

COMMUNITY NEWS

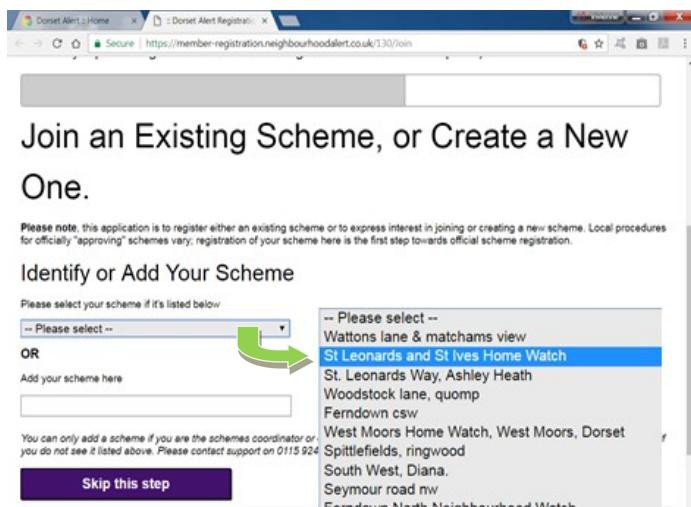
Chairman's report

It is with sadness that I report that PC Julian Humphries is retiring and by the time you read this he will have left Dorset Police. Julian moved to St Leonards and St Ives after many years as the Heatherland's Neighbourhood Policing Officer. Your committee would like to express our thanks for all the work he has done, especially at the recent incident in Castlewood. Good luck in your retirement.

We are also saying goodbye to Inspector Steve Yeoman who has moved onto Weymouth. Steve's replacement has yet to be decided.

I have just been checking the Dorset Alert website, and am rather disappointed that only 157 of our members have signed up, less than 10% of our membership. When you sign up for alerts you don't only get crime reports but you can opt to receive many other notices. For example anything to do with hobbies and interests (arts, cooking, sport, volunteering and walking), other watch schemes (Speed Watch, Dog Watch, Farm Watch, Rural Watch, etc), community issues (roads, health, mobility) and education topics.

To sign up just go to the Dorset Alert website which is dorsetalert.co.uk and fill in the form. When you get to the 'Identify or Add Your Scheme' page please tick St Leonards and St Ives. If you have any problems



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title 'Dorset Alert - Home'. The URL in the address bar is 'https://member-registration.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/130/join'. Below the address bar, there is a large input field with a placeholder 'Join an Existing Scheme, or Create a New One.' To the right of this field is a note: 'Please note, this application is to register either an existing scheme or to express interest in joining or creating a new scheme. Local procedures for officially "approving" schemes vary: registration of your scheme here is the first step towards official scheme registration.' Below this note, there is a section titled 'Identify or Add Your Scheme'. It contains two dropdown menus: one for 'Please select your scheme if it's listed below' and another for 'Please select --'. The second dropdown menu is open, showing a list of schemes. The 'St Leonards and St Ives Home Watch' option is highlighted with a blue selection bar. Other options in the list include: 'Watton's lane & matchams view', 'St Leonards Way, Ashley Heath', 'Woodstock lane, quomp', 'Ferndown csw', 'West Moors Home Watch, West Moors, Dorset', 'Spitefields, ringwood', 'South West, Diana.', 'Seymour road nw', and 'Ferndown North Neighbourhood Watch'. At the bottom of the form, there is a note: 'You can only add a scheme if you are the schemes coordinator or you do not see it listed above. Please contact support on 0115 924 0000.' Below this note is a 'Skip this step' button.

please contact myself or Viv for guidance. Dorset Alerts are also available by phone if you don't use a computer, again just contact either of us.

