

Chairman's Message

Hi everyone,

Crime Prevention Team – help needed!

The Co-ordinator, John Baker, has retired so we need a new person - this involves arranging a small team, usually 3 people, to go out with the Police to a road where a crime has occurred. The team provides leaflets & advice to neighbours. Sessions can take place every 1-2 months, although we've not needed one so far this year! Please contact me if you can help.

Contacts

We need Contacts for a number of roads where the previous Contact has moved/retired/etc., so if your group has ceased, why not volunteer to get it going again?

Home insurance discounts are often available to members in a registered scheme, so quite apart from the benefits of being in Home Watch it can be very worthwhile financially!

NHS – 'Social Prescribing'

Help & Care have been awarded a contract for the provision of 'Non-clinical Health Coaching and Social Prescribing' for people with Long Term Conditions and Carers. There is a link to further info on the Home Watch Messages page on the colehill.gov.uk website.



Extract from my AGM Report on 15th May

Firstly, we received the Dorset Police 'Watch Group of the Year' award in February (the Award was on display).

The retirement of Contacts continues to cause problems when a replacement hasn't been identified. It would be a great help if all Contacts had a nominated deputy, to fill in during absence and/or to take over the group if needed. There is then a much better prospect of groups continuing.

We still have a vacancy for a Co-ordinator for the Leigh Road area (currently 4 groups).

We want people to join up to the DorsetAlert.co.uk messaging system – only a small proportion of members are on it.

Police Surgeries will come to an end shortly (*see page 4*).

PACT Panels ('Partners & Communities Together' – Wimborne rep J Shave, Colehill & Stour rep G Mallett) have met 4 times a year. Police, Home Watch, Council Officers, Councillors and agencies plus voluntary organisations meet to address issues and agree actions to address them. Next meetings are Colehill & Stour 20/6/19, Wimborne 3/7/19.

SpeedWatch in Wimborne & Colehill has not restarted, due to lack of volunteers. Contact Nigel Bailey for further information or if you can help (nigel.h.bailey@gmail.com).

Subs: In 2020 we expect that another BTGTF offer (buy two get two free!) will be possible.

Crime Stats were requested – so from the Autumn we plan to include crime stats in *Update*, as these are otherwise only available on the national website - see www.police.uk

Elections – the Officers were re-elected unanimously.

Graham Mallett, Chairman (contact details – see page 2).

ADW AGM held on 8th May

Speakers were Chief Constable James Vaughan and Police & Crime Commissioner Martyn Underhill. *Some key points from the meeting were:*



@ PCC planning to introduce a "contract" between local community/Watch/council and the NPT regarding attendance at meetings etc.

@ PCC agreed to provide a grant to ADW for current year

@ ADW to reserve funds for new Watch schemes e.g. to hire local room for kick-off meeting

@ Brian Frecknall and Roger Long received Certificates of Appreciation from the Chief Constable for Sheduction and the Ferndown Community Office

@ PCC has to compensate for withdrawal of any central grant

@ ADW Strategy was accepted. The next step is to develop the Implementation Plan

@ New toolkits available on www.ourwatch.org.uk website covering such items as Loneliness and Vulnerability, Modern Slavery, Terrorism.



On behalf of everyone at Wimborne Food Bank, I would like to say a

HUGE THANK YOU to everyone, every school, church, family, individual and organisation for your incredible generosity & support throughout this year and especially during our 'Reverse Lent' campaign. The amount of donations we have received is staggering and as a result our shelves are looking much healthier. It means that we can continue to support people who, for whatever reason, are temporarily unable to afford food.

Sharon Keenan, Coordinator.

See our new website at wimbornefoodbank.org.uk

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

Graham Mallett (Chair)

tel 01202 884642

homewatchwandc@gmail.com

Keith Baker (Vice-Chair)

keith.furzehill@gmail.com

John Poat (Treasurer)

jpoat10694@aol.com

Vacancy (Secretary)

**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: 16th Aug

Graham Mallett

(Editor / Advertising):

tel 01202 884642

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

Wimborne & Colehill Area



Drivers Urgently Needed

Have you got any spare time and a community spirit?

Would you be willing to become a Volunteer driver for our NeighbourCar Scheme?

The NeighbourCar scheme gives people who are over 50 and in need of transport, affordable door to door transport (by donation) to and from doctor/hospital/dentist/chiroprapist/hairstylist/shops/friends etc.

