

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COMMUNITY NEWS

WINTER
ISSUE

DECEMBER
2011



A quarterly Journal produced by and for Ferndown S. and West Parley Neighbourhood Watch in close association with the Dorset Police.

EMERGENCY ?

999

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The Editor welcomes comments, letters and suggestions addressed to him at :-201 New Road, West Parley, Ferndown, BH22 8EE
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Chairman's Report

A rather different report this time. As you know our Watch has developed a good relationship with Ferndown Upper School with a series of writing competitions over the years. This November, coinciding with the National Anti bullying week, I have visited the School on four occasions to talk to school assemblies to introduce our current competition.

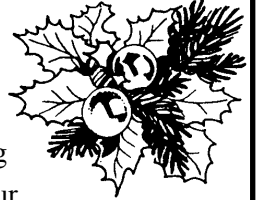
We had already chosen the topic "Bullying in Society" so it fits well with some school activity around the theme for the week. With the news of abuse of the elderly and less able in care homes and by carers in their own homes, neglect in hospitals, bullying at work and in institutions plus a general concern that standards of behaviour were falling in all sorts of ways I thought that it was important to help to raise awareness of bullying as an issue of community wide importance.

The statistics are alarming. 100,000 cases per year of bullying elderly people; 40% of people at work have complained about bullying bosses and managers; 20,000 children per week skipping school and between 25 and 30 young children ending their own lives caused by bullying at home or at school. Add to this the number of wives and female partners seeking refuge from bullying partners; the problems of Muslim girls forced into unwanted marriages and illegal employment of children and it all adds up to a bleak picture.

My feeling is that the only solution for the long term is a culture change which must start at the level of the next generation hence my enthusiasm for this competition. We are lucky that we live in a safe and friendly neighbourhood but there are problems even here. I hope that those of you with children in F.U.S will have helped with some discussion of why bullying behaviour should not be tolerated in a civil society. I am looking forward to seeing the entries which should be coming in at the end of December.

May I wish all our members a very happy Christmas and a safe New Year.

Chairman Douglas Lock



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SCAMBUSTERS UPDATE

National Identity Fraud Prevention Week started on Monday, 17 October 2011, to alert consumers and businesses to the threat of identity fraud at home and at work.

According to research commissioned by Fellowes exclusively for the campaign, although 95% of the UK population are now aware of the threat and risks of identity fraud, the number of victims is still rising as people continue to be careless with their identities.

A total of 7% of the UK population have been victims of identity fraud, equating to over 4 million people. The average cost of these incidents to each victim is £1,190.

When it comes to identity fraud, prevention is always key. Some easy ways for individuals to protect themselves include:

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- Always checking for unfamiliar transactions on bank statements
- Shredding all documents containing sensitive information using a cross cut shredder before throwing them away
- Looking into mail that goes missing
- Carrying out regular personal credit report checks
- Redirecting post for at least six months when moving house
- Limiting the amount of information shared when using social networking sites

For more tips and advice on how to prevent identity fraud, visit the campaign's website, www.stop-idfraud.co.uk. The website contains a downloadable advice pack for consumers as well as a business guide.

A MESSAGE FROM WPPC

An important part of helping residents feeling safe and secure in their community is the fact that it looks clean, tidy and cared for. The West Parley Parish Council and village volunteers are constantly working on the appearance of West Parley.

The planters at Parley Cross have been restocked with winter bedding whilst volunteer working parties meet every 2 weeks to do regular verge tidying that is in addition to the usual Council maintenance. Undergrowth round the Recreation Ground has just been cleared by the Community Response Team.

The Ferndown Lengthsman is now contracted to work in West Parley to clear weeds by the side of the road that were not killed by regular spraying. Eco Sustainable Solutions have donated turf that has been laid on part of Christchurch Road to tidy up the verges.

New 'Welcome to West Parley' signs have been put up on the 4 main roads to give a more welcoming approach to visitors.

There are now over 100 residents working on the appearance of West Parley and helping to distribute leaflets.

This work is an important and growing part of reinforcing local identity among the community. It is very satisfying that so many residents give up their time for the benefit of others.

