

Chairman's report

I have just come from a committee meeting where, once again, speeding cars were discussed. The police have agreed to look again at Community Speed Watch (CSW), but we do need members of the watch to be involved. CSW is a successful police initiative that runs in areas that have perceived speeding problems. Currently we have a very small team of residents who occasionally join a PSCO to run an hour-long session, mainly in Woolsbridge Road, Horton Road and around the school – Speed Watch is only appropriate in problem areas on 20, 30 or 40 mph roads. Some Watches have formed groups who are more proactive and decide and run their own sessions. We would like to have a regular group to carry out speed watches. If you would be interested in being part of that group, or would like more information, please contact me; we have the equipment but need the volunteers who will be vetted by the police and receive training.

Also, there is an article on page 5 from Sergeant Tim Travers regarding an initiative being trialled in Corfe Mullen, which involves the Home Watch going out with the Neighbourhood Policing Team to areas where there have been recent crimes. We would like to try this idea in our area, again we need members of the watch to offer help.

Brian Frecknall 01425 476558

**AGM, then party with
Swing Unlimited
Community Band
Ploughmans,
wine & beer**

**Saturday 8 April 5 to 9pm
St Leonards & St Ives Village Hall**

**Tickets —£10 from Marie
01425 475733
email agbirchs@sky.com**

Q Why are we, your committee, doing what we do?

A To help keep our members safe and informed. We live in a very nice area here in St Leonards and St Ives and want to keep it that way. It is very easy to become complacent. We think it won't happen to us, but it does. Only recently an elderly member had her handbag stolen.

We need your help and none of our current committee is getting any younger. If you want a Home Watch in our area why not join us on the committee. If this doesn't happen our Home Watch will eventually fold, then there will be no more newsletters, traders lists, nobody to contact if you need advice on home security; and those of you who benefit from insurance premium savings by virtue of your membership will be paying more. All members of the committee work hard at keeping you informed and delivering newsletters to our coordinators (who do an excellent job collecting the annual fee which helps pay for the printing). We also have two events a year which are well supported and enjoyed by those who are able to attend. So, please, if you are reading this don't just put it to one side—give one of us a call.

In this edition

Community matters, Village Hall news	2
Age Concern Lunch Club	2
SGN and Local club news	3
Drive Safe and AGM Notice	4
Community Café, Tim's plan	5
Ferndown Community Office	6
Committee contact details	6
Neighbourhood Policing Team report	7
Goodbye to Wayne and Welcome to Steve.....	8
Cybercrime evening, 111 Service	8

Community matters

Co-operative Bank

John, a diligent Home Watch member has reported receiving a scam email on 29 November from Co-operative Bank. It states that the account has been blocked for security reasons and that the bank has disabled access, both over the internet and by telephone. It gives an option to 'Restore Account'.

John does not have a Co-operative Bank account and fortunately when he clicked on 'Restore Account' his security software warns against going ahead. However, yours may not, so, as always the advice is 'if you didn't ask for it' (or as in this instance, if it's not someone you have an account with) just delete it without clicking any links or buttons.

Fake house viewings

One of our coordinators recently received a report from one of her members who is currently selling his house. A man and a woman arrived saying they were late for an appointment to view his property and could they just come in. They were standing right at the door and then attempted to come in. Luckily the wife uses a walker and she was able to push them back out and close the door. The estate agent has since confirmed that no one had an appointment to view that day.

The householder has reported the incident to the police and removed his house number from the 'For sale' sign which is positioned at the end of the road. Our coordinator suggested that the resident should check his paperwork from the agent, and if there is no warning about not letting people without appointments into the property, they add it which may aid other vendors in the future. These residents are elderly and they were rightly disturbed by this incident which could have led to a distraction offence. So if you are selling your house please be vigilant and do not let anyone without an appointment into your home.

Traders List

The next edition of the Trader's List will be circulated with the spring Newsletter in April. So if you have any traders you've been meaning to add please let Elaine Smith know (her details are on page 6). The list is widely used and in 2016 alone we have seen over 10 new traders added during the year!

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome but may be edited or shortened. Photos of suitable quality, are reproduced when space permits. Any views or opinions expressed in this publication, unless specifically stated otherwise, are those of the writer.

