



CANFORD HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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NEWSLETTER (Web Version) SPRING /SUMMER 2011

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEEDS YOU

The Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch in conjunction with Canford Heath Safer Neighbourhood Team is carrying out series of Door Drops over the coming weeks to encourage new members. In conjunction with this we are recommending everyone becomes a member of the Community Messaging system "RINGMASTER". This is a service free of charge used by Dorset Police to get a message to the community quickly by email, phone or fax to inform you of anything suspicious happening in your area. This could range from a series of break-ins, car thefts, thefts from cars or people calling from door to door selling items. Dorset Police will also use Ringmaster to send out good news messages. You will not receive messages every day. You may not get one for several weeks... all depends on what is happening in your area... so no news is good news.

Please support us to make this scheme a success.

Find out how to join here . . www.chnw.org.uk/News/CMS/cms.htm

NEWS

Since our last Spring/Summer Newsletter we were invited to the Canford Heath Community Day in "The Beacon Church" and Adastral Square. Annette Brooke our MP opened the event, which was enjoyed by a large number of local residents. We took the opportunity to raise funds by having a tombola stand which raised £60. Most of the prizes were kindly donated by local businesses for which we were most grateful.

With the need for more help with the running of Neighbourhood Watch a "Cheese and Wine / Recruitment Evening" was held at the Library in Mitchell Road on Thursday 15 July 2010. Some 900 leaflets were distributed across the whole area, but unfortunately only 16 people attended with 3 new contacts coming on board.

VULNERABLE PERSONS

Do you know of any vulnerable persons living in the area? Your local Safer Neighbourhood Team keep a log and regularly check that they are safe and well, so please let your local Safer Neighbourhood Team know if you have any concerns for relatives or neighbours.

STOP UNWANTED POST OR TELEPHONE CALLS

Unsolicited mail or telephone calls can be a nuisance. If you wish to reduce the amount of 'junk Mail' and/or unwanted telephone calls register with the 'Mail Preference Service' on 0745 703 4599 or 'Telephone Preference Service' on 0845 070 0707 alternatively visit www.mpsonline.org.uk

Please read these handy Crime Prevention Tips

- Lock all windows and doors when leaving the house.
- Do not leave keys in windows or doors. Ensure they are in easy reach for the occupants. Not accessible or in view to anyone trying to get in. Remember they will be needed in the event of a fire.
- Ensure the house alarm is always set when leaving the house and that it works. Some insurance companies will not pay out if the alarm is not set or working.
- Lock and secure the shed or garage with a good quality padlock
- Consider getting an alarm for the shed or garage.
- Lock ladders to a wall if not locked away in a garage
- Lock expensive tools and bikes away
- Think about installing outside lights. PIR or dusk to dawn.
- Ensure that gates have good locks, bolts and padlocks.
- Use timer switches if away from the house.
- Ask a neighbour to look after the house (put bins in, out).
- Do not leave empty cardboard boxes of new electrical items out for the bin man to collect. This is just advertising that there is a new plasma, laptop, wii etc in the house.
- Consider using www.immobilise.com to register property.
- Security mark property. Take photographs and note down any serial numbers, identifying features. Keep a list of all property but not on the computer!

If you feel you would benefit from a crime prevention visit, please contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team, see www.dorset.police.uk/default.aspx?page=833 and one of the team will be able to assist with this.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As chairman of Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch, I make a point of attending the local council area committee meetings (Canford Heath, Oakdale and Creekmoor Wards). At last year's July meeting I asked if the Council would publish a Road Safety article in the Poole News. I feel it is important that parents make sure their children are safe when walking or cycling. When walking, it is important to wear bright clothing and know how to cross the road correctly. When cycling, bright reflective jackets, together with a safety helmet should be worn. Front and rear lights together with a rear reflector should be fitted for cycling at night and attendance at a cycling proficiency course should be encouraged.

At the October meeting I brought up the question of dangerous dogs. There have been reports in the Echo of large dogs attacking smaller dogs and National News papers reported that two Rottweilers attacked a nine year old child. A ten minute discussion followed with councillors and members of the public.

At the February meeting I asked if Poole Council could support the government's initiative of promoting apprenticeships. I feel strongly that 16 year olds, leaving school, should have a chance of obtaining an apprenticeship. Having served five years with Wickman Machine Tools in Coventry, I am very aware of their benefits and feel it would be beneficial for their reintroduction along with Youth Training schemes.

