

WINTER 2022

# Our Watch

## Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch



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### Hello from your Neighbourhood Watch Team!

Welcome to our winter newsletter. We hope you are all safe, well and staying warm. Please see page 5 for some key support outlets should you need them over the festive break.

From your Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch committee, we wish you a merry and restful festive period and a very happy new year! Why not give us a follow on social media? It's a great way to keep in touch with us.

 **Facebook: Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch**

 **Twitter: @CanfordHeathNW**

**Keep your eyes peeled for our Spring issue when we will share full details of our planned activities for 2023!**

### HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE YET?

We're delighted to launch our new website. Updated with our latest news, events and newsletters: <https://chnw.org.uk>

Many thanks to Matt Fennell of [mattfennell.co.uk](http://mattfennell.co.uk) for the web design expertise

### JOIN OUR WATCH ONLINE

Canford Heath Neighbourhood Watch now has an online membership form.

Follow the below link to join:

<https://bit.ly/3rEzNuH>

### Used inject printer cartridge appeal

We're still collecting used inkjet printer cartridges to us to be recycled. If you have any, please drop them in one of our collection boxes at the following locations:

- Chester Pearce Funeral Directors and Seahorse Quilting (both The Neighbourhood Centre)
- Austin and Wyatt, Palmer Snell and Craft Bliss (all Adastral Square).

## What have we been up to recently?



Our **Come and Join Us** events continued throughout the autumn with monthly events alternating between Adastral Square and The Neighbourhood Centre.

These events are an opportunity for you to have a chat with us. We have plenty of information on personal safety and crime prevention along with some freebies on offer.

Our **Come and Join Us** events are planned to resume again in March 2023 so keep your eyes peeled on our social media and Spring Newsletter for more details!

Following the success of our our first **coffee morning** earlier this year, November saw us hold another one at Canford Heath Library.

Much like our first, there was a real buzz and it was great to see people chatting to one another and making new friends.



**We are currently working on our event schedule for 2023 and are in discussion about some exciting new opportunities and larger collaborations with neighbouring watches**



## **Lost and Found - looking for Missing People**

Sgt Guy Nicholas and PC Grace Rawling gave a fascinating and informative talk for us at St Paul's Church on Saturday 1 October. They spoke about their work in the Dorset Police Missing Persons Unit.

Numerous people are reported as a concern for welfare or missing person in Dorset each year and they are not just discovered living locally. Some have even been found as far afield as America, Bulgaria, Finland and Egypt.

There are two Missing Persons Units. One is based at Poole covering the BCP area and the other in Dorchester covering the rest of the county.

Each team is made up of MPI's (Missing Person Investigators) who will do checks like CCTV, hospital bed checks etc, and MPO's (Missing Person Officers) who do the face-to-face work with family members to try to understand the life of the missing person.

Something which gives the Unit clues are people's habits and daily routines. Do they regularly go out shopping on a Saturday morning? Do they walk the dog along a particular path? Who are they in contact with on social media? Answering these questions all help the officers to piece together a missing person's movements. "People who want to go missing, sometimes have a plan and think it through, others go on the spur of the moment" Sgt Nicholas said. "Our job is to try and think like them and follow through from there."

When the control room first receives a call about a missing person, each one is graded. If the person is under 18 they are graded either high or medium risk; while adults can be low, medium or high.

The main reasons for people going missing are voluntary, or that they are "lost", for example if they have dementia. Other reasons include injury, third-party involvement or they are wanted by the Police.

While the public may think that the Police have complete access to check people's phone or bank records, this isn't the case. They do need permission!

We really appreciated listening to Sgt Nicholas and PC Rawlings and the insight they gave us into their specialised, skilful and important work. Now those of us watching the TV programme 'Hunted' will be doing so with different eyes!





## Cyber Security

**We recently read an article in a computing magazine which demonstrated the effectiveness of scam reporting. We thought we'd share a summary:**

The public forwarded on 6.5 million suspicious emails to the UK's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) in the 12 months to September 2022, a rise of 20% on the previous period. It led the NCSC to remove 62,000 scam URL's from the web. Since it launched, the public have sent in 15 million emails to the NCSC's Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS) when it launched in April 2020 leading to 192,000 URL's being taken down. So it really is worth you reporting any you receive:

How to Report Scams: Email [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) visit [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk), Phone 0300 123 2040, Text 7726

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## Neighbourhood Watch Network launch new street harassment initiative

Witnessing street harassment and not safely intervening, sends the message to those experiencing it that it's okay and society normalises it.

Ongoing acceptance of street harassment contributes to a toxic culture. If you see someone experience street harassment, ask them if they are okay. This lets them know you stand by them, and that street harassment is never okay. We can all do this small yet powerful act.

By asking 'Are you okay?' we are no longer bystanders, we become active bystanders safely intervening on behalf of someone.

Source: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/streetharassment>

SEE SOMEONE IN PUBLIC BEING  
**HARASSED?**

WHEN YOU  
FEEL SAFE,  
ASK THEM

*'Are you okay?'*

THOSE THREE LITTLE WORDS  
LET THEM KNOW  
YOU STAND BY THEM, AND THAT  
**STREET HARASSMENT IS NEVER OKAY.**

**IF YOU SEE IT. ASK IT.**

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales. CID No. 1123349



## **Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue - Save Safely**

With living costs rising, everyone is looking for ways to save some money. However, there are some areas where a saving could be a fire risk. There are some positive changes we can make that help our finances but don't put our families and homes in danger.



Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue have some helpful information about these positive changes on their website here: [www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/save-safely](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/save-safely)

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue also offer free Safe and Well visits to keep our communities safe in their homes. They will first telephone you to discuss any concerns you may have and any equipment you may need, before arranging to visit you at a convenient time to install any equipment and briefly look around your home to identify any fire risks. During their visit they will provide you with information and support to keep your household safe from the risk of fire.

To request a free Safe and Well telephone appointment, please call 0800 038 2323 (this is an answerphone service, monitored during office hours, or visit: [www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits/safe-and-well-referrals](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits/safe-and-well-referrals) to request an appointment online.

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### **Here is a reminder of a few key contacts over the festive break:**

**MIND** - 0300 123 3393, [infoline@mind.org.uk](mailto:infoline@mind.org.uk), <https://www.mind.org.uk/>

**Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM)** - 0800 58 58 58, [thecalmzone.net](http://thecalmzone.net)

**Combat Stress** - 0800 1381 619, [combatstress.org.uk](http://combatstress.org.uk)

**National Domestic Abuse Helpline** - 0808 2000 247, [nationaldahelpline.org.uk](http://nationaldahelpline.org.uk)

**Samaritans** - 116 123 (freephone), [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org), [samaritans.org](http://samaritans.org)

**The Trussell Trust** - [trusselltrust.org](http://trusselltrust.org), Emergency food and support for people in need. Includes a searchable list of local foodbanks.

**We hope you enjoyed the read! Next issue: March 2023**