Village Hall news

Since the last article we have started a refurbishment scheme of the three halls in the complex. We have all worked very hard to enable this to happen. I have been holding a raffle for all the hall users and they have been very generous in buying tickets and offering prizes. A big thank you to the ladies from the groups who have helped me with this onerous task.

The Race Night on 28 January 2017 is proving very popular and is nearly sold out so here's hoping we will raise money towards a new set of curtains for the Village Hall which is being decorated from 2 January 2017 for approximately a week. This will be the penultimate 'big job' on the current job list that we hope to do, but as always, not until finances permit.

Our most pressing issue at present is to encourage more members to join the committee, especially those who represent active user groups in our hall. This is beneficial to all regular hirers as it is their opportunity to be kept up to speed on what is happening, and to have their say on issues on a regular basis. The monthly committee meetings are Thursday evenings from 7:00pm until approximately 8:30pm.

The next fundraising event after the Race Night will be a Fish and Chips Quiz night. We also intend holding a Pig Roast around September where we will be cooking and carving our own pig on site (slices, not pulled pork).

Ann Warman 01425 476319

Age Concern Lunch Club

Your local Age Concern, with the financial support of the Parish Council, has run a Lunch Club in the village hall, Braeside Road, every Monday for 30 years. We start at 10am with coffee and a biscuit and then play games, cards or just chat to friends old and new. After a two course lunch we come together to enjoy guest speakers, singers, etc. We end our day with tea and cake at 3pm. All this costs just £10 and we can, if needed, provide transport to and from your home for an extra £1, using our minibus or cars. We sometimes visit local pubs for lunch and in the summer we visit the beach and enjoy a fish and chip lunch.

All this is possible with a wonderful team of volunteers who work throughout the day helping members, serving food and drinks, driving their cars to collect members or even driving the minibus.

So if you are lonely or in need of something to do, either as a member or a volunteer, please ring Judy on 01425 476935 or pop into the village hall on a Monday. We look forward to hearing from you.

SGN manage the network which distributes gas to over 5 million homes and businesses across Scotland and the South of England, including where we live. They provide the National Gas 'Smell gas?' emergency response service to their pipe network and sometimes have to respond quickly when safety is at stake, which may mean performing street works at very short notice. Their primary objective is to help keep you and the local community safe.

SGN don't maintain your meter or send bills for the gas you use in your property, that is your gas supplier's responsibility. When repairs are needed or pipes need to be upgraded SGN dig up the roads or footpaths. If you like, you can find out more about SGN on their website:

www.sgn.co.uk

SGN have joined the Dorset Alert system to provide real time information to you in emergencies; these messages could be about evacuations, roadworks,

service interruptions and advice after floods etc. We anticipate that this vital information will help keep you safe and avoid large traffic jams!

As the service SGN offers, and the messages they may send, are entirely related to public safety, Dorset Alert feel that SGN's service is a valuable service to it's subscribers. This does of course mean that SGN administrators will be able to see your contact information and send you email or text messages. As with all licensed Information Providers, SGN say your information cannot be used for other purposes, sold or shared without your direct permission and it is fully encrypted and very securely stored. If, in the light of recent hacks such as Tesco Bank, TalkTalk, etc, you feel uncomfortable about sharing your details you can opt out at any time by clicking the



'Change Settings' button at the bottom of all Alert emails and un-ticking SGN.

Local club news



Probud is a club for retired men and the Ferndown branch meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Dunsbury Golf Club, Ferndown, for lunch followed by a talk given by a guest speaker.

Meetings commence at 12:15pm and the lunch comprises three courses plus coffee and mints. The informative, interesting and entertaining speakers cover a diverse range of topics. Subjects for 2017 include: 'Rudyard Kipling', 'Traitors in Wartime', 'Britain's Greatest Maritime Disasters', 'Mayhem, Mutiny and Murder', 'The International Space Station', 'Walks around Dorset', 'The Flying Enterprise', 'The Schneider Trophy', 'Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra' and 'The New Forest in the 17th Century'.

We also organise a very popular coffee morning on the second Wednesday of each month for members and their partners at the same venue and regular social gatherings throughout the year. Sample club functions include outings to places of interest, restaurant lunches/dinners and trips supporting local events.

