



CANFORD HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER



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Autumn/Winter 2015/16

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A very warm welcome to all our new members and to our two new committee members, Sandra Moore and Pete Parrish. Thank you for joining us and a big thank you too to everyone who has renewed their subscription.

We'd also like to say 'thanks' to those of you who completed our survey. See page 2 for a brief summary of the results. We're going to do our best to put into action some of the ideas and suggestions over the coming months.

We hope you enjoy reading all the latest news and wish you a wonderful Christmas and Happy 2016.

Best wishes from the Committee



AGM 2015



Outgoing Chairman, George Skinner gives his report.

Happy speakers— Dr Christopher Richardson, Bournemouth University and Martyn Underhill, Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner



The bad weather didn't prevent over 50 people attending our AGM at the Beacon Church on 16 September. Along with the formal business we said farewell to George Skinner our Chairman and thanked him and Jenny, his wife for their support and commitment to Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch for over seven years.

Continued over...

COMMITTEE WHO'S WHO



David Darling
Chairman



Sandra Moore
Secretary



Vickie Campbell
Treasurer



David Mason
Webmaster



Monique Munroe
Newsletter Editor



Pete Parrish
Member



Following the formalities of the AGM we heard from two interesting speakers. Martyn Underhill the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner and Dr Christopher Richardson, Head of the Cyber Security Unit at Bournemouth University.

According to Martyn, crime has gone up for the first time in 18 years. This is due mainly to the fact that police are better at recording crime and are collecting more data. He mentioned that within the next 12 months fraud and cyber crime will be included in police figures, which will show an increase in crime of approximately 40%.

When it comes to funding, the figures make for gloomy reading. There have been 20% cuts in the previous four years and we still have 24% more budget cuts to come.

[You can download the full Police and Crime Plan 2013 - 2017 by following this link \(2.46MB PDF\)](#)

Dr Christopher Richardson had an equally sobering message about cyber crime.

- People who are now able to take money from their pension pots are being targeted by scammers.
- It can take up to 250 days for companies to realise they have lost money through cyber crime.
- Even a five-year old with a mobile phone can be a target and suffer harassment.
- Criminals can now buy packages for around \$5000 which will give them access to the details of approximately 25,000 people, together with a script for them to use to cheat people out of money.
- Criminals can make trillions of dollars every year through cyber crime .

A couple of suggestions he made:

- Don't keep your photos on your hard drive as anyone who gains access to your computer can look through your files. Keep them on external drives.
- Use lots of different symbols in your passwords. However, passwords are changing, now there are phrases being used such as lines from poems.

Read more on the Dorset Police website <http://www.dorset.police.uk/default.aspx?page=8860>
This link includes a video and there is further reading on the Get Safe Online campaign website:
<https://www.getsafeonline.org/>

SURVEY RESULTS

- The majority of those members who replied thought Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch was important or extremely important to them and there was a resounding 'yes' that it would be missed if it disappeared.
- There was a variety of suggestions as to what respondents thought the Neighbourhood Watch should be doing:
 - Offering advice on security
 - Providing news of crime on the Heath
 - Prompting members to check their alarms are in good working order
 - Give information on who people should contact in an emergency
 - Give alerts on potential problems
 - Ask the Council to cut down more trees
 - Encourage more people to join and keep an eye on each other.

The feedback about reporting crime to the police brought a mixed reaction. Some people didn't bother to report the crime they experienced as they didn't think it was large enough to bother. Others felt the police weren't interested. A number said they had received a poor response while others felt it had been excellent or very good.

Concerning talks, the majority of people would like to attend talks on one or two of the topics suggested in the email. We are therefore planning a talk for the spring. Further details will appear in our next newsletter.

Finally a big thank you to all the offers of help we received from residents prepared to deliver the newsletter in their road. We will be in touch with you shortly.

HAVE YOU GOT A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH DOOR STICKER?