John Cullen

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I am often asked what PACT stands for. "Partners and Communities Together" is an initiative, introduced by Dorset Police along with partner agencies across Dorset including local councils, Police, Fire brigade, Wayfinders, POPP's members and Youth Workers as well as local councillors (Parish, County or District). Its aim is to encourage closer working, not only between partner agencies, but also between these agencies and local communities (that means you!). At meetings, the PACT representatives discuss what issues have been raised to them by members of the community, from which they select 3 priorities. These priorities are then assessed by the relevant agencies that look for a solution. Anyone can raise a concern to any member of the panel to be discussed at the next meeting.

A local priority that is currently being look at is the parking problems outside West Parley First School, as well as speeding along Glenmoor Road. This has resulted in PACT initiating a Speed Indication Device being installed along the road to help educate drivers. The Police also carry out speed checks on this road at school times on a regular basis and it is a priority road for officers who are performing checks.

PACT has also applied to Dorset County Council for restricted parking outside the school at busy periods. This is currently under consultation with local residents and we are very hopeful that this will be approved. Part of this application has also been parking restrictions at Parley Cross as a number of local businesses have complained that some vehicles are parking in the service road for long periods and not using the local amenities.

An issue that has been raised previously in the year was problems of vandalism and anti social behaviour during the summer at Parley Cross. It was identified that these issues were occurring in the summer and a regular target was the hanging baskets and troughs being damaged and the flowers being removed. An Environmental Visual Audit was performed with the Police and Parish council to try to identify some crime reduction techniques to reduce the amount of incidents and several suggestions were implemented. A patrol plan was put together for local officers to ensure that the location was visited

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at peak times. As a result, incidents of anti social behaviour and crime were greatly reduced over the summer months. PACT has also sent out crime statistics to every household to help reduce the fear of crime in the area by demonstrating that West Parley is an extremely safe area to live.

If you do have an issue you would like to raise then please contact me on the details below.

Police Community Support Officer

Alan Downing 5328

Ferndown Central



NATIONAL DISORDER

The Dorset Police operation to monitor and prevent any local repercussions of the national disorder experienced throughout the country continues - with three further arrests being made.

Early this quarter a 23 year-old man from Poole and two 16 year-old boys - one from Poole and one from Bournemouth - were arrested on suspicion of incitement to riot.

Assistant Chief Constable Adrian Whiting is leading the Dorset Police operation. He said: "Anyone planning on either inciting or causing disorder should understand that their behaviour will not be tolerated and Dorset Police will arrest them and set about bringing them to justice."

Dorset Police officers are also visiting anyone linked in any way to social networking discussions about planning of or involvement in disorder to warn them about the potential consequences of their continued participation.

ACC Whiting continued: "Although the events experienced around the UK in the last few days have quietened down and Dorset has not, so far, suffered any repercussions, we will continue to monitor the situation. We also continue to appeal to members of the public with any information that would help us to keep Dorset safe to come forward."



Police Report

Communications

The Community Office

e: ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com

Telephone: 01202 876219

From A/Inspector Alan Setchell, East Dorset Deputy to Neighbourhood Inspector

On 04th April 2011 I became the East Dorset Deputy to Neighbourhood Inspector and as a result I share East Dorset's policing and management responsibilities with Inspector Mike Darkin. Therefore whilst he is enjoying a well deserved leave period I have now produced my first Police Report for your watch newsletter.

Prior to being appointed to this role I was the Wimborne Safer Neighbourhood Sergeant for four years. As a result I know just how committed our watch members are and how their support is critical in helping East Dorset Section perform towards Dorset Police's priorities. Therefore I will take this early opportunity to thank you all for your hard work and dedication because you have and continue to make a difference.

The only organisational update that I need to inform you about is the appointment of PCSO 6759 Rob Morris who is now covering Longham. Rob is a new member of the Ferndown Central Safer Neighbourhood Team who previously worked on Heatherlands so has excellent local knowledge. I would just like to take this opportunity to thank PCSO 5328 Alan Downing for all his work that he has carried out to make Longham safer and feel safer.

I am pleased to report that between 01 April and 10 November 2011 the number of anti social behaviour incidents across the East Dorset Section fell by 13% - that's 243 less incidents than the same period in 2010. So what does this mean for you? Well Heatherlands had 29, West Parley 13 and Longham 30 less incidents. The reduction in anti social behaviour has also seen an associated reduction in criminal damage.