New members will be made most welcome. For further details please contact our club secretary, John Etheridge, on 01202 875757.

East Dorset and Ringwood National Health Service Retirement Fellowship

The NHSRF aims to support its members through the provision of social, leisure, educational and welfare activities. A member maybe anyone who has retired from working for the NHS, retired from working for a related or private health service organisation or caring profession or are working or have worked on a voluntary basis within the NHS. Spouses, partners and friends of members can also join. We offer:

- Friendship and fellowship to all members
- Monthly meetings with a variety of visiting speakers on a range of topics (see below)
- Regular outings to places of interest and organised walks
- Lunches out and opportunities for members to socialise

Subjects arranged for 2017 include 'The Moon', 'Wheels for the World', 'Priest House Museum', 'Charles Dickens – serial author', 'Flying Boats', 'Railway Safety' and 'You Be The Judge'.

We meet at 10:00am on the second Tuesday of each month at St Leonards Village Hall, Braeside Road, BH24 2PH.

For a friendly chat and further information please contact our Membership Secretary, **Deirdre**, on **01425 472940**.



Drive safe

Driving is potentially the most dangerous activity that most people take part in so even a slight increase in skills or awareness is all it takes to prevent the heartbreak of lives lost or devastation in accidents that could have been prevented.

Do you or anyone you know...

- * feel anxious in some traffic situations?
- * feel concerned about driving?
- * want help understanding your new car gadgets ?
- * want to gain more driving confidence?

If the answer to any of these questions is **YES**, then why not book to attend a Dorset Driver Gold session which is specially designed for drivers aged 65 years or over and is run by SafeWise using approved driving instructors. Dorset Driver Gold offers both practical and theory sessions:

The theory sessions include judging speed and distance, negotiating roundabouts, traffic lights and junctions. A session costs £10, is held for up to 20 people and lasts up to three hours, including refreshments.

The practical sessions are held on a one-to-one basis using the driver's own car, last up to one and a half hours and costs £45. The instructor looks at the way a driver deals with various traffic situations on the road and will make recommendations with the aim of enhancing current skills. They are informal and are not a test so there is no pass or fail element.



Session fees cover the cost of the instructors running the sessions with a small contribution towards the charity's administration costs, with a £5 discount if both sessions are attended!

The next dates for the **theory sessions** are listed below; practical sessions are organised direct with the instructor to suit:

January 2017

Tuesday 10: 1:30pm at SafeWise Weymouth

Tuesday 24: 10:00am at SafeWise Bournemouth

February

Wednesday 1: 10:00am at SafeWise Weymouth –

Monday 27: 1:30pm at SafeWise Weymouth

March

Thursday 9: 10:00am at SafeWise Bournemouth

Wednesday 22: 10:00am at SafeWise Weymouth

April

Wednesday 5: 1:30pm at SafeWise Bournemouth –

Tuesday 18: 1:30pm at SafeWise Weymouth –

May

Tuesday 2: 10:00am at SafeWise Bournemouth –

Monday 15: 10:00am at SafeWise Weymouth –

If you are interesting in finding out more please visit our Dorset Driver Gold webpage on

www.safewise.org/dorset-driver-gold/

or download our leaflet. You can ring or text us on 07713 499 777 and we will call you back. Or email us:

ddg@safewise.org

St Leonards & St Ives Home Watch

NOTICE OF SIXTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 8 April 2017 from 5 to 6pm at the Village Hall, Braeside Road

If you have a matter to raise in the open forum or any nominations for officers please contact:
Barbara Pilch (Secretary) on 01202 861821 by Saturday 1 April 2017

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Welcome from Chairman | 6. Membership Secretary's report |
| 2. Minutes of the last AGM held on 23 April 2016 | 7. Trader's List Secretary's report |
| 3. Chairman's report | 8. Election of Committee Members and Accounts Examiner |
| 4. Treasurer's report | 9. Open forum |
| 5. Editor's report | 10. Any other business and close of meeting |

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are only attending the AGM you will not require party tickets as entrance to the AGM is free. You will be asked to leave immediately after the close of the meeting.

However, if you plan to attend the party afterwards you must purchase your tickets before 2 April for catering purposes. The deluxe ploughmans supper and dessert will be provided for all full price ticketholders only.

