

GOSPORT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

WatchNews

The Police Station, South Cross Street, Gosport PO12 1ES
Telephone/fax: 023 9260 1003 Email: office@gosportnhw.freeserve.co.uk
www.gosportnhw.freeserve.co.uk

As always, if you have any suspicions or serious concerns call the **Police**
On 999 in an emergency otherwise 101 or 0845 0454545.

March 08 – May 08

NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD SERGEANTS

Alverstoke and Privett - The team continue to work with their partners on the PRIME at Privett Park. To support this a CREW (crime reduction and environment week) has been agreed for 4th and 5th of April 2008. During these days there will be a number of activities and other agencies in the area to assist residents with any issues they might have. You will have seen the news recently in which the thefts from children's graves from the Ann's Hill cemetery were widely reported. This is obviously an emotive crime and there have been 4 reports covering thefts of items from the graves over the last 4 months. Patrols have been increased in the area and a deployable CCTV camera, funded by the partnership, has been installed to cover the area. Statistically crime remains at a low level on the beat but if you have been affected by any incident statistics mean little. Please continue to support your Safer Neighbourhood Team by reporting any incidents and suspicious persons you might see. PS Ian Wilson

Town and Anglesey - We spend a great deal of time reducing night time economy violent crime in and around the town, there has been big strides towards improving the towns image with a good presence of police officers at night and in the day . In the day we continue to tackle the purse thefts and run operations to catch and bring to justice the offenders but to also raise awareness to this issue via face to face crime prevention advice, publicity posters and good old fashioned Policing. The town is our main focus and we will continue to work with other agencies to bring about solutions to crime & disorder. PS Rob Kearley

Bridgemary - wards of Bridgemary North, Bridgemary South, Peel Common and Rowner & Holbrook - The last three months has shown a continuation in the fall of overall crime in the Bridgemary area. Statistics show an 11% fall on the same period last year, which is obviously very pleasing. This good news is likely to be due to the daily patrols by Bridge Team Officers, which comprises 5 Police Constables, 2 PCSOs and 2 Special Constables. In addition to the hundreds of hours of patrols, the **Football Frenzy** which has been a successful tool over the past 2 summers - has been extended to include the winter months - but now also includes Brune Park School as well as Bridgemary School. The Bridge Team are committed to partnership work with the Council, to provide diversionary schemes to prevent and reduce crime. There are plans to further extend these activities in the coming months. Not all areas of Bridgemary have seen a noticeable fall in crime. The area which has attracted the most calls to Police is the vicinity of the shops at Gregson Avenue, as well as The Leisure. As a consequence of this problem, the area now has Gosport's first ever **Dispersal Order**, which gives Police extra powers to remove people who have or are about to commit anti-social behaviour.

This began on 2nd January, and early signs are that the Dispersal Order is having a positive effect on residents and shopkeepers. PS David Knowles

Alver Valley - wards of Grange, Lee East and West - As residents of Lee will have seen over the last few weeks there has been an outbreak of graffiti sprayed and painted on various walls, garages and other out buildings. I am pleased to say that after some good work by the team a number of arrests have been made and evidence gathered from house searches. All of these individuals have admitted their involvement and have implicated others who will also be arrested. As you can imagine with the large numbers of damages involved it will take time to collate as many of them have not been reported. We have gathered a large portfolio of photographs of the graffiti and in time we will visit each owner to update them that the culprits have been caught and to record the damage. If you have schemes that have been affected please pass on the message, Gosport Borough Council Street Scene are gradually working their way through the list to clean off the damage but as you can imagine this will also be time consuming.

Over the neighbourhood in general crime continues to fall and currently stands at an approximate 10 % decrease compared to last year. In The Grange Ward we are working with Portsmouth Housing Association to resolve issues of anti social behaviour in some of the court areas .The team attended the usual community events over Christmas such as the Lee Lights and Christmas in Rowner Square, these events give us the opportunity to meet large numbers of our residents. Looking long term the redevelopment of much of the Grange Ward will bring new challenges and hopefully will improve the general environment. PS Gavin Steel

Elson - Listening to common concerns of Elson residents in relation to speeding vehicles over the last 3 months we have run a Ring of Steel operation which has been reported in local press, a total of 57 vehicles were stopped which resulted in 25 offending vehicles. Drugs warrants have also been executed at various addresses. We are officially launching Operation Kensington in 5 Co-ops at the end of the month to directly identify and tackle shoplifting in Gosport. However it has been running in Elson for the past 8 months and has already seen a 323% increase in detected shoplifting in Elson. PS Marcus Cator

CRIME DETECTION - Observe CALMLY and DISCREETLY:

Remaining calm and discreet gives you the best chance of registering and reporting what you see quickly and accurately.

Look out for anyone -

- trying car doors
- looking through house/car/shed windows
- looking under plant pots/door mats etc for keys
- loitering in residential streets. If it is no one you recognise, call the police.
- calling on vulnerable neighbours. If they look suspicious call the police
- climbing over fences or hedges
- in neighbours' back gardens when the occupants are out or away
- removing items from houses - some criminals are very bold so as NOT to arise suspicion
- deliberately setting off car alarms and running away - this is sometimes used as a tactic to get people to turn off their alarm.
- looking or doing anything suspicious/out of the ordinary. Also noises coming from a house that sound suspect or where the occupants are meant to be out.