Unfortunately I do have to report that crime is still on an upward trend (+9%) specifically around acquisitive crime – which are crimes involving theft of property, specifically burglaries to homes and sheds. For a long time now Inspector Darkin has reported low crime rates and I would like to again remind you all of this fact when considering this trend. This 9% increase has resulted in 157 more crimes being reported across the whole section since 1st April 2011 (which is less than 1 crime a day increase). However this is where I seek your support in the effective use and deployment of our most recently obtained 'crime prevention' asset namely 'Sheducation'.

'Sheducation' is partnership funded enclosed trailer that has the appearance of being a shed on wheels. The trailer is very eye catching and has an image of a cartoon burglar with a torch attempting to break into the shed. The trailer has been kitted out with all kinds of crime prevention equipment. Members of the public are able to view, have 'live' demonstrations and make purchases that will prevent them from becoming victims of acquisitive crime. Wherever this trailer has been deployed it generates a lot of interest and can be used as an excellent platform to promote both crime prevention and benefits of either joining or creating watch schemes. Due to its huge success we are in need of additional volunteers who would be willing to deliver and return the trailer from Ferndown Police Station where it is stored. If you are willing to assist in the deployment of this trailer or you would like to book it please contact Brian Frecknall at the Community Office, Barrington Centre, Ferndown.

I would also like to inform you that Sergeant 760 Tim Travers has now re launched 'Horse Watch' across East Dorset Section. Horse Watch has two main aims these being crime prevention and to map locations and ownership of horses. Sergeant Travers is ably assisted by Police Constables who have an interest in working with the equine community to prevent individuals from being victims of crime and to safeguard their horses. These Police Constables are -

PC 1945 Michelle Yarrow (Verwood Police Station) michelle.yarrow@dorset.pnn.police.uk

PC 2442 Nina Doyle (Ferndown Police Station) nina.doyle@dorset.pnn.police.uk

PC 61 Jane Brittain (Wimborne Police Station) jane.brittain@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact them to either offer your assistance or to obtain further information about Horse Watch.

On a final note I would like to think about the next three months having just looked at the past quarter.

As the nights draw in and the frosty mornings begin we will be awoken by the sounds of engines running and windscreens being scraped. Our thoughts will be on the forthcoming Festive Season and the many tasks that have to be achieved before the holidays start or family arrive. Our minds will not be on crime prevention but the criminal minds will be seeking to take full advantage of this time of year.....and at times we make it really easy for them. I have often witnessed numerous cars on driveways with their engine running whilst their owners are inside no doubt doing something more important. So picture this whilst your eating your cornflakes waiting for your car to warm up you see it being driven down the road...or you get into the car only to find your much loved mobile phone has been stolen or something of similar personal value.

Furthermore the shops and supermarkets are crammed full of people rushing about to get that allusive bargain or something special whilst thinking 101 other things. So picture this you are one of these people now ask yourself“Where is your handbag, purse or wallet?” Is it in a safe place? Can someone get to it without me knowing whilst I am concentrating on reaching over and getting that bargain? Because if you do not ask these questions or worse still they all bring about an ‘I do not know’ or a ‘No’ response you may actually get more than you bargained for.....

I only create these images not to increase your fear of crime but to give you an opportunity whilst you read this report to understand the need to be always vigilant. As a Police Officer and a father of two children I do know how busy life is and the challenges it gives us. I know that I have in the past gone out; left my shed unlocked only to return for my wife to gleefully bring this to my crime fighting attention. As a consequence let us all take this opportunity to re affirm our commitment to make Christmas and the New Year less prosperous for those with a criminal mind.

On a final note thank you again for your hard work and dedication and I wish you all a peaceful and enjoyable Festive Season.

Warmest Regards

Alan Setchell

A/East Dorset Neighbourhood Inspector

101 NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER GOES LIVE IN DORSET

The new 101 police non-emergency telephone number went live on 19 September 2011.

Members of the public in Dorset must now ring 101 to contact Dorset Police for non-urgent enquiries.

The new 101 number has replaced the previous non-emergency police number in Dorset of 222 222.

This new non-emergency number has gone live across all of the police forces in the south west – and the 101 number is due to be available in all police force areas of England and Wales by the end of January 2012.

Chief Superintendent Colin Searle, Communications and Contact Services Commander, said: “The new 101 police non-emergency telephone number is easy to remember and will be live across the whole country early next year.