Community Café

Dear Friends

I'm hoping you all had a pleasant Christmas and wishing you a very happy and healthy new year. We have had a lovely three months since our last newsletter. You can see we have celebrated some great birthday years including our Margaret of 101 years young! Our fundraising continues to grow and we had a great first week with our Christmas Stall raising £383. Grateful thanks go to our loyal friends who regularly attend our get-togethers on Wednesday mornings and our great friends who meet next door – the Gundry Patchers, who give us tremendous support each week. A big thank-you to you all and to those of you who take the trouble to bring along items for sale – it is much appreciated. I shall let you know of our final total for the year in the next newsletter when we shall have presented the cheques to the two charities we have been fundraising for throughout the year.



We shall be starting afresh in the new year with new organisations to support and raise funds for. Please remember us when you have a clear out – books, CDs, bric-a-brac, unwanted gifts – we shall be happy to receive any of these items for our fundraising.

We shall be commencing our get-togethers again on Wednesday 11 January. Why not come along and join us for a coffee and enjoy the company of others over a good old chat. Our coffee morning is for our community and we would love to see you where a warm welcome always awaits.

Best wishes to you all,

Barbara Pilch 01202 861821



*September:
Phyllis (left)
celebrating her
86th and
Maureen (right)
celebrating her
80th*



Sergeant Tim Traver's neighbourhood plan



Tim Travers is our local police Sergeant, he has successfully trialled a new initiative in Corfe Mullen. Here's what he has to say:

My Corfe Mullen police team have recently been working even more closely with their Home Watch, initially in response to a series of daytime domestic and shed

burglaries. They have collaborated on a targeted canvassing operation, in which members of the local Watch group donned hi-vis tabards and took to the streets following a crime being reported. We got the chance to trial the idea recently after another unfortunate victim of burglary came forward.

The team was formed, guided by PCSO Neal Rooke, and went door to door around the area attacked. The feedback from neighbouring residents was very positive with 12 former Home Watch members being re-instated, five brand new members joining the scheme and even a new co-ordinator stepping up to assist!

This is a great start and exactly the outcome we hoped for. It shows the potential for this model to be rolled out across the section.

The benefits as I see it are:

1. Raising awareness in local residents who are more likely to be targeted after a burglary

2. Crime prevention measures taken by more informed residents
3. An increase in community confidence and buying-in to crime prevention—local people dealing with local problems
4. Closer working relationship between the Watch and the local police
5. A deterrent to offenders that see the weight of public feeling against their activities
6. Greater chance of discovering potential witnesses
7. Increased membership of Watch schemes
8. Greater empowerment of the public to contribute towards the policing of their homes
9. Very low cost and minimal time commitment
10. Engagement with harder to reach individuals

Tim would like our Watch to consider running this scheme in our area, by building a team of residents throughout the village who could go door-to-door in their near locality, offering the support Tim has outlined above.

If you are interested please contact our Chairman on 01425 47658 or v.frecknall@btopenworld.com. If there is enough interest, Brian will invite Tim to come and talk further to us.

Ferndown Police Community Office

South West Regional Awards

The volunteers who run the Community Office and Sheduction were recently recognised by the Police with a highly commended award for the South West of England, covering Dorset, Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Gloucester and Transport Police.



The Ferndown Police Community Office is located in the Barrington Centre in Penny's Walk. We are operated by Police Volunteers and are open daily (except Sunday) from 10.00 until 12.00. Please come in and see the wide variety of security devices and leaflets that we have.

Most banks are now issuing contactless cards to their customers. Needless to say the criminals are one step ahead and have a device that will read your card and so steal your card details. We have a special wallet that will prevent this happening. These are available in the Community Office and on the Sheduction vehicle at a cost of 50p each.



At the moment we are concentrating on bicycles. With the darker nights there are still riders without lights—we have a set of red and white lights for £2.



There are still bikes being stolen. We have an alarmed cycle padlock for £8, a D Lock for £8 and a cable lock for £4. Bikes should be marked in case they are stolen and recovered by the police. We have a system of marking with labels which are registered with a national database; this costs £5 per bike, you can also mark with a UV marker pen which is available for free along with a leaflet on which you can list items that are marked.



We also have a UV light keyring for checking your marking, plus a white light and a laser pointer.



