



CANFORD HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2014

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LETTER FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Supporter

This edition focuses primarily on the results so far after living for just over a year under the new system of having a Police and Crime Commissioner working in conjunction with our Chief Constable and the Police force. We also include the date and venue of our 2014 AGM, which we hope you will be able to attend.

Denis and Ena Young, who have served on the committee for several years as Newsletter Editor and Secretary respectively, will step down at the AGM and I would like to thank them both very much for the hard work they have put in to keep the Watch running. Monique Munroe has offered to take on the role of Newsletter Editor and I am most grateful for her support.

We also have to say goodbye to PC Barry Gosling, who is transferring to Poole in April. Barry has been very involved in the successful policing of Canford Heath and we will miss his experience and assistance. We wish him every success for the future.

After the miserable weather we all experienced over Christmas and the New Year, I am sure we all look forward to a bright and sunny Spring with the longer daylight hours.

Yours sincerely

George Skinner

LOOK what's inside this issue....

AGM—come and join us on 27 March. 2

Safer Neighbourhood Team report 3

Community Speedwatch 4

Bogus Computer Hard/software 4

Snaplock Confusion 4

Safeguarding Children 4

The last word (from the editor) 4

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER REPORT

The local meeting was held on 6th December 2013. Martyn Underhill, our PCC, explained that Neighbourhood Watch is growing and he is very supportive of the concept.

The answering of the “101” number (for reporting crime not actually in progress) has been much improved. In July 2013, 1 in 3 calls from the public were abandoned. Now this number is down to 1 in 15. The average time to answer is now 37 seconds against the previous 4 minutes. **Martyn emphasised the importance of reporting incidents.** No reports will mean that the police consider there are no incidents, and this may have an adverse affect on resourcing.

Continued over.....

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER REPORT CONTINUED...



The new **Community Messaging System** will shortly replace the existing “Ringmaster”.

Here are the current projects and priorities:

1. Starting in 2014, it is intended that police will have electronic notebooks, which will help to speed up operations. There will be “bodycams” for front line officers.
2. Early intervention for young offenders to reduce the risk of re-offending.
3. There are discussions to see whether the Police, Fire, Ambulance and Coastguard services can be amalgamated. Evidence from the Weymouth Olympics was positive and this would have significant cost benefits.
4. Control of Human Trafficking and better facilities for people with mental health issues – it is estimated 20% of police time is taken up with issues relating to the latter.
5. Safe places for vulnerable persons (see page 4) and “wet tents” for those moved on for street drinking, together with a late night levy to give the police more ability to manage issues arising from late night opening of clubs and off licences.
6. Introduction of Neighbourhood Justice Panels. Already in place in North Bournemouth and Bridport / Dorchester, and working well, this affords the possibility of community resolution for non-violent / non-serious crimes, where there is increased victim satisfaction plus avoiding the need to criminalise a person for one incident. The victim of the crime has the option to go down this route. It is not compulsory.
7. The introduction of a “Victim’s Bureau”. Opened on November 19th 2013, the bureau will update victims of crime regularly. There will also be a pan Dorset victim website.
8. Community Speedwatch is being rolled out across the county (see page 4).

In summary, Martyn is keen to communicate with residents and be aware of issues. On behalf of Canford Heath residents, the lack of visibility of police officers and PCSO’s was raised, it being mentioned that, due to the changes in policing methods, many residents now do not know the role and functions of these persons. Martyn agreed that this was unsatisfactory and more information, especially about the roles of PCSO’s, would be published.

DATE OF 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

★ Come and join us at Ad Astra First School, Sherborn Crescent, Canford Heath, BH17
 ★ 8AP on Thursday 27th March starting at 7 p.m. A representative from Safe and
 ★ Independent Living (S.A.I.L.) and John Shave, Chairman of the Association of Dorset
 ★ Watches have been invited to give presentations. More details will be available on our
 ★ webpage www.chnw.org.uk

FROM OUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

We welcome to Canford Heath SNT PC Nick Mantle, who joined us in August 2013. Brought up and schooled in Wiltshire, Nick has been in the Police since 2005 and has worked in Poole for the majority of his police career. He has been a response officer (8 years) and has spent some months with a vehicle crime task force.

