



**CANFORD HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009
BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER**



Chairman's Report

On Friday 19 June we held a Car Treasure Hunt through the New Forest ending at the Beautiful Anderwood BBQ Area. The Mayor and Mayoress of Poole attended and presented the prizes to Lesley Knowelden, Adrian King and George Skinner. The attendance was lower than expected, but a good time was had by all.

Since our last Newsletter in May 2009 there have been a number of successful initiatives in our area.

Regular patrols by the Urban Partnership and conservation officers have ensured that fires on the Heath have been kept to a minimum. The lowest recorded for many years, heathland and wildlife have therefore benefited greatly.

The Police obtained a "Dispersal Order" to stop youths from congregating in the "Neighbourhood Centres" mainly near the ASDA supermarket. Many residents were finding these groups intimidating. This order however is only in place for short periods. A CCTV camera is now a permanent deterrent.

The "Safer Neighbourhood Team" have [regular meetings](#) chaired by Sergeant Andy Jenkins, where everyone is welcome to attend and share their views and concerns.

Bogus Callers, Scams and Security.

Although we reported these in our last Newsletter these are still a problem on all parts of the heath. We again emphasize not to open doors to COLD CALLERS. Always obtain at least THREE quotes for any jobs that need doing and **do not** part with any money in advance. If in doubt ring the telephone numbers given at the end of this Bulletin. Other security advice is given on our website. Recent gales may result in cowboy roofers calling.

Neighbourhood Watch Contacts

We are actively looking for more contacts in all areas of Canford Heath to help with distribution of our leaflets, Newsletters and Donation envelopes. Since our last meeting a number of volunteers have joined us. However, we still need greater coverage to inform everyone of relevant activities and useful current information amongst our community. Contacts are needed in the following areas:- Verity Crescent/Kellaway Road, Scarf and Mitchell Roads. Nicholson Close/ Nettleton Close. If you can help in these or other areas on Canford Heath please email the Secretary at: secretary@chnw.org.uk

Open Meeting Oct 2nd Gravel Hill Police Station

Speakers Jez Martin - Nature Conservation Officer.
Jamie Punter and Alan Jones Dorset Fire and Rescue Officers.

Phil Goodall our Chairman opened the meeting and introduced our first speaker.

Jez Martin.

Jez looks after the Heathland and wild life areas of Poole. First he mentioned that of the five fires we have had this year the majority were small but all were deliberately started. Prosecution of the offender who started the Manning's Heath fire resulted in an 18month Jail sentence which should send out a warning to all those tempted to start a fire. The sentence was for talking about and planning a fire. He emphasized that this prosecution should deter others. The incidents of fires are down in our area. Regular talks with schools to educate children regarding the severe affects fire has on vegetation and therefore wild life. Motor bikes are also a problem but efforts are being made to make access more difficult. Bikes are taken away and crushed after two offences. Jez has such great knowledge and interesting facts about life on the Heath. He informed us that birds on the heath had a very good year, with Dartford Warblers and Nightjars doing particularly well. There are also Smooth Snakes, Adders, Grass Snakes and Sand Lizards concentrated in this area.

Fires remain a huge problem and there are plans for installation of fire hydrants ready for use in 2010. The Fire Service has new Fire Appliances which hopefully will reduce the need for these being called on from all over the Dorset. There will be beneficial changes to entrances making accessibility for these vehicles. Plans for the future of the heath will involve some closure of gates in preparation for more cattle grazing these areas. There are new maps and packs available for volunteers and anyone using the heath for recreation, Telephone: 01202 265265.

Jez stressed that it was illegal to dump garden or other rubbish, use motorbikes or any motor vehicle on the heath. Please report any evidence of these on telephone numbers given below. Cycling, however, is permitted.

PC Barry Gosling our Beat Manager introduced himself and assured us that he is always available to answer any concerns we may have. Youth Services and the Police are working closely together, introducing a number of activities for young people including Football Focus. The Chairman presented the police with a light for one of the bicycles previously donated by our neighbourhood watch.

Jamie Punter and Alan Jones from Dorset Fire and Rescue Services enlightened us on safety procedures within the home. Video evidence of how quickly fire can spread and kill was shocking. New updated information of what to do if fire takes hold, is simply to get out of the house and phone 999 giving exact information of your location. Do not try to put out the fire. Care should be taken to have correct extension leads for extra plugs. Smoke alarms placed around the home should be tested regularly and changed every ten years. Free checks, advice and alarms are available by contacting Dorset Fire and Rescue Service. Tel. 01202 538282

Congratulations

On a lighter note we would like to congratulate two of our longest serving Co-ordinators and Helpers, Dennis and Joy Morey who both recently celebrated their 80th Birthdays.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

FIRE, VANDALISM & EMERGENCIES

999

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM & POLICE 01202 222222 or mobile 07876 397080

CRIMESTOPPERS

0800 555111

FLY TIPPING

01202 261700

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEBSITE <http://www.chnw.org.uk>