It is important that the public in Dorset know that they must dial 101 to contact the police in Dorset for non-urgent business from now on.

The public should call 101 to report crime, to contact their local Safer Neighbourhood Team, to provide us with information about crimes that have been committed or to make a general enquiry.

As ever, people should always dial 999 in an emergency – when life is in danger or a crime is in progress.”

Calls to the 101 non-emergency number – from both landlines and mobile phones – cost 15 pence per call no matter what time of day you call, or how long you are on the phone.

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DISTRACTION BURGLARIES IN EAST DORSET

This quarter Police appealed for witnesses and anyone with information to come forward after two distraction burglaries in the East of the county which may be linked.

The first incident, in which two offenders gained entry to a pensioner's property along Mudeford Lane and stole cash.

One of the offenders has been described as white, in his thirties and between five feet eight inches and five feet ten inches tall. He has short fair bushy hair, which was combed back, and was wearing a blue open-necked shirt.

The second man was also white, in his forties or fifties, of stocky build and just under six feet tall and has short dark hair. He was clean shaven and wearing a white shirt with coloured stripes, a dark tie and gloves. He was quietly spoken.

The second incident was at an address along Ibbertson Road in Bournemouth a man engaged the occupant in a conversation about house repairs. Later on the pensioner realised that someone had gained entry to the house and stolen cash and jewellery.

The man has been described as white, in his forties, six feet

tall, well built and with dark short hair which is curly on the top. He was wearing a green v-neck pullover – which had another colour as well – dark pinstriped trousers and black pointed shoes. He was speaking with a deep southern Irish accent.

Detective Constable Steve Davis, Dorset CID, said: "Due to similarities in the descriptions of the offenders these two incidents might be linked.

Although these distraction burglaries occurred earlier this quarter it is a clear reminder that you should be very careful when strangers call at your home.

PARLEY SPORTS FIELD

What a good job the Groundsmen are making of the woodland and ditches surrounding the football pitches. Most of the bracken has been cleared, exposing the beautiful Oak trees. The ditch usually full of rubbish is now free for rain water to flow freely.

For the people who exercise their dogs in this area, please remember that this work has been carried out for the benefit of everyone and should not be used as a dog toilet. A high percentage of owners are very responsible and clear up after their animals. For those that do not, please try and make the effort to do so. There are plenty of red bins to assist you in this task.

The Residents Association has also cleared the pathways leading to the Sports and Recreational fields,

Please help to keep it in this condition. Thank you in advance for your help.

FROM THE SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Thankfully, there has been a further reductions in antisocial behaviour, violent crime and burglary on the Ferndown central patch. Our focus over the next few weeks will be reducing vehicle crime. As a section, East Dorset has seen a rise in vehicle crime over the last 12 months and this is reflected on the central patch. Your Safer Neighbourhood Team is currently in the process of designing a new initiative to tackle this issue. Handbags, tools and registration plates are the objects of desire in the criminal world. Members of the public are advised never leave valuables in the car at all and if unavoidable, never on display. Tools should be indelibly marked and registration plates secured with tamper proof screws. For further advice on this and a whole host of other crime prevention ideas, please visit your Community Office at the Barrington Centre open 6 days a week 10.00 - 12.00

Look out for dates for your diaries on the SNT pages of www.dorset.police.uk or contact your team using the new non-emergency number, 101.

In case of emergency always dial 999 - if you see it, report it!

Sgt 760 Tim Travers

Also available from the Community Office are a variety of leaflets and information packs offering security advice. We also have a wide range of security items for sale, these include; Door Chains and Door guards, Shed Alarms (with remote control), Entry Chimes, Window Alarms, Alarmed Padlocks, Canned Food Safes, Building Alarmed Signs, Counterfeit Detection



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During Office hours we can be contacted on 01202 876219, but please be aware that this number should not be used instead of 999 (if 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

FERNDOWN STROKE CLUB

The Ferndown Stroke Club AGM was held at the British Legion Hall on 16th November 2011. A full complement of committee members was elected.

Chairperson, Councillor Leslie Dedman stood down and Dr. Peter Pavier was proposed and seconded for the position. Approximately 40 members were at the meeting. This is a very vibrant club formed to encourage stroke survivors to recognise their strengths, to overcome their disabilities and take part in organised club activities.

