supporting a new petition against homeowners having to pay to register their CCTV systems.

The petition has been launched against a new EU ruling which could mean that every domestic CCTV system in the UK that films beyond the boundaries of the property and into the street would need to be registered.

In addition homeowners who have their own systems could have to pay an annual fee of around £35 to register their camera system.

*Jim Maddan OBE, Chairman of NHWN, said:*

“Currently the Data Protection Act 1998 allows for images collected by CCTV installed by homeowners to protect their personal property. If perchance images identify individuals caught in the act committing crime and anti-social behaviour, then so be it.

However in 2013, a case was decided by the Czech Supreme Court Administration and the court ruled that evidence obtained by domestic CCTV cameras in this way was inadmissible. The ruling was upheld by the EU Information Commissioner's Office and is binding on our own Information Commissioner. This means that every individual CCTV system may need to be registered with the Information Commissioner's Office and there is a cost to this.”

CCTV images are a vital tool in the fight against crime. Individuals are prepared to invest in the protection of their property, and the new register is an added burden to householders who will have to register their system and pay the fee.

As a consequence of this, a group of watch members in Hillingdon, London have started an online petition to encourage the ICO to waive the registration fee.

The Trustees of Neighbourhood Watch support this approach.

How you can help? Please sign the petition:

**[www.petition.parliament.uk/petitions/122236](http://www.petition.parliament.uk/petitions/122236)**

*NB: If your browser has problems with the security certificate on this site, try an alternative browser. Ed.*

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## East Dorset and Ringwood National Health Service Retirement Fellowship

The NHSRF aims to support its members through the provision of social, leisure, educational and welfare activities.

A member maybe anyone who has retired from working for the NHS, retired from working for a related or private health service organisation or caring profession or are working or have worked on a voluntary basis within the NHS. Spouses, partners and friends of members can also join.

We offer:

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

Speakers and topics already arranged for 2016 include Terry Vincent (China in the Present), Dame Annette Brooke PC (Tales from Westminster), Ian Dickins (Nursing through the Great War), Terry Fulton (Gibraltar), Mike Phipps (Flying Boats) and Ron Evenden (Dog sledging in the Arctic).

We meet at 10 am 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](mailto:lindadickins@hotmail.co.uk)



## COLEHILL GARDENS GADABOUT

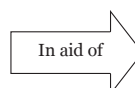
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For more information call 01202 882590



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## ***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 St, Wimborne**

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

**Community Centre,  
Leigh Park**

**First Wednesday**  
of the month  
**11.45-12.30**

at **Centre Rendezvous,  
St Michael's Church  
Centre, Colehill**

## **YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM**

### **Wimborne & Colehill Neighbourhood Policing Team**



**Sgt 760**  
**Tim Travers**



**PC 1503**  
**Ian Curtis**



**PCSO 5963**  
**Huw Evans**



**PCSO 5770**  
**Jess Ousey**



**PCSO 8212**  
**Roz Fricker**

We hope you're as glad of the summer as we are! Of course it gives rise to different incidents for you to be aware of. A priority for Dorset Police at this time is fraud, scams and doorstep crime. Doorstep crime consists of:

- Distraction burglary – where offenders 'trick' their way into gaining access into victims' homes (i.e. bogus official, lost ball in the garden), then distract the victim whilst items are stolen.
- Rogue traders – where offenders cold call to provide a 'service' to the victim (ie. gardening, roof repairs), then overcharge for unnecessary, incomplete or poor quality work, often using intimidation to extort money.

Remember:

- If in doubt, do not deal with doorstep traders, say "no thank you" and keep the door shut
- If someone is there on legitimate business check their ID
- Report anything suspicious to the Police
- If in doubt do not take up any work at the doorstep, or even accept a quote
- Never give out your bank details, including account number, PIN, addresses or any other details

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## **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)



- No company will ever need to “take your computer over” remotely or call to check your bank accounts are safe.

The other ongoing issue that we are having is scam phone callers. These are people that call often stating they are from Microsoft, TalkTalk or other well-known companies. If this happens to you then hang up immediately. They can also use email to contact you.

- Do not give out any details over the phone
- A company with legitimate business with you will send you a letter
- If you believe your computer has been compromised in the past after receiving one of these phone calls then our advice is to seek independent professional advice to secure it again.

The most important thing for you to do after reading this is to consider all of your family, friends or neighbours. Please make people aware of these scams to prevent them happening and be aware that older and more vulnerable people tend to be victims of these scams.

