

GOSPORT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

WatchNews

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Clean Up Your Neighbourhood Watch Street Signs - Dilapidated signs are often said to indicate an inactive scheme but the cost for a new one £25.00 is prohibitive in many cases. Self-adhesive plastic overlays (which will cover faded paint and have an expected life of about 7 years) are available at a cost of £3.40 from **Carole on 023 92583637 or email sales@gosportnhw.co.uk**

IS THERE ANYONE AT HOME? - The first thing a burglar wants to know about your home is whether there is anyone in. If they cannot be sure that the house is empty, they are less likely to try to break in. So make life difficult for the burglar by:-

- Leaving lights and a radio on when you are out and using a time switch if you are away for some time.
- Opening your curtains and taking in your newspaper and milk before you leave the house in the morning.
- Ask your neighbour to keep an eye on your home if you are going away on holiday. You can do the same for them when they go away.
- Don't forget to cancel your newspapers and milk.

You can also make it difficult for burglars to actually get into your home by:-

- Fitting a good lock to all your external doors; a five lever mortice lock is recommended
- Fitting window locks on all opening windows.
- Installing outside lighting which you can leave on when you are out in the evening or operate using an infra-red sensor switch.

LIGHT UP YOUR HOUSE - Good exterior lights are a powerful deterrent. There is such a wide range of reasonably priced sensor lights now available that you should be able to light up all round your property if someone passes the infra red sensor. These sensor lights are also very useful when you come home in the dark. They will light up your way to the garage or door making life that little bit easier. You can now fit low energy bulbs that automatically come on when it is dark and go off when it is light. These bulbs are very cost effective despite being on during the hours of darkness. They are worth looking into.

Looking at all the Christmas trees lit up in house windows is a splendid sight that helps to brighten up our lives during the dull winter nights.

However, a little care should be taken as to where you site your tree so that potential burglars cannot see into your room and all the presents around the tree. It is a great temptation to the thieves if they can see what is available before they break in.

SHOPPING SAFETY CHECKLIST - Be vigilant when withdrawing money from an ATM. Simply move on if there are any suspicious looking individuals hanging around. Protect your PIN – always shield the keypad with your hand. This also applies when using the new machines to pay bills in shops and supermarkets etc.

Keep your chequebook and cheque cards separate and keep your purse or wallet close to your body and carry as little cash as possible. Shopping early means less crowds and less opportunity for pick pockets. Keep aware of who is around when using your mobile phone in public places. Always park in well lit public places.

Cycling – security matters

Whatever type of bike you have, it is essential to keep it secure. Almost 400,000 bicycles are stolen every year in England and Wales. So far this year approximately 346 cycle thefts have taken place in the Borough of Gosport. This figure is purely cycles stolen from the street and public places and does not include cycles stolen from sheds and garages etc.

- ALWAYS lock up your cycle with a good quality metal D lock.
- Get your bike security marked, keeping photographs and a record of the frame number could all help the police identify and recover your bike if it is stolen.
- **Cycle Marking Kits** - If enough of you are interested we could provide Cycle Marking Kits at a reduced price of £3.40 per kit.

For further details contact Carole on 023 92 583637 Email: sales@gosportnhw.co.uk

NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD SERGEANTS

Bridgemary Area (Council wards of Bridgemary North & South, Rowner, Holbrook and Peel Common) PS David Knowles - Thefts from cars continue to be the most significant crime for the Bridge Team, particularly in the Peel Common and North Rowner areas. Residents continue to leave high value items such as SatNavs, mobile phones and laptops, on full view in their cars. This is too much to resist for the opportunist thief. Officers would be grateful if NHW could assist in passing on the message - "DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN CARS".

The two beat hotspots are Rowner Road shops and Carisbrooke Road shops, however significant effort has been put into Rowner Road over recent weeks, and consequently crime has fallen greatly. This has been due to partnership work with the Co-op as well as the other shops. It is hoped that the model used at this parade can be developed for other shopping parades in the beat.

The stabbing in Gregson Ave received a great deal of local press, however Bridge Team Officers have been keen to point out that this was an isolated incident, and that the chances of someone being attacked in Bridgemary are lower now than in the past 3 years, which can be attributed to the hours of patrol time spent by the Bridge Team Officers.

This is my final NHW update as I am moving on to a new post in December. I am grateful for the efforts of NHW volunteers in the Bridgemary area, and please continue to liaise with Bridge Team Officers. The next update will be from my successor.

Alver Valley - wards of Grange, Lee East and West - PS 2685 Gavin Steel -

Since the start of safer neighbourhood policing teams we have provided police surgeries to allow residents a drop in facility to speak to members of the team in an informal and private manner. We have reviewed the success of each one and how often they are used. As a result we have streamlined the surgeries to the following times and locations.