Garden sheds and outbuildings are still being targeted due to the large amount of valuable items kept there. You can discourage criminals by fitting a shed alarm which is available at £10. We also have an alarmed padlock at £11, this will activate if tampered with. Please remember that criminals will take tools to break into your house.

During office hours we can be contacted on 01202 876219, but please be aware that this number should not be used instead of 999 (when a crime is being committed or life is in danger) or 101 for other incidents. Or contact us by email:

ferndowncommunityoffice@btconnect.com

The Community Office has a website which has details of all the services and products:

ferndowncommunityoffice.org

Committee contact details

ELECTED MEMBERS:

CHAIRMAN	Brian Frecknall	v.frecknall@btopenworld.com	01425 476558
VICE CHAIRMAN	Pat Tester	pat_brian@talktalk.net	01425 483579
MINUTES SECRETARY	Barbara Pilch	pilchs1@talktalk.net	01202 861821
TREASURER	John Pilch	pilchs1@talktalk.net	01202 861821
EDITOR and MEMBERSHIP	Viv Frecknall	vivfrecknall@btopenworld.com	01425 476558
TRADERS' LIST	Elaine Smith	elaineshomewatch@58lions.co.uk	01425 461022
HOME WATCH SIGNS	Norman Walters	4 St Ives Wood (no email)	01425 480731
WINTER COORDINATOR	Bob Pugh	janetbbpgh@btinternet.com	01425 472029
COMMITTEE	Pat Sullivan	msullivan038@gmail.com	01425 478162

NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES:

Parish Councillors	Barry Goringe and Alan Davies		
East Dorset Police – Neighbourhood Policing Team	PC Julian Humphries Adam Fitzwalter James Marsh	Julian.Humphries@dorset.pnn.police.uk Adam.Fitzwalter@dorset.pnn.police.uk James.Marsh@dorset.pnn.police.uk	When on duty: 101

Neighbourhood Policing Team report



Julian Humphries

I am very glad to report that there have been no recorded domestic burglaries in our area over the past 3 months. However as I type this my colleagues in Christchurch are attending an unfortunate couple who have returned from a short shopping trip to discover their property had been broken into and an untidy search made of drawers and cupboards.

It often surprises people when I tell them that most burglaries occur in broad daylight rather than under the cover of darkness. In my experience a burglar's favourite point of entry is from the rear garden of the property where they are unlikely to be seen and are able to confirm the premises is unoccupied. Older patio doors are very vulnerable to attack and properties without a security alarm even more so. By operating by day when most folk are out at work or enjoying some leisure time the thief can be quite inconspicuous. If challenged they may trot out a well-rehearsed line or two about looking for a dog or quoting for labour.

I hope as we move towards another new year that none of you will suffer the heartache of being burgled. You can take positive steps to protect yourselves by installing an alarm, fitting good quality locks and securing valuables (particularly those of sentimental value) in a safe secured to the floor. Advice and various security devices can be purchased from the Police Community Office in the Barrington Centre in Penny's Walk open every day except Sunday, between 10 and 12.

One of the most effective and incidentally most reasonably priced items for sale in the Community Office is a shed alarm which is independent of the mains and has a very loud siren that might have reduced the high number of sheds and outbuildings broken into over the same 3 month period. We suffered a total of seven breaks to non-dwelling premises, some of which were commercial, but the majority on private land. The thieves are targeting power tools and push bikes and we strongly advise marking your possessions and recording the serial number. Digital photographs are easily taken and stored and are a great help to officers trying to reunite owners with stolen property.

In today's internet world we also have to consider our safety online. There were 9 reported online frauds which leads me to believe that there were a great many more in reality as often people are too

ashamed to admit they have fallen for a scam. Fraudsters are still trading on the unclaimed PPI scam alongside the fake lottery one. They start with asking for a small amount to cover fees and taxation and then once the bait has been taken ask for more and more. I have dealt with two cases in our area where lonely and vulnerable people have sent thousands of pounds overseas chasing pay-outs that never materialise. Some of the victims beg that their family are not informed as they fear that their children will think Mum or Dad have 'lost the plot', others are just embarrassed at their naivety. Never reply to unexpected e-mails especially if they are asking for verification of accounts. The fraudsters replicate genuine company web styles and ask you to register your details. False PayPal, Apple and Sky accounts are frequently used. I recommend deleting such email contact without opening it. Genuine companies you do business with have your address and can always write to you. Also, good up-to-date security software is a must.