Drivers receive a donation of 50 pence per mile to cover expenses. This does not affect your insurance.

If you are interested and would like to know more about the scheme, please contact:

**Eric Burton – Chairman and Co-ordinator
on 01202 849360**

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www.safewise.org

01202 591330 (9am - 4pm)

JSI SafeWise

Junior Safety Inspector – JSI SafeWise (for families)

Our Junior Safety Inspector events are specially designed to help families learn together to build confidence. Develop valuable skills for life in fun and interactive scenarios including fire, road and water safety.

Our Junior Safety Inspector events take place at SafeWise Bournemouth and SafeWise Weymouth in school holiday times.

The Junior Safety Inspector event is aimed at 5-11 years old, but all ages are welcome.

The self-guided tour consists of solving clues all whilst exploring the interactive safety centre with a prize and certificate for those who qualify by successfully completing the tour.

Our indoor village at SafeWise Bournemouth includes a road, beach, train, bus, house and other real life scenarios. The whole family can join in with our practical and hands on activities, such as escaping a house fire and dialling 999 or controlling the brakes on a train.

24 & 25 July, 28 & 29 August, 29 & 30 October at SafeWise Bournemouth (book at www.safewise.org).

FERNDOWN POLICE COMMUNITY OFFICE

For contact details see ad on next page.

There is a new security item called Signal Blocker available. This is a storage pouch which takes keyless car fobs or a mobile phone. We now have stock and the cost is £3.

This item has two uses, firstly for storing keyless motor vehicle key fobs. Criminals have discovered ways to steal cars by intercepting the signal, Signal Blocker blocks key fobs from transmitting a signal when not in use.

Secondly it is ideal for storing your mobile phone, because the phone cannot receive a signal so you will not be distracted (and break the law). Within 30 seconds of removing the phone from the pouch any missed messages will be received.

We now stock Key Safes. These are fixed to the wall and you can put a house key inside. Ideal for people who are expecting



visitors, carers, etc and do not want to issue keys to several persons, you simply give them the code (which you can change).

Please remember that we have several free items (while stock lasts) –

UV Marker Pens, Hand Warmers, Key Rings with £1 trolley tokens, Purse Chains, Magnifiers, etc.



From our Neighbourhood Inspector



Now that the warmer weather approaches, please can we ask that you are mindful of security measures; an unlocked window or garage door can be tempting to an opportunist thief, and we find that annually, acquisitive crime will increase in the Summer months. In addition we have seen a rise in theft from vehicles parked in Beauty Spot locations – often valuables have been placed under the driver or passenger seat. Please, if you are out enjoying the beautiful area we live in, ensure you leave no valuables in your vehicle.

The team have been busy and reacted promptly to reports of “cuckooing” at two addresses in the Colehill area. “Cuckooing” can be described as an incident when offenders take over a vulnerable persons house for the purposes of crime (often drug dealing). Once we identify such addresses we work with partners to support the victims and complete regular visits to prevent offenders from returning. Whilst police activity appears to have resolved these incidents, it is a timely reminder that such offences do not only occur in larger towns and cities. The public can help – if you notice suspicious behaviour, such as numerous short term visits to an address, report it via 101 or via our Dorset Police website “contact us” facility.

The local team often gets asked for crime stats for local areas. www.police.uk contains monthly statistics of incidents which can be broken down to street view – this is an excellent resource which frees our staff up to be visible policing rather than tied to a computer compiling information.

You can keep up to date with the team by following them on Facebook www.facebook.com/WimbornePolice/ or details from my twitter account (@NDorsetNPTinsp).

Thanks as always for your support.

Simon Perry 1656, Neighbourhood Inspector for East and North Dorset Sections (from March 2019)



The East Dorset & Ringwood Branch of the **NHS Retirement Fellowship** is for all those (and their families and friends) who have worked in any health or social care profession and aims to support its members through the provision of social, leisure, educational and welfare activities.

Every month we listen to a speaker or have a “members’ morning” and we arrange outings to both local attractions and national places of interest. We often organise group meals at local restaurants. Members also receive a regular national and branch newsletter and may also benefit from various discounts on cruises, holidays and worldwide travel, home and car insurance.

We meet at 10:00 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 Branch Secretary, Jenny, on 01202 876560 or joh2lou@talktalk.net or alternatively our Membership Secretary, Helen, on 01425 480202 or at h.nield@btinternet.com



www.dorset.police.uk

The monthly SURGERY MEETINGS are ending.