Lee on The Solent - 1st Tuesday of the month at Lee Community Centre , Twyford Drive, 1300 hrs - 1500 hrs . Rowner - 1st Monday of the month at The Access Point, Nimrod Centre , Nimrod Drive , 1430 hrs - 1530 hrs. Street surgeries are planned using the Community Safety Van at busy public locations.

These will be advertised in the week prior to them taking place. Impromptu street surgeries were recently carried out in Lee High Street which showed a great deal of interest from passing shoppers.

In regards to current crime we are seeing an increase in break in to vehicles in the northern Rowner area and Lee On The Solent. What makes this very frustrating is that the owners of these vehicles have left items such as sat navs, lap tops, wallets, hand bags and other high value items clearly on display to the thief and some vehicles have also been left unlocked!

Please can you pass on the message to your friends, neighbours and scheme members to be vigilant and to make life as difficult as possible for the thief. These offences are opportunistic and if there is nothing to tempt the thief he will move on. Please be aware that insurance policies may not be valid if vehicles are left insecure."

Elson Safer Neighbourhood Team Sgt 3151 Marcus Cator – Elson SNT have launched a new initiative in Gosport in October, Junior PCSO's. Working with Brockhurst Junior School, PCSO Dawn Ayres has recruited 20 children ranging from 8 to 10 years of age who are coming out weekly with the Elson PCSO's to work with the community.

For their first outing they attended Agnew House in St Vincent Road and completed an environmental cleanup, whilst working with the Gosport Green Team to re-plant some flower beds. Whilst there, the Mayor for Gosport paid a visit to welcome the Junior PCSO's to Gosport's community partnership. Over the coming months the Junior PCSO's will be completing various community initiatives and be working with Gosport Police to reduce the fear of crime in Elson.

Further to this Gosport SNT Team have secured 3 interim ASBO's against some individuals responsible for repeat victimisation and anti-social behaviour in the area of The Crossways. With various conditions including curfew's, we hope to restore control and a sense of community to this area by removing these persons and their behaviour. The case continues in Court in December.

Overall crime in Elson continues to reduce with the constant vigilant help of the community reporting their concerns to us. Please keep us aware of your concerns so that we may target our resources to best assist you.

Alverstoke & Privett PS140 Nicola Prior - Since the last newsletter, I am pleased to say that we have had a 4% drop in incidents reported to us over the summer months. This is good news as this included the summer holiday period when calls do tend to rise.

Privett Park and Stokes Bay has been unusually quiet compared to last year. The weather has no doubt assisted but I believe our targeted patrols have also had a desirable effect. I will be reviewing our hot spots over the next few weeks to ensure that my team are patrolling in the right place at the right time. Any changes will be updated on the Hampshire Constabulary website. Also in the pipeline is our second community meeting for the year. Hopefully this will be held at the beginning of December, venue still to be decided.

Crimes that keep coming to our attention are cycle thefts. These have increased over 100% from 15 to 36 since the last quarter.

Most of the thefts are opportunist where bikes have been stolen after being left unlocked outside shops and in gardens. Again my team will be looking at ways to tackle this problem.

The Town & Anglesea Team PS 1765 Rob Kearley - On Saturday, October 25, officers carried out an operation in Gosport town centre as part of Operation Calling Time.

Eighteen officers were involved in the operation including officers from the Safer Neighbourhoods Teams, the Dog Unit, the Tactical Policing Team and the Special Constabulary. Five Section 27 dispersals notices were issued for drunk and disorderly behaviour. Officers arrested two people; a 53-year-old woman from Gosport was arrested and Cautioned for Section 4 Public Order offences inside the George and Dragon Public House; and an 18-year-old old man was arrested and charged for breaching a Section 27 dispersal notice.




Officers used two metal detector arches placed either side of the Gosport Ferry terminal gangways as well as two drugs dogs positioned at the top of the Ferry terminal enabling officers to detect drugs from people going on and off the Ferry. More than 50 people stepped through the detector arch and no weapons were found.

The passive drugs dog identified five people who had been near or in possession of drugs within the last 72 hours. However, following Section 23 Searches no drugs were found.

Sergeant Rob Kearley said: "Operation Calling Time has been launched in response to an increase in violent crime in the town centre. We have already reduced violent crime in the town centre and the proactive policing operation on Saturday, October 25, shows that we are committed to reducing it further. There were no assaults in the town over the whole weekend and the operation enabled us to engage with members of the public and staff working in town centre such as door staff and taxi drivers who welcomed our presence. "We are taking a zero tolerance approach to violence in our town centre; we will not tolerate this kind of behaviour and those who cause crime and disorder in Gosport town centre".

Finally, A Very Happy and Crime Free Christmas
As always, if you have any suspicions or serious concerns call the
Police on 999 in an emergency otherwise 101 or 0845 0454545

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