Although there have been far fewer shed and garage breaks than in the winter, they do still happen, especially if your property is on the edge of farming land or woodland. Please make every effort to prevent these crimes from happening. Lights, secure doors and outbuildings are key, and we would highly recommend a cheap garage alarm available from the Ferndown Community Office. Keep hedges and shrubs trimmed well back to increase the visibility of your property and please call us if there is someone in your garden.

The folk festival is on 10-12 June. There will be a strong police presence in town for the thousands of visitors expected to ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable time.

There has been relatively little anti-social behaviour but if these issues aren't reported then we don't know about them, so call us on 101 at the time if something is concerning you.

**Speed Watch** is starting up in Wimborne again to address issues of speed, especially around school time, and there is now a group set up in Colehill. If any residents would like to volunteer for Speed Watch (there will be training and vetting) please contact PCSO 5770 Jess Ousey (Jessica.ousey@dorset.pnn.police.uk or ring 101).

Join **Dorset Alert** now, a free messaging service with the latest information on crimes in your area and advice, at [www.dorsetalert.co.uk](http://www.dorsetalert.co.uk) (or ask a friend to download the form from the 'Register here' page, then call us on 101 to arrange for one of us to collect it).

Join us on Facebook/Twitter for up to date information and advice by searching for “Wimborne Police Station” on those sites (see right).

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

**If you need to contact your NPT 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. (The counter at Ferndown HQ is also closed).

### **Wimborne & Colehill NPT**

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

**NEW EMAIL:-**  
 WimborneColehill-NPT@Dorset.  
 PNN.Police.uk

Facebook: Wimborne Police Station  
 Twitter: @WimborneNPT

### **EDDC [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://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, EDDC Officer, local councillors and agencies plus voluntary organisation reps meet to address issues and agree actions to address them.

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# Trading Standards News

## 'Report it' to Trading Standards

If you think a business has broken the law or acted unfairly then we would ask you please to report them to Trading Standards.

For example you may believe that a business:

- misled you into buying their products or services
- sold you unsafe or dangerous items
- didn't carry out the work properly, for example, their work left your home in a dangerous state
- sold you fake or counterfeit items
- pressured you to buy something you didn't want to buy
- sold you a car that wasn't 'roadworthy'.

**You can report this and more to us by calling the Citizens Advice consumer helpline.** The consumer helpline will assess your problem, offer you clear and practical advice including whether it's possible to get your money back, and will then pass details on to Trading Standards.

Trading Standards decide whether we are able to investigate your problem. Action we can take includes advising businesses about the law or taking legal action against them if that is the right thing to do; we consider whether it is in the public interest.

At Dorset Trading Standards we get notified of every consumer complaint and even if no criminal offence has been committed your information helps us to build a picture of trading areas where we need to focus advice and enforcement.

You can contact the **Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06** on Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Their adviser will answer your call as soon as possible, usually within a few minutes. Once you're speaking to an adviser your call should take an average of 8 to 10 minutes. Be prepared to tell the adviser details of the problem and the business' name and address.

Citizens Advice have a great website too that is full of useful and practical information for consumers. You can find it at [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer)

Many people contact a "Buy With Confidence Trading Standards approved" trader when they are looking to buy goods or services. This helps to take the uncertainty out of choosing a legal, honest and fair business. The Citizens Advice consumer helpline can also help you to find a Trading Standards approved trader in your local area, or you can find one at [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk) (see page 2).

## Trader prosecuted for selling unsafe mattresses

A Bournemouth dealer has been prosecuted for selling unsafe mattresses which did not meet fire safety standards.

Patrick Furlong of Portchester Rd, Bournemouth was found guilty by Bournemouth Magistrates' Court on 11th April of supplying two mattresses and possessing 213 mattresses

for sale which did not meet the requirements of the British Standard for fire safety.

He was also found guilty of an offence under the General Product Safety Regulations as he was unable to identify his supplier of the mattresses to the Trading Standards service. He was given a suspended sentence of 18 weeks in total and ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £80 and £500 costs.

Dorset County Council's Trading Standards saw mattresses for sale on online sites Gumtree and eBay which they suspected may not comply with fire safety standards. Two mattresses were bought and tested. The results of the testing showed that once ignited they did not self-extinguish and the fire had to be manually put out.

Following seizure of Mr Furlong's stock tests showed that all but 12 of 213 mattresses failed the fire safety standard. When questioned about who sold him the goods Mr Furlong was unable to offer any details.