Other committee members elected were:

Treasurer – John Wyatt, Secretary – Bob Yexley,
Deputy Chair & Membership Representative - Trevor Sams
Events Coordinator – Pauline Yexley,
Receptionist/Cashier – Arlene Pavier,
Social & Catering – Kathleen Sutton
Records Officer – Phillip How.

COMMUNICATIONS/GENERAL

- This quarter there was two thefts of lead from electricity boxes in front gardens in Leeson Drive, Ameysford Road. Dorset Police are asking that people stay vigilant and any suspicious sightings should be reported to them on 101.
- A garage in Matlock Road was burgled and a chainsaw was stolen. It was not a forced entry since the garage doors were open at the time of the offence. You are reminded to please make sure your garage is securely locked at all times.
- Dorset Police are monitoring a slight rise in the levels of vehicle crime in West Moors. Although we are still well below last years figures, your local officers are not complacent. Earlier this quarter, a vehicle registration plate was stolen in West Moors.



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Residents and visitors are reminded not to leave any valuables in their cars and certainly nothing on display. Always lock your doors - we find an alarming number of thefts occur where cars are left insecure on the driveway. For further advice regarding vehicle security including how to obtain tamper proof registration plates, please drop in to your local community office at the Barrington Centre, Pennys Walk between 10.00 and 12.00hrs or contact your Police Safer Neighbourhood Team on 101 or via www.dorset.police.uk.

- Please be aware of the following website which attempts to con the reader. The website address is www.bbc11.co.uk This is not the BBC site which is www.bbc.co.uk - However, it is very deceptive and all the links from the fake page link into the genuine BBC site so that readers will think it is genuine. IT IS NOT GENUINE AND ENCOURAGES THE READER TO ENTER A PROCESS THAT WILL INVOLVE FINANCIAL LOSS. Please do not fall victim to this type of scam.

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- We have had reports of cold callers in the area, from Telecommunication Company's, Charities and persons selling pictures. We are asking residents to be vigilant do not allow persons into your home and always ask for identification if they refuse or have no identification please turn them away and report any suspicious persons to Dorset Police on 101 or contact your Local Safer Neighbourhood Team.
- Recently, the prevention of a cold calling fraud of £2750. This represented itself as gardening work of a poor standard and the subsequent demanding of money. We would like to remind residents that at this time of year these people will be attempting to defraud residents. Please be vigilant and use the Watch Traders list and if you believe your neighbours are having work done by un reputable workman then please contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team on 101.
- Over the last month there have been 3 attempted breaks to sheds in Dunedin Gardens, Casterbridge Road and Locksley Drive area of Longham. At this time a set of Golf Clubs and a Ladies Bike were taken. Please secure your sheds & outbuildings. There has also been a recent shed break in Penrose Road, Ferndown.
- Recently a co-ordinator reported a possible distraction crime attempt near Dorset Avenue. A tall man, accompanied by 2 black girls asked a householder if he could have access to her loft. Since she had not made an appointment to have her loft inspected she refused and sent them away. However it did seem like a distraction burglary attempt.
- This is to remind everyone that banks/Sky/BT/Lottery etc., will NEVER ask for you to send bank details or passwords, including personal details, to them by email. If they do these can be reported to www.actionfraud.org.uk

Christmas time is nearly here
A festive season full of cheer
Santa brings for girls and boys
Lots of nice expensive toys
Colourful packages of all shapes and sizes
Fills us with joyful surprises.

But people BEWARE of nasty boys
Who will rob you of those lovely new toys.
Cameras, Xbox worth a pretty penny
Become a tempting target to many
Watches, necklaces and rings on fingers
Cause many a burglar to stay and linger.

This Christmas I urge you all
To take care of your festive haul
Windows and doors keep locked tight
When you go out and to bed at night
Place your gifts well out of sight.

So this cheerful festive season
This poem was penned for a very good reason
Secure your home, secure your car
May this Christmas be the best by far!
Hope you enjoy your new gadgets and toys
Enjoy the smiles of those girls and boys.

*We wish all members a
very Happy Christmas
and a safe New Year*



AGM

**The Ferndown South & West Parley
Neighbourhood Watch
Annual General Meeting will be held on
Tuesday 17th April 2012 at 7.30 pm
At St Mark's Church Large Hall,
New Road, West Parley**

*We welcome all our members and hope
you will come along and support us.*