The last ones will be:

**Tuesday 4th June
10.30-11.00**

**Methodist Church,
King St, Wimborne**

**Wednesday 5th June
12.00-12.30**

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

**SATURDAYS at Costa
have finished.**

Wimborne & Colehill Neighbourhood Policing Team

Hello to Wimborne & Colehill residents

We have received a number of complaints of vehicle related anti-social behaviour in the carparks around Wimborne. Vehicles have been wheel spinning, playing loud music and racing each other. We have conducted speed checks at specific times and locations in and around Wimborne. NPT has been patrolling the carparks in the evenings to disrupt and deter this type of behaviour.

NPT has also been conducting licencing checks in pubs in Wimborne and work has been conducted to re-energise Shop and Pub Watch in the town ready for the summer months.

We are pleased to report that your NPT has seen a reduction in burglaries, theft from vehicles and rogue trader/cold caller type incidents. However we still ask residents to remain aware and vigilant in these areas during the summer months.

Contact us via 101 or email WimborneColehill-NPT@Dorset.PNN.Police.uk

Regards, Wimborne & Colehill NPT.

County Lines

Children from all backgrounds are at risk of exploitation.

We should be aware that all children, including those from well-off families, are at risk of grooming by criminal gangs running illegal drugs from cities to rural areas, according to a multi-agency taskforce that investigated 'county lines' networks in three areas: Greenwich, Southend and Dorset in 2018.

The report into child exploitation and modern slavery said some children drawn into working for criminal gangs were being overlooked, including "affluent children attending public school", seen as less likely to be identified as drug runners by the Police.

"The scale and nature of child exploitation in England in the 21st century are shocking. Adults should not assume that the most vulnerable children are the only vulnerable children. County lines activity is dynamic and perpetrators will change



**Sgt 760
Tim Travers**



**PC 1757
Julia Ratcliffe**



**PCSO 5467
Julia Saunders**



**PCSO 6308
Michael
Hamilton-Fletcher**

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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 BH22 9TH

Open every day (except Sunday)
from 10.00 until 12.00

**NOTE - PHONE NUMBER has reverted
to the old number - 01202 876219**

Email: ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com
Products are also available at **Sheduction** events



their method of exploitation quickly, such as by targeting new groups of children to exploit in order to avoid detection.”

The report examined how agencies in Greenwich, Southend-on-Sea and Dorset were tackling county lines, in which criminals recruit children to transport and sell illegal drugs and weapons into market towns or coastal communities.

As well as children from affluent backgrounds, the gangs also target vulnerable older children, including those who are neglected and less likely to be reported missing by parents, children with special educational needs or poor mental health, and children in care, excluded or absent from schools.

There are thought to be around 1,500 of the networks in operation in the UK, which involve urban dealers forcing children to carry drugs to more rural areas.

Younger siblings are often recruited through fear, intimidation and violence against the family of older exploited children. All criminally exploited children are at risk of neglect, emotional harm, sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as substance misuse and extreme forms of violence. The trauma caused by intimidation, violence, witnessing drug use or overdoses and continued threats to themselves or to family members leads to significant mental and physical ill-health of exploited children.

It's happening in Dorset... it could happen here...

Signs to look out for in vulnerable people:

- A child or young person going missing from school or home, or significant changes in emotional well-being.
- The use of drugs and alcohol.
- A young person meeting unfamiliar adults, or a change in their behaviour.
- Relationships with controlling or older individuals associated with gangs.
- Acquiring money or expensive gifts they can't account for.
- Suspicion of self-harm, physical assault or unexplained injuries.
- Lone children from outside of the area.
- More people calling at a local address?
- Strangers calling at unsociable hours?
- Suspicious vehicles or people at an address?
- Has a neighbour not been seen around for a while?



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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 the Police ring 101, use the yellow phone by the front door, or email **101@dorset.pnn.police.uk** (The counter at Ferndown HQ is also closed).

Wimborne & Colehill NPT

PC Julia Ratcliffe

PCSOs Julia Saunders,

Michael Hamilton-Fletcher

WimborneColehill-NPT@Dorset.