The chairman of the bench said that this was a very serious matter that had put public safety at risk and that it passed the custody threshold. However, in view of Furlong's mitigation and regret about the offences he was going to suspend the sentence.

Martin Thursby, Principal Trading Standards Officer for Dorset County Council said,

"We are very pleased with the outcome of the case, as the court took these safety matters very seriously. We would advise consumers only to buy goods subject to safety legislation, such as these, from reputable suppliers. We would also advise traders who are considering dealing with such goods to contact their local Trading Standards service who will be able to offer advice and guidance."

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## From a member: LIVESTOCK WORRYING

Dog attacks are a perennial worry for livestock farmers, particularly sheep farmers, at this critical time in the farming year. Almost 15m ewes nationwide will be giving birth to lambs and so farmers want their 'mums to be' to stay healthy, happy and in prime condition.

The cost of livestock worrying – when a dog or dogs chase and/or attack livestock – is thought to be around £1.2m per year, but many losses are uninsured or unaccounted for. That is because ewes can abort their lambs when worried by a dog or dogs – they see dogs as predators. Figures from NFU Mutual, suggest that the problem of livestock worrying is increasing.

Hampshire NFU Adviser Sandra Nichols says: "Dog attacks on sheep are a massive problem, causing significant financial losses and heartache for the farmer involved. We urge farmers to report every dog attack to the Police as we know Police treat these incidents seriously. We've been working with the Kennel Club to remind dog owners that these incidents often end in tragedy for them, as the law allows farmers to shoot dogs worrying livestock. We advise dog owners to dog-proof their properties to prevent dogs from wandering and keep



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BUT RELEASE  
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CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG  
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*Love Your Countryside and  
follow the Countryside Code*



## 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)

dogs under close control on country walks.”

A dog can be regarded as worrying livestock simply by not being on a lead or otherwise under close control in a field or enclosure in which there are sheep. Many people do not realise this, nor do they appreciate the extent of the problems that their pet can cause.

Farmers are displaying NFU warning signs beside paths that ask dog walkers to keep dogs on a lead around livestock and pick up after their pets. There is growing evidence of the links between two specific diseases in livestock and the presence on grazing land of faeces from infected dogs. Neosporosis can cause abortions in cattle and sarcocystosis can cause neurological disease and death in sheep.

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## Harry Homewatch

Spring had arrived and with the warm weather, gardening and other outdoor activities had come to the fore.

Harry observed that with the general euphoria comes a lack of common sense.

People arriving for a BBQ several doors away had parked their cars in an orderly way but had left the windows down before proceeding to the rear of the premises for an afternoon of enjoyment, not a very sensible thing to do.

The same applied to neighbours who worked in their front gardens but when returning indoors for a tea break, left all of the tools including mowers unattended in the front garden.

A lot of theft is of the opportunist type, so don't put temptation in the way of the criminal. Your precious tools are easily sold at car boot sales and please don't hide behind the old chestnut, 'the insurance will pay for new ones', all this does is increase everyone's premiums. Also be aware that the packaging for the new items, which you will leave out for all to see when the bins are collected, is a sure sign that you have valuable new items ready for nicking.

When you are out in the back garden, the front of your property needs to be secure. Do not leave front windows or doors open when you are working at the rear of your property. It only takes seconds to enter your property and remove something valuable.

Enjoy the summer but use a little common sense and be cautious.

Harry Homewatch

Contact John Poat, [jpoat10694@aol.com](mailto:jpoat10694@aol.com)

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## Home Watch subs 2016

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

The 'nominal' sub remains at £1 per year; however:

**Existing** members can renew **now** for £2 and receive a new membership card, valid until **31st March 2020**.

**New** members (or lapsed members) joining in the next 3 years pay **£2** and receive the new card valid till 2020.

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](mailto:g@gpmcs.co.uk); talk to your Neighbourhood Policing Team officers (details on page 5); or speak to your local W&CHW Area Coordinator or Contact.

## RETIRED SOLICITOR OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE HOME VISITS



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FOR A **FREE** CHAT CALL **JOHN EDGE**

**01202 883293 or 07415 512148**  
or email [johndedge007@gmail.com](mailto:johndedge007@gmail.com)

**IF YOU DONT NEED MY SERVICES YOU ALMOST  
CERTAINLY KNOW SOMEBODY WHO DOES!**