Brian Frecknall 01425 476558

Pub Quiz Night

on Saturday 14 October
in the Village Hall
from 6-9pm

Hot supper with dessert,
wine, beer and soft drinks,
Music from Saffire Duo,
raffle, quiz and prizes

Tickets £10 on sale between 10am and noon

- * Wednesdays in the Community Café (Annexe)
 - * Fridays in the Computer Café (Committee room)
- Or call Marie on 01425 475733
email agbirchs@sky.com

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Community matters

Number 38 bus ...update

After a great deal of negotiations the More Bus route 38 has been partially reinstated, albeit as a restricted service. However, Southbourne Buses have recently confirmed that from 4 September the **S38** service is available for use by both students and the public, an adult single ticket is £4 and can be purchased from the coach driver. **They are unable to accept tickets or passes issued by Go South Coast (more) or RATP (Yellow Buses) on this service.**

This service will only operate on Hampshire school days, using the same route to and from Ringwood School as the previous service, normally using a school coach. Here's the **S38** timetable:

07:35	Ferndown, Victoria Road	16:05
07:37	Ferndown, Town Centre	16:04
07:43	Heatherlands, Lockyer Drive	15:56
07:44	Tricketts Cross, Sainsburys	15:55
07:45	Pinehurst Road/A31	15:54
07:47	St Leonards Woodman/Hospital	15:53
07:49	St Leonards BP Garage/Hotel	15:51
07:52	Sandy Lane	15:47
07:56	Lions Lane/Fernlea Close	15:43
08:10	Ringwood Meeting House Lane	15:35
08:15	Ringwood School	15:30

The More Bus route 38 will continue as it always has but on a reduced timetable from 18 September. A copy of the full timetable is displayed in the Parish Office window.

Whilst the additional service is a major step forward and the new times won't suit everyone we have to remember that these are commercial services and as such they have to run at a profit. This really is a case of use it or lose it as has been stated here before.

Councillor Ray Bryan

**Medical assistance
OUT-OF-HOURS NUMBER
Dorset and Hampshire patients
RING 111**

**If the patient deteriorates
before a responder arrives**

RING 999

Village Hall news

This is rather a short report as although there are fewer hirers during the July and August holiday period, there always appears to be a lot for our staff and volunteers to do, no matter what!

We would love to welcome anyone who would like to join our committee and help share some of the workload. It is not very onerous, but many hands make light(er) work – for the rest of us! The committee meet on the third or fourth Thursday in every month except August. Meetings usually last about one hour and a half maximum. Just contact me on 01425 476319.

The hall will be very busy again come September. Visitors are always requested to leave the hall as they find it: furniture tidied away, floors swept if necessary and all crockery, etc, washed, dried and put away. Children's parties have become very popular and it is a great hall for a bouncy castle with no chance of the party being rained off. For insurance reasons anyone hiring a bouncy castle must check that the operative is fully covered for public liability and has a licence to run the business.

By the time you read this we will have held our pig roast and we will be holding another event in the early part of the New Year so just watch this space please.

Ann Warman 01425 476319

Community Café

Hello friends

I do hope you have enjoyed the summer (rain or shine!) and for those who have been away I hope you had a pleasant holiday.



We are getting ready for our final surge up to the Christmas period and hoping our fundraising meets our target by the end of the year. My usual plea to you all is for bric-a-brac, books, CDs and any unwanted gifts would be gratefully received. We have had some lovely items donated to us these past few months so a big thank you to those of you who have kindly contacted us and helped us with our fundraising.

Most importantly we would love to see you—if you have time on a Wednesday morning why not pop along and join us. We have some special occasions coming up that we shall be celebrating over the next few months and hope you will be there to join in the fun. Until our next chat look after yourselves and keep well. Kind regards to you all,

Barbara Pilch 01202 861821

The final countdown!

ERA are a company that develop and supply security products and are an accredited partner of the national Neighbourhood Watch organisation. They have devised a 60-second countdown to leaving your home be it for five minutes or five weeks. Admittedly, some of us might need a few extra seconds, as we're not as fast as we used to be, but deep breath and here goes!



60 seconds to go – do the window whip-round

An open window is the burglar's friend so take a moment to whip-round checking that all windows are shut and locked – remember to keep the key somewhere easily accessible, out of sight.