The fact that many of the calls made to the Police by members will turn out to be false alarms, doesn't matter. The important thing is that the information is reasonably accurate.

STAY SAFE FROM INTERNET FRAUD - Internet fraud is one of the fastest growing areas of illegal activity in the UK. If you shop online, take a few easy steps to ensure that your personal information is protected.

For many years the intense security that protected most internet-based transactions arguably made shopping online safer than shopping in the high street.

But over the last few years, clever hackers have succeeded in a number of internet scams - convincing those who bank online to give over their account details, for example, and creating false credit card encryption screens.

So these days, you need to take extra steps to ensure that your information is protected.

Don't become a victim

Here are a few things you can do to make your online transactions safer:

- make sure your web-browser is set to the highest security level
- use a recent version of a web browser - they have better security features
- look for a padlock symbol at the bottom of the page and 'https' at the beginning of the web address. If those are not there, do not enter credit card information
- if you have concerns, telephone the company to ask about its encryption
- print out your electronic receipt and keep it safe
- check bank and credit card statements to make sure the details match
- never disclose your PIN numbers to anyone, including people who claim to be from your bank
- remember, your bank will never ask you to reenter your account information, and they will never ask you to send your pin number in an email

GRAFFITI CLEAN UP - The police advised that the Council have a policy of clean up of reported graffiti (instances reported to the Council) within 48 hours. Street Scene, the Gosport Borough Council team that does the clean up can be contacted on 0800 0198598 or streetscene@gosport.gov.uk, they take referrals from the public as well as agencies.

TROPHY THEIF - POLICE are hunting a 'trophy' thief who has been snatching car badges from motors in Gosport. Dozens of cars and vans in the borough have been targeted by the culprit. A stash of 38 badges from an array of vehicles was found under a bush in The Links, Peel Common, by one of the victims. Now police are keen to catch the culprit and return the badges to their owners. Other areas have been hit by such serial thieves.
Call PCSO Gray on 0845 0454545 or e-mail gosportwest@hampshire.pnn.police.uk to get your stolen badge back

"Too good to be true" the SCAMBUSTER musical by Solomon Theatre.
Wednesday 12th March, Thorngate Hall, Gosport 11 a.m. – 12.30.

Based on true stories, meet Sydney the victim of a rogue Tarmac Tradesman and Mary who thinks she's won the holiday of a lifetime. A cast of three professional actors present an energetic live story telling event with music from the 60's. Guaranteed to entertain and amuse, the key safety messages come through loud and clear.
For a FREE Ticket phone Trading Standards, Hampshire County Council on 01962 833626.

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE COMMUNITY MEETING, PRIVETT / LEESLAND / ALVERSTOKE AREAS - The next meeting will take place for above areas on Thursday 27th march 7.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. at St Mary's Parish Centre, Green Road, Alverstoke. If you are interested in supporting your local Safer Neighbourhood Police Officers and have positive ideas on how we can work together to address issues that concern you, please

come along. For more information call your Neighbourhood Policing Team 0845 045 45 45.

Invitation to the Crime Reduction Environment Week 4th & 5th April at Privett Park, Gosport.

Crime Reduction Environment Weeks (CREWs) is an initiative throughout Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to reduce crime in specific areas, usually where there has been a problem with disorder or anti-social behaviour. If the environment is run down and there is lots of litter, broken windows and graffiti for example, it tends to increase people's fear of crime. The idea of a CREW is for lots of local agencies, including the police, local council and voluntary organisations to work together to improve the environment, target offenders and put in place crime prevention techniques to help local people feel safer.

During a typical CREW lots of activities are carried out to reduce crime and improve the environment. We look forward to meeting you.

SECURITY EQUIPMENT - A variety of security equipment is available by ringing Carole on 023 92583637. Here's just a few.

TIM1007 - 24 Hour Timer: £2.00 Each – Easy to use plug in timer is a great security device which can pre select when electrical items are turned on such as lamps etc, therefore giving the impression of an occupied home even when you are out. The timer has the following key features, manual switch override, can be switched in 5 minute intervals, 13 maximum rating.

Tip Top Wall and Fence Spikes: £0.75 Each - Tip Top Wall and Fence Spikes are a triple row of pointed cones 15mm high, moulded from polypropylene with excellent UV weathering resistance. This unique double hinge design allows it to be formed neatly and securely in restricted width applications. Tip Top Spikes are an effective, low cost deterrent against unwanted intruders. The Spikes will prevent any intruders from gaining access by fitting to fences, gates, plumbing and sills.

MA 20 - Mini Alarm with Keyboard: £8.50 Each - Powerful 130 dB alarm sound, User programmable codes, Wall mounted or free standing, Exit delay 30 seconds, Entry delay 10 seconds, Auto reset alarm to avoid false trigger, No wiring – installation in seconds Dual powered: Battery - 4 x AA alkaline (included), Mains - Using an AC adaptor (optional) Low battery indicator, Detection Area: 6 metre long, 60 degree horizontal and 20 degree vertical.

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OR Freephone 0800 614778 to arrange a free survey.

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