PNN.Police.uk

Facebook: Wimborne Police

Twitter: @WimborneNPT

DC www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Note the new website for Dorset Council. (www.dorsetforyou.com is still forwarded at present)

PACT Panels

'Partners and Communities Together'

Wimborne PACT

(Home Watch rep: John Shave)
shave.jf@gmail.com

Colehill & Stour PACT

(Home Watch rep: Graham Mallett)
homewatchwandc@gmail.com

Police, Home Watch, DC Officer, local councillors and agencies plus voluntary organisation reps meet to address issues and agree actions to address them. If you have an issue concerning your neighbourhood you would like the Panel to address, contact your local Councillor or email your rep.

Wimborne and Colehill Community Speed Watch

exists for the purpose of educating drivers to live within the mandated speed limit, for one reason only:
"The protection of life from the consequences of vehicle collisions due to excess speed"

We NEED VOLUNTEERS to come and join us, helping to keep our roads as safe as possible. It's not that demanding on time or effort as we operate in small teams, and training is available.

Please contact me for a chat:
Nigel – nigel.h.bailey@gmail.com

Trading Standards News

DORSET COUNCIL, TRADING STANDARDS

Local Government in Dorset has changed. From 1st April 2019 there are two councils delivering services across Dorset. Trading Standards services across the old Dorset County Council area, except Christchurch, are provided by the new Dorset Council.

Businesses in the new Dorset Council area can continue to telephone the Trading Standards Business Advice Line: 01305 224702. Farm businesses, or anyone with a particular concern about animal health and welfare in the new Dorset Council area, can telephone the Animal Health Helpline: 01305 224475, or email tradingstandards@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Consumers requiring consumer advice or wanting to report a matter to Trading Standards in any area of Dorset should continue to call Citizens Advice consumer service on **03454 04 05 06**. This continues to be the first point of contact for consumers.

Telephone numbers used by individual trading standards staff are also unchanged.

The office locations and contact address for Trading Standards at Dorset Council will not change: Dorset Council, Trading Standards, East Annexe, Colliton Park, Dorchester DT1 1XJ. Email addresses for any existing contacts you have changed to a general format of firstname.surname@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk (generic Email for TS: tradingstandards@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk). Existing addresses still work for a transitional period of six months after 1st April.

All staff in post at Dorset County Council in March are now employed in the new Dorset Council, Trading Standards. While a management restructure is in progress, which includes the Trading Standards Service Manager post, at present there are no immediate changes to the Trading Standards structure.

Ivan Hancock

Trading Standards Service Manager, Dorset Council

Are your toys safe?

Toys must be safe when played with by children under 14 years old and Trading Standards enforce those laws. However according to the Child Accident Prevention Trust asphyxia, including choking, is the second most common cause of accidental child death in the UK.

Trading Standards check that toys are safe by working with manufacturers and importers. Where consumers' safety is put at risk we investigate offences and take formal action.

Stopping potentially unsafe goods entering the UK is a priority. Officers inspect consignments of goods at ports, airports and postal hubs. They detain unsafe and non-compliant consumer goods that could cause harm to people and use intelligence systems to alert others to the risks found.

Slime toys became one of the more recent crazes amongst children, but many tested contained boron levels which exceeded European Union safety limits and so breached toy safety laws. Recently soft toys designed to hold children's blankets were found in the Midlands. The toy was tested and failed the toy safety standards in 3 significant areas all

of which posed a choking and strangulation hazard. Goods entering the UK by less formal routes pose one of the greatest risks to safety. Through online purchasing many goods can be bought and imported directly by any individual. You may have experienced yourself buying goods online only to find that they were dispatched directly from China for example.

Although illegal, unsafe toys can therefore still be found on sale so it is vital to shop with care. Look out for the CE mark on new toys and only buy from reputable suppliers.

If you have a concern regarding the safety of toys please report it to Dorset Council Trading Standards by calling the Citizens Advice national consumer helpline on **03454 04 05 06**.

Care homes, Trading Standards and your consumer rights

Choosing a care home for yourself or another person is a very important and often emotional decision. Moving to a different care home if the first one isn't right could be a big upheaval, so you need to be confident that you have all the information you need to choose the right home.

You have consumer rights regardless of whether you pay all the costs of your care or whether some or all of the costs are paid for by the local authority or another organisation. Knowing these rights help people make informed decisions when choosing a care home. Your consumer rights can also help ensure you are fairly treated and protected if things go wrong.