40 seconds to go – set the alarm

Only half of people with burglar alarms actually activate them when leaving the house – so let's make sure we are all in the other half!

30 seconds to go – lock the doors

A recent survey showed that 42% of people admit to leaving their house unlocked, on a regular basis, even if no one else is at home—don't be one of them as your insurers will not be amused.

20 seconds to go – spotlight on security

Before jumping in the car or walking away, make it a habit to glance at your home as a whole, looking for potential weak points that intruders would notice – such as worn letterboxes, broken fences, etc, and put them on the 'fix it' list.



10 seconds to go – last lookover

Make sure your garden valuables are locked away, gardening implements or heavy items are handy tools for intruders who can't get past your locks but are happy to break a window.

St Ives Primary & Nursery School
SISA Christmas Fair & Fireworks

Friday 24th November 5pm-7:30pm

Fireworks at 6:30pm

BBQ, Licensed Bar, drinks

Mulled wine, Mince pies, Cakes

Various stalls

Games, Crafts, Letters to Santa and more...

Choc & Sweet Tombolas, Wine & Water

Tickets available from School office (Family £12 in advance & £15 on gate. Adult £5, Child £2, under 4's free. Anyone Want to have a stall? Contact School office - 01425 475478

Community noticeboards

A long time ago the Parish Council kindly provided five noticeboards for community use, these are not the same, nor in the same sites as the official parish noticeboards where the Parish Clerk posts Parish Council notices.

They got rather dishevelled and were not regularly updated so a few years ago, at the request of the Clerk, Home Watch took over the upkeep of the boards. This basically means visiting them about once a month, posting up new notices whilst giving the glass and casing a quick check over and clean if necessary.

Currently committee members do this work. The boards are sited at the One Stop on Horton Road, the Village Post Office, at the entrance to the village hall on Braeside Road, on Hurn Road (layby near Greenacres Close) and on the A31 just after the Boundary Lane roundabout, westbound. So if one of these is near you it would be ideal if you could help.

The noticeboards are used for not-for-profit community notices, mainly these are event posters, information leaflets, etc. Anyone can have these items displayed as long as the notice is A5 and is not for a business. Just contact the Chairman for more information.

What's it all for?

As your Treasurer, Editor and a roving coordinator in some of our streets without their own coordinator I met a lot of people in my travels!

Whenever I get the chance I talk to them about Home Watch and its benefits often with the happy result of welcoming them as a new member to our ranks. So my 'spiel' has become quite polished. Of course the various roles I carry out give me a broad view of Home Watch as an organisation, not just here, but throughout the UK.

I'm often asked what's the difference between Home Watch and Neighbourhood Watch and the answer is 'nothing'. The Watch scheme as a whole started in 1964 in America in response to the tragic death of a New York community member. By 1982 it had reached the UK with the first Home Watch scheme being set up in Cheshire. Various other communities followed suit, calling themselves either Home Watch or Neighbourhood Watch, then in 2007 an umbrella organisation was formed with the support of the police and Home Office. This umbrella organisation, has recently been accorded charity status under the name of Neighbourhood Watch Network, with the mission to '*bring neighbours together to create strong, friendly, active communities*'. It is the largest voluntary organisation in the UK, so you are in good company!

So, we know the name and reason but what else do we get for our £2 each year—well with the Treasurer's hat on ...

- The opportunity to become involved and influence crime fighting and antisocial behaviour through initiatives such as Speed Watch
- The ability to receive crime and other special interest alerts (e.g. leisure pursuits) through Dorset Alert
- Potential home insurance discounts, currently 10% discount is available from Co-op Home Insurance to Home Watch and Neighbourhood Watch members
- Advice and cost-effective security products like GuardCams, shed alarms, etc, through the Ferndown Police Community Office
- Free leaflets, stickers, UV pens or other small giveaways, welcome packs for new members etc
- Four newsletters a year
- Annual traders list
- Two social events per year—which are run on a break even basis

We achieve all of this and even give an occasional donation to other local organisations who support us such as the Ferndown Police Community Office.