During the past year, I have attended all of the Community Lunch time meetings organised by Jenny Hodges and the Safer Neighbourhood meetings organised jointly by the Police and Council.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our total cash assets amount to £388. We are hoping that the "re-launch" of the Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch scheme will enable us to widen the membership and at the same time increase our funds. The above figure is really at the lowest practical level. We ask for a minimum donation of £1 per year but more generous donations can be made and for these we are very thankful. Our funds enable us to continue to produce this bulletin and maintain our website as efficiently as possible. The annual accounts will be presented at our AGM on 11 May.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT

Our web site goes from strength to strength with more visitors each month. Here at www.chnw.org.uk you can find out about crime prevention, our meetings and events plus those of the Police Safer Neighbourhood team. You can contact us to join Neighbourhood Watch and can opt to receive email news alerts and our Newsletter. If you need to know more about Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch or our website, please contact us at enquiries@chnw.org.uk or webmaster@chnw.org.uk.

OPEN MEETING 22nd October 2010

Our first speaker was **Insp. Acaster** from the armed response team based at Gravel Hill.

He explained that prior to 1987 weapons were kept at various stations and had to be signed out before attending an incident. Armed Response traffic cars now carry weapons (guns) in back of vehicles. On normal duties they wear heavy protective jackets and patrol with truncheon, pistol, pepper spray and tazer. They can be called to many types of incidents including drink or drug related crimes. Violence both in the home and public buildings often requires intervention with no knowledge of what weapons may be present.

Recruitment for the armed response team is very selective. Not everyone is suitable with only the very best succeeding. Training is very intense with a 60 percent failure rate. Both male and female officers are recruited with some recruits coming from the Armed forces.

The aim is always for a peaceful conclusion therefore tazer or stun guns would be used first. Only when the life of any member of the public is considered to be in danger would live ammunition be used.

Inspector Acaster made us aware of the dedication necessary to perform their duties safely and hopefully, successfully for all concerned

Our second speaker **PC Barry Gosling** from the Canford Heath Safer Neighbourhood Team reported that crime figures appear to be reducing in the second half of the year. Their priorities were targeting criminal damage, speeding and illegal motor bikes in parks and on the heath, antisocial behaviour was reduced. There were some concerns regarding problems in Beamish Park. It was decided to lock the park each evening by local residents. A camera was to be placed in Verity Park and young people were asked for their views. Litter and illegal motorbikes were also an issue. He requested the public inform police of locations where groups of youths hide, especially if they found bottles adapted with pipes.

CRIME STATISTICS AS PROVIDED BY GRAVEL HILL POLICE STATION

JANUARY – DECEMBER COMPARISONS		
	2009	2010
HOUSE BURGLARY	21	26
OTHER BURGLARY	41	26
THEFTS FROM VEHICLES	80	45
THEFTS OF VEHICLES	28	18
OTHER THEFT	179	214
CRIMINAL DAMAGE (including arson)	247	231
ASSAULT	184	149
OTHER CRIME	68	78
TOTAL	848	784
ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR	849	671

The above figures do show a downward trend, which is of course encouraging. Some areas however, are slightly up of which the police are mindful. One big concern, mainly for the elderly in the community, is Anti- Social Behaviour, which has been considerably reduced.

LITTER

As always, this remains a huge problem, not just for Canford Heath but the whole country. Sandra Moore and Chris Matthews our local councillors have organised litter picks around the Library, Adastral Square, Longfleet Drive, Chalbury Close and Twyford Way near the bridge to Tesco. It was good to see the involvement of the Boy Scouts, who did a great job, especially collecting cans to raise money for their Troup. However we hear that these areas are already covered in litter again. So any ideas on how to overcome this problem will be welcome. Anyone interest in becoming involved on future litter picks please contact secretary on Email : secretary@chnw.org.uk

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ST PAUL'S CHURCH

WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2011
7.00pm

SPEAKERS

ERIC M WATSON
(VIEWS FROM THE SADDLE)

CHAIRMAN'S QUIZ
AGM

P C BARRY GOSLING
(Policing on the Heath)

Free Car Parking Available

SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL AREAS
OF THE HEATH
as
CO-ORDINATORS AND CONTACTS

*This takes up very little time but can prove to
be helpful and beneficial*

Ring Ena on 01202 693193 or email secretary@chnw.org.uk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

FIRE, VANDALISM & EMERGENCIES 999

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM & POLICE 01202 222222
MOBILE 07876 397 080

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111

FLY TIPPING 01202 261700

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEBSITE WWW.CHNW.ORG.UK