The Competition and Markets Authority have recently contacted all care home providers who provide care for older people with advice to help those providers better understand and meet their obligations under consumer law. This advice includes:

- Upfront information – providing people with information needed to make informed choices, in the right way and time;
- Treating residents fairly - terms and conditions and the way people are treated must be fair;
- Quality of service - providing services with reasonable care and skill;
- Complaints - any complaints handling procedure should be easy to find and use, be fair and effective.

Further detailed information can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-homes-short-guide-to-consumer-rights-for-residents

Care homes which don't meet their obligations might be in breach of consumer law and could face enforcement action by local Trading Standards Services or the CMA.

If you don't think you are being treated fairly, or think a care home is breaking consumer law, you can contact the Citizens Advice national consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06. As well as giving you advice, the consumer helpline can pass information about complaints on to Trading Standards to investigate.

The Banking Protocol

Bank Staff work with Police to protect against in scams

Staff at Britain's bank branches are now able to use a codeword when calling the police to summon help quickly if they believe a customer is being conned.

A successful trial in London helped to stop pensioners from losing more than £1million in just four months, with police investigating 84 crimes and arresting 14 people. By the end of the 12 months' pilot, the banking protocol had prevented £9.1 million of fraud, with individual customers protected from losing sums ranging from £99 up to £212,000.

The "rapid response" scheme enables bank staff to contact police if they suspect a customer is in the process of being scammed, with an immediate priority response to the branch.

One such customer was approached by builders at his home. He believed the company to be credible and he knew the guttering, windows, roofing and garden all needed some work, so he agreed with builders they could do the guttering. Initially, the men offered to clear his clogged drains for £30 but then it escalated into more odd jobs.

The fraudsters said the wood behind the gutter was rotten so would need to be replaced and a deposit amount was asked for.

Over time, more money was requested and Mr Dighton said he felt trapped. As he had already paid some money, he felt he needed to pay more to get the job done. At one point, when he asked for the full total and invoice, he was brushed aside. Meanwhile, the owner of the company showed up and asked for more money.

The customer went into his local bank branch to make a £6,000 withdrawal. A member of staff thought this was unusual and asked what it was for. Mr Dighton said it was for building works.

As it seemed like a reasonable request for the work to be completed, the staff member agreed.

However, a week later, he went back for another £13,000, at which point the supervisor of the branch became suspicious. She said, "I thought he looked quite vulnerable and remembered he had made a big transaction the week before."

She asked him a series of questions and then triggered the new banking protocol, giving the alert code word and the police arrived at the bank shortly afterwards.

The fraudster was subsequently arrested. The bank later learned that a total of £38,000 had been requested for the work, £11,000 of which cannot be recovered.

"If anyone knocks on your door and offers to do work, just say thank you and that you already have something organised. It starts with the gutters but it quickly escalates. I did the wrong thing because I was at a really low moment."

The average loss through financial fraud is £8,500, according to Financial Fraud Action UK – and the industry body believes the banking protocol could help prevent 80 per cent of this type of crime.

Barclays Bank says it has helped protect £500,000 during the pilot. Around 30,000 police around the country have received training about the Protocol, with thousands doing so in the coming months.

>>

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Harry Homewatch

As a local Contact, Harry encouraged his members to inform him when they were going to leave their house unattended for any length of time. This allowed him to provide sensible precautions for empty properties.

He always offered to clear mail and free papers personally or by use of another neighbour. Even putting the green box/bag away takes away the clue of an absent occupier.

He also let other members in his local group know, so they would look out for any unusual activity around the empty property.

Other information could include a list of people who might have access during the period they were away. It was not uncommon for family members to use properties for holidays whilst the owners were absent. Without this information it was quite possible that the police might be called unnecessarily.

A contact phone number could also prove useful in any emergency to do with the property, such as water leaks or weather damage.

Given this level of information the absentees could leave knowing that friendly Home Watch members were looking out for their property.

Follow Harry in further Issues of *Update*.

Harry Homewatch,

Contact John Poat, jpoat10694@aol.com

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Home Watch subs 2018-2020

The 'nominal' sub remains at £1 per year. However :-

As of 1st April 2016, **Existing** members renewed for £2 and received a new membership card, valid until **31st March 2020**.

NEW members (or lapsed members) **joining from Feb 2019** pay **£1** and receive the card, valid till 31st March 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; talk to your Neighbourhood Policing Team officers (details on page 5); or speak to your local W&CHW Area Coordinator or Contact.

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