

# GOSPORT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

## WatchNews

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Autumn 2009

### Invitation to Gosport Neighbourhood Watch Association Annual General Meeting

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 7 p.m.

Venue: David Bogue Hall, St Andrews Road,  
Off Stoke Road, Gosport PO12 1QA

Members please come along and show your support for Neighbourhood Watch

- Come and hear from Hampshire Trading Standards on "cold calling"
- Meet some of the Safer Neighbourhood Police teams
- Hear from our PCSOs about good news on how they are dealing with some of the problems in our town.
- There will be home security products for sale and free information from The Home Office about keeping yourself and your home safe.
- Refreshments

To help with our running costs we have a raffle – if you could donate a small prize this would help please bring it with you on the night.

If you would like to learn more about GNWA or help by joining the Committee please give me a call. Bob Combes – Secretary 023 92522439 or [secretary@gosportnhw.co.uk](mailto:secretary@gosportnhw.co.uk)

#### WARNING FROM TRADING STANDARDS

Our message is NOT to do business with cold callers, either on the doorstep or on the telephone. Here are two recent examples;

1) A lady was phoned at home by someone saying they were from a security company. They asked her name, date of birth and address, which she gave. After that they asked about credit cards. They asked if she had any cards issued before April 07 with any money outstanding and told her the debt would be cancelled. Someone from their legal section would ring back later.

She checked with her bank, who said it was a scam.

2) The second one came via email from HM Revenue & Customs stating a Tax rebate was due. It was only a relatively small amount of £178.00. It asked you to complete a form with name, date of birth, mother's maiden name, address, phone number and full bank details, credit card number with the 3 digit security number on the back. The forms looked very official. A phone call to the local tax office revealed that this is a scam.

Our advice is not to respond to any email buying, selling or offering a service, where you have not requested the communication. (Jane Gulliver, Trading Standards Officer, Montgomery House, Monarch Way, Winchester, SO22 5PW Tel: 01962 833625).

## NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD SERGEANTS

**Sergeant 431 Lesley Meenaghan (Gosport Town centre and Anglesey)** - I took over responsibility at the beginning of July 2009 and pleased to say I have the pleasure of working with an excellent team. Sergeant Rob Kearley has worked very hard over the last few years and the team's endeavours have paid off; violent crime has been reduced dramatically. Shop Watch & Pub Watch are fully established and an intrinsic part of the wider policing family.

We aim to further build on this excellent foundation & continue to tackle quality of life, community priorities. We will achieve this by;

- Listening to the community. Our next Community meeting will be held on the 1st of October 2009 at The Parish Centre, Green Lane, Alverstoke - further details to follow.
- We hold beat surgeries on most Tuesdays and can find us on the High Street, Gosport alongside the market traders between the hours of 10am & 2pm.
- The town & Anglesea have an excellent team, who have been allocated dedicated areas of geographical responsibility.

I am hugely optimistic that having the capacity to allocate dedicated officers to "Micro beats" crime will be reduced further. Equally important incidents of rowdy & inconsiderate & anti social behaviour will continue to be addressed. I have challenged my team to be open minded & creative when tackling these quality of life issues. The team are an eclectic, dynamic group who I am sure will leave their mark. Exciting times ahead!

### **Sergeant 140 Nicola Prior (Privett, Alverstoke, Leesland and Brockhurst)** -

We have been receiving reports of damage to motor vehicles in the Brockhurst/Camdentown area of our neighbourhood. Most of the damage is mindless damage where wing mirrors are being kicked off; aerials broken and windows smashed by stones or bricks. We are hoping to put together an initiative, carried out in another police force, asking owners of vehicles to 'tuck' their wing mirrors in; retract aerials and local residents to remove any possible items that could be used to smash windows such as builders rubble from gardens. Whilst this is being arranged, high visibility patrols will continue and we also have support from our response teams and air support unit.

We have been holding Street Surgeries over the summer holidays in locations where there has been reported anti social behaviour and youth nuisance. We are hoping that having these surgeries early in the evening will distract any persons causing problems in the area due to the positive police presence.

Our next Street Surgery will take place in Privett Park between 1800 – 2000 hours on 4<sup>th</sup> September 09.

### **Sgt 1138 Simon Law (Alver Valley (Lee on Solent East & West, Grange Wards)** -

Over the last few weeks we have had a series of burglaries where offenders have broken into warden controlled premises. All of the premises in Lee have been visited by the team and words of advice have been given. The team will start to attend coffee mornings to remind the residents of the need to be vigilant and security conscious.

The Alver valley team have again worked hard with partners including Neighbourhood Watch to reduce crime; overall the figures are still going in the right direction.

For the month of July we saw a rise in some figures this was due to an increase in Anti Social Behaviour, Criminal Damage and Shoplifting. These are attributed to a couple of individuals all of whom were detained and charged with various offences.

Anti Social Behaviour calls have increased in the last month these appear to be more apparent in the Lee area. We have extra Patrols under Operation Vaughan which concentrates on the Hot Spot areas as well as extra patrols from council officers and PCSO's. Local youth workers have also been in the area engaging with the younger generations trying to establish how they can help. Over the summer period there are various events in place for all to enjoy but especially the younger generations from the Gazebo Projects in Rowner to the Passport events throughout the Borough including Cherque Farm.