Hopefully by the time this message reaches you the roadworks on Boundary Lane will be complete. The initial single lane closure had to be completely closed due to drivers ignoring the signage and entering the one-way system from the wrong end, putting lives at risk.

There has been a lot of publicity around poor driving recently with the tragic deaths of four people due an HGV driver being distracted from the road by playing with his phone. Every day on every road someone will take the risk of looking at their phone as they drive. While the use of the phone to actually speak to someone is reducing, the even more dangerous habit of texting or checking social media is on the increase. A few seconds of inattention is all it takes to be the cause of a terrible accident, whether by changing the music, reading an update or even using the satnav facility. Hopefully we will move to a position where

using a phone while driving will be as socially unacceptable as drinking and driving.



Finally, I'd like to introduce you to PCSO James March, who has replaced Dan Byrne as the second PCSO on this team. Dan is now progressing through his training to become a police constable.

Wishing you all a very happy and safe new year

**PC Julian Humphries and
PCSOs Adam Fitzwalter and James Marsh**

East Dorset Neighbourhood Police Inspector update



A final message from Wayne

I just wanted to let you know that East Dorset Police section is now fully integrated with Christchurch and is known as the Eastern Section. On 12 October I took up a

new role as a Chief Inspector within the control room at HQ.

Able taking over from me will be Inspector Steve Yeoman who is now responsible for all neighbourhood-related policing matters within East Dorset and Christchurch. He also line-manages all the neighbourhood policing teams and sergeants.

Inspector Lorna Gallimore has moved to the section and is now the Patrol Inspector responsible for all the patrol officers based at Ferndown covering both

East Dorset and Christchurch. Suffice it to say Steve and Lorna will be working very closely together.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here at East Dorset and I never cease to be amazed at the commitment and dedication you all continually deliver in serving the community. I have learnt very much from all of you and only wish I had made the move from Bournemouth earlier in my career!

I will miss the officers, staff, volunteers and everyone connected to NH Watch, Community Office and the Crime Prevention Panel. I know you will keep on doing great work and I wish you all the best for the future and hope to be able to work with as many of you again as possible. Thanks and goodbye for now.

Wayne Nock



And introducing Steve

My name is Steve Yeoman and I am delighted to have been given the role of Neighbourhood Inspector for Eastern section which covers both East Dorset and Christchurch.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself in your newsletter.

I have twenty years' service in the police starting off with Thames Valley Police then transferring to Dorset in 2000. I have worked in numerous roles in both rural and urban areas and my passion within policing is very much community-based.

I have been at Eastern section since January this year as the deputy to the previous Neighbourhood Inspector Wayne Nock who is now a Force Incident Controller at HQ.

I strongly believe in the power and effectiveness of partnership working, both with our communities and local businesses. Neighbourhood Home Watch is a great example of what can be achieved by dedicated

committed people giving up their time and energy to help make our communities safer and stronger.

Please be reassured that I will be looking to build on and encourage the excellent community initiatives already in place and actively seek new opportunities.

I am very fortunate to have a superb team of officers and volunteers working with me and I look forward to tackling the challenges that will come our way together. I encourage you to look at our web page www.dorset.police.uk and then opening the Neighbourhood Policing link at the top of the page which lists who your teams are, how you can meet them, crime prevention advice and work being carried out in your area.

East Dorset and Christchurch remain one of the safest and most secure places to live and work in the South, a fact that I intend to reinforce through working with my teams and most importantly the local communities.

I look forward to meeting many of you soon.

Kind regards

Inspector Steve Yeoman

STOP PRESS: Cybercrime Evening

11 February 5:30—8pm with presentations from Jake Moore of Dorset Police Cyber Crime Unit, Graham Ledbrook and Viv Frecknall
Tickets: £5 book in advance as afternoon tea will be provided. Call Viv 01425 476558

Medical assistance

OUT-OF-HOURS NUMBER

Dorset and Hampshire patients

RING 111

If the patient deteriorates before a responder arrives

RING 999