Nick reiterates that all the SNT welcome communication with the residents of Canford Heath. Do not hesitate to talk to a member of the team if you have any issues.

Key issues that the team are working on at the current time are:

- Controlling ASB through visible patrols and instigating and enforcing ASBOs for prolific offenders.
- Working closely with the Youth Services Team to try and have places for youngsters to meet together in a controlled environment.
- Road Safety, especially speeding and traffic issues at school drop off and pick up times, in particular in the Learoyd Road area.
- Drug related issues which have resulted in two warrants issued since August 2013.

On the crime statistics, these are the comparative figures:

Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents – December 2012 = 48, December 2013 = 36.

We will continue to tackle ASB in a number of ways in an effort to bring the number of ASB incidents down further. If you are experiencing any anti-social behaviour, please do not hesitate to contact us on 101.

Crimes on Canford Heath – December 2012 = 47, December 2013 = 35. Good News – Canford Heath's crime figures are continuing to come down with nearly every month showing a decrease compared to the same month last year. There have been 12 less reported crimes in November 2013 compared to the same period last year. Of the 35 crimes recorded in December, 11 were reports of criminal damage, 4 thefts, 1 dwelling burglary, 2 non dwelling burglaries, 2 thefts of vehicles and 3 thefts from motor vehicles.

Please secure your properties and keep an eye on your neighbour's property, remain vigilant and call us if you see anything suspicious.

Please visit us at www.dorset.police.uk or give feedback at feedback.dorset.police.uk

How to contact the team

On Patrol

Telephone: 101

Dial 999:

Email:

Follow us on Twitter:

Join us on Facebook:

Please don't hesitate to stop and speak to us on patrol
Non emergency number.

If a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

canfordheath.snt@dorset.pnn.police.uk

[@canfordheathsnt](https://twitter.com/canfordheathsnt)

Canford Heath Police



COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH (“CSW”)

Community Speedwatch (CSW) is successfully being rolled out across the county. Speeding is an issue, especially in rural areas. The purpose of CSW is not to fine drivers, but to educate them. The scheme will be operated by “Watch” volunteers and not police officers. The volunteers will be highly visible with (temporary) signage to advertise the scheme is being run, so there is no danger of hidden surveillance. The scheme is under the control of the police. Offenders will receive two letters and if caught a third time, they receive a visit from the police. So far, just over 600 warning letters have been sent and 23,000 vehicles checked.

BOGUS COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

Please be very careful when you buy computer hardware and software over the internet, especially where the site is not a recognised IT company. This particularly applies to sites such as Gumtree or e-Bay. There has been at least one case locally of a laptop consisting of parts from a mixture of makers and software which is without a valid licence. If in doubt, deal only with reputable companies with a physical presence where you have purchasing rights and can return it if you have problems.

SNAP LOCK CONFUSION

An increasing number of locks on the market are claiming to be “snap-proof”. Please be very careful and follow the guidance when purchasing one of these to make sure that the device is rated **BS TS007 3 Star or has a Sold Secure Diamond grade**. Please note that BS TS007 1 star devices have not passed snapping tests. More information on this subject can be found on www.homesecurityandsafety.co.uk.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND SAFE HAVENS

Some children face risks from domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, bullying, internet safety issues and child exploitation. The Bournemouth and Poole Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) together with Dorset LSCB work with the police and health services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across the county.

If you are concerned about a child or young person in Poole, contact the Children and Young People’s Social Care Team on 01202 735046. More information can be found on www.bournemouth-poole-lscb.org.uk or www.dorsetlscb.co.uk. Safe Havens are available for people with learning disabilities, who feel in danger, lost or unwell. Currently, 17 venues across Poole offer a refuge by displaying the “Safe Place” sticker in their window. More information from www.pooleforum.co.uk

THE LAST WORD (FROM THE EDITOR)

Hello, my name is Monique and as George mentioned, I’ve taken over the editorship from Denis. Each issue I hope to bring you a little snippet of Neighbourhood Watch news from further afield and where better to start than in Australia!

In a remote area of Western Australia they are running a pilot project to try to cut crime. Along with child abuse and drug use, they have a problem with sly-grogging. Any ideas what it means? Answer below.

Until the next issue.... best wishes, *Monique*