**Sergeant 3689 David West (Bridgemary, North Rowner, Holbrook and Peel Common)** - Anti Social Behaviour is a policing priority all year round, but is more prevalent in the summer months. The Bridgemary Team are actively patrolling areas that have been brought to our attention by residents, in an effort to clamp down on troublesome, disruptive behaviour. The team have already made a number of alcohol seizures from young people, who are so often the cause of criminal damage, violence, litter and foul language. The seizure of alcohol and the dispersal of groups is a key policing tool. The team have executed several drug warrants which have featured in the local news, responding to residents' complaints and our own observations whilst on patrol. The team are working hard with our partners to tackle other issues that affect your lives such as, littering, noise nuisance, speeding and parking complaints.

Please be aware that Bridgemary, Holbrook and Peel Common have suffered with an increase in theft of milk, criminal damage and theft from motor vehicles. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity, particularly that which is observed overnight. Take simple crime prevention measures, outdoor lockable containers are available for milk to be stored. The criminal damage and theft from motor vehicles can be prevented, by parking where possible on private driveways and keeping valuables out of sight. The Bridgemary Team are planning to patrol late into the night to support our response colleagues from Gosport to prevent the offences from occurring and arrest those responsible.

On the 8th October 2009 at 1830 hours, I am holding a public meeting at the Martin Ramsay Suite, Bridgemary Community School. I would like to invite you to the public meeting where Inspector Cuffe and I will be available for questions and will provide an update on the current state of crime in Bridgemary. Please come along and show your support.

**Sgt 1723 Julian (Griff) Barnes (Elson)** - Elson have another new Sergeant!! Sergeant Griff Barnes - I have been with the Constabulary for 18 years and have worked at Gosport pretty much since 2001. I was a Detective before that, and more recently spent two years at our Winchester Headquarters as the Anti Social Behaviour coordinator.

The arsons are still continuing and remain our top priority. There are now many agencies joining the approach to stopping this series and a strategy meeting led by Hampshire Fire and Rescue will discuss ways to address this problem and convert this into action.

My predecessor reported "This is a serious problem; residents need to continue to be vigilant as well as making sure all bins are kept well within their boundaries and are taken in once emptied". This still remains to be the case, and I would like to hear from anyone who may have any information to contact me.

We are also concentrating on two main priority policing areas for antisocial behaviour: Palmyra Road shops and Grove Park. We aim to have a highly visible presence in these areas and encourage law abiding behaviour only. If you want to tell us about any other area of policing or help set the priority policing areas in Elson, come along to one of the Beat surgeries (dates being published on the internet) and tell us about it.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW WHAT'S BEING DONE ABOUT CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN GOSPORT?**

Gosport's Community Safety Partnership together with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Criminal Justice Board, are hosting an evening event at Brune Park Community College, Military Road, Gosport on **Wednesday 26th August 2009 at 6.45pm.**

The event is free to all residents in the Borough of Gosport.

This exciting evening, compared by **Sally Taylor MBE**, will present a unique opportunity to look behind the scenes of the criminal justice system and how it operates here in Gosport. You will have an opportunity to listen to and quiz a distinguished Panel of experts, including the local Borough Police Commander, a leading Crown Court Judge, the Leader of Gosport Borough Council (and Chair of the Community Safety Partnership) and NHS Hampshire's Director of Public Health. You will also have the chance to participate in 'Who wants to be a Millionaire' style electronic voting on the crime and anti social behaviour issues here in Gosport. These views will contribute to the future direction of the Gosport Community Safety Partnership and how it tackles crime and disorder problems here in Gosport.

Refreshments will be available and the event is scheduled to finish at 9pm.

 <p><b>Your Local 24 Hour Mobile Locksmith Service</b></p> <p>No call out charge, OAP Discount Reliable and professional Based within Gosport Call Ross Free on 08006 345608 Or Mob 07887744625</p>	<p><b>LockRite (Solent) Ltd</b> is based within the Privett area of Gosport and has a fully functional fitted workshop inside the van with key cutting facilities on site. Most products are available from the mobile workshop though if not in stock they can be sourced quickly through a range of trusted suppliers. We provide a 24 hour emergency call out service with no call out charge. LockRite (Solent) Ltd is run by Ross Adams who carries out all locksmithing duties himself so you will see the same face time and time again in which from customer feedback people like this as he becomes a familiar face and you know who you are going to get come to your door rather than a larger team of people that you see different faces each time and thus find it harder to build trust or a relationship with. As a small local business we pride ourselves on offering a reliable, honest and friendly service to clients throughout the local area.</p>
<p><b>Dave Coles</b> Garage Gosport is a member of the Hampshire Trading Standards "Buy with Confidence" Scheme, which is another scheme which ensures top quality service within the UK.</p> <p>All garages that are accepted onto this scheme have been vetted and approved by Trading Standards to ensure that they operate in a legal, honest and fair way.</p> <p>This is another great achievement for Dave Coles Garage Gosport, of which they are very proud.</p>	    <p><i>A Garage You Can Trust</i></p>     <p>T : 023 9258 9000 W : <a href="http://www.davecoles.co.uk">www.davecoles.co.uk</a> E: <a href="mailto:davecoles1@btconnect.com">davecoles1@btconnect.com</a> Unit 6, Elmhurst Business Park, Elmhurst Road, Gosport, PO12 IUA</p>

**As always, if you have any suspicions or serious concerns call the Police on 999 in an emergency otherwise 0845 045 45 45 or 101**