If not, please call us 07599 236 339 and we'll drop one round. We believe it helps to act as a deterrent to burglars.

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM (SNT) UPDATE

Some top tips for keeping possessions safe at home over the festive period.

- Don't advertise what you have received for Christmas by leaving the packaging in full view of passers by.
- Don't leave car keys and handbags lying around on display.
- Check your home insurance adequately covers you for the value of goods in your home.
- If you plan to go away over the holidays, ask a friend, relative or neighbour to keep an eye on your house.
- Close the curtains and leave lights on when you go out for the evening.

The Dorset Neighbourhood Policing Review has just been published on the Dorset Police web site and can be read here:- <http://www.dorset.police.uk/default.aspx?page=8968&lang=en-gb>

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS—A PLEA FROM THE COMMITTEE

All our street co-ordinators are volunteers and it would really help them if you receive an envelope asking for your subscription if you could return it to the address of the co-ordinator promptly, even if it's only to say you no longer wish to be a member. This year one of our co-ordinators experienced some very rude behaviour when asking for subscriptions. They were shouted at by one homeowner and had the door closed in their face at another property. On the other hand they have had some very nice experiences with people giving them much more than the requested £1 as a thank you to the committee for what they do.

NEW LED LIGHTING FOR CANFORD HEATH

The Council are replacing the current street lights for energy efficient LED ones. The changeover for the first Canford Heath roads will start week commencing 18 January. The new LED lights will give a better quality 'white' light and where appropriate will be dimmed at night, when there is less traffic. The Council hopes to save approximately 70% on the Borough's street lighting energy consumption.

ARE YOU ON DORSET ALERT?

As you know, Dorset Alert has taken over from the old Ringmaster community messaging system and is now available anywhere in Dorset. The new website provides access to the interactive tools, including messaging and information reporting facilities. It is a free service that enables residents of Dorset to engage with Dorset Police and Neighbourhood and Home Watch schemes within Dorset and also nationally. You can set your preferences for the volume and content of messages that you wish to receive. Register online at www.dorsetalert.co.uk Not on the internet? Then you can receive the messages by phone (voice mail or text) or fax. Call 101 and ask for the Canford Heath Safer Neighbourhood Team who will then help you to register.

ASSOCIATION OF POOLE WATCHES EGM

At the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association of Poole Watches Group held on 9 November the decision was made that this group would continue under the new Chairmanship of Pat Halliday, with retained Secretary and Treasurer as Officers. Our Chairman, David Darling will help on the committee and Vickie Campbell (Treasurer) will represent the group at Regional meetings. It will work closely with all other local Neighbourhood Schemes and with the changes made, bring perhaps a new lease of life.

ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTS OF CANFORD HEAT (ARCH)

The committee has now been elected for this new group and there will also be a steering group for those of you who wish to be actively involved in ARCH. The next meeting takes place at the The Coffee House Café on 26 January at 5pm. If you want to be kept up-to-date on the work of ARCH please email: Katie.pathak@pwbcollaborative.org.uk or call 07824137779.

VOLUNTEER NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL FACILITATOR

The Borough of Poole is recruiting Volunteer Neighbourhood Panel Facilitators to work with victims' perpetrators of low level crime and anti-social behaviour, helping to guide and support them through the restorative justice process. After that they will be facilitating (with a fellow facilitator) scripted face-to-face meetings. Interviews will take place on the 11 December, but if you are interested and have missed the deadline, Yvette Bessant, Poole Community Restorative Justice Coordinator would still like to hear from you: 07786733261 or yvette.bessant@poole.gov.uk

THE LAST WORD

In an area of London, Ontario, Canada, graffiti is used to 'tag' properties with the idea that some of the 'tagged' homes would be broken into later on. Neighbourhood Watch members quickly removed the graffiti and since the first incident was reported, there had been no further break-ins.

CANFORD 50 The committee bask in the sun at the Canford 50 event on Saturday 19 September.