If you'd like to know more about the ins and outs of running the Watch, or indeed have something to say, you are most welcome to come to one of our quarterly committee meetings—all we ask is that you book a place first through Pat Sullivan, our Minutes Secretary, whose details are below.

Viv Frecknall

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	Pat Sullivan	msullivan038@gmail.com	01425 478162
TREASURER & EDITOR	Viv Frecknall	NEW email: vivshw@outlook.com	01425 476558
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Keith Pegram	kphomewatch@btinternet.com	01425 461480
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 MEMBER	NEW Kelly Neale	kellymneale@btinternet.com	01425 474551

NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVES:

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

Computer Café

Latest figures from Office of National Statistics show that cybercrime was one of the most common offences committed in 2016, with an estimated 2 million cybercrime incidents, compared to 686,000 domestic burglary offences. Yet, according to statistics from the Government cyber security campaign, Cyber Aware, we are not applying the same level of security to our online activity as we do to our homes—despite the increased risk.

While 82% of households have double locks or deadlocks at home and 89% have window locks, when it comes to online security, only 32% follow the latest government advice to use three random words to create strong online passwords and on average only 52% regularly download the latest software or app updates as soon as they are available. So, here's a reminder of the actions you **must** take now, not put on the back burner until another day:

Install software and app updates as soon as they are available because they include updated, vital security protection, wherever possible make sure you set programs and apps to automatically update.

Always use strong, unique passwords because you don't have one key that unlocks all your doors and should apply the same concept to any passwords. A weak password can allow hackers to use your email to gain access to many of your personal accounts, leaving you vulnerable to identity theft and fraud. Each password should be different from any other (the unique part) and one easy way is to use a string of letters of about 13-15 characters – e.g. three random words. Bear in mind that for some websites passwords must include an upper case letter and other characters such as punctuation marks, numbers, etc. Yes, you will have to write them down and keep the list safe—but that serves the dual purpose of letting family members have the important information should they need to.

Back up your important data, such as documents and photos, ideally weekly or whenever you add significant data, so if your computer or smart device is hacked you only lose a minimal amount of data. You should back up to an additional drive such as a USB stick, external hard drive, or the cloud. If using either of the first two, detach it from your PC afterwards.

It's also good practice for Windows users to take a monthly system image file and store that away from your computer or even your home.



Only 32%
of people
use strong
passwords

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Protect your smart devices such as iPhones, iPads, smartphones and tablets by using the 'lock screen' facility. This means an extra step before you can use the device, which means entering a pattern, a password, a PIN number or, touching a fingerprint sensor on the device. If your device is lost or stolen, it cannot be used without knowing the lock screen information. This adds a further layer of protection to your computer as

well—as you may be using the email facility on all your devices but of course the email account password has to be the same, regardless of the device.

There are other points to bear in mind, on an ongoing basis:

- Remember a spammer may be passing himself off as someone you know so don't click links in emails unless you are certain they are safe
- If a website doesn't look or feel right, leave it
- If you use social media check your privacy settings regularly and share as little as possible with as few as possible—and don't 'advertise' the fact you're sunning yourself in the Caribbean
- Check your router is secure, and don't use the default passwords supplied with it, change to your own unique password for that device

All of this may be baffling or even tedious, but you can always pop in and we'll give you specific advice.

Which brings me to the next Windows 10 update—called the Fall Update, due to be released in October. Graham will have copies available and we can perform the update for you.

Before coming in please back up all your important data and if possible do a 'clean up' of your files, by running programs such as Advanced System Care, Disc Cleanup, Malwarebytes, etc.

So do come in and see us any Friday morning between 9:00 and 12:30 in the Committee Rooms of the village hall. We charge £4 per hour for working on your computer, tablet or phone problems but even if it takes longer our maximum charge is £8. Elma, Derek, Graham, Gino, Roger, and Viv will be happy to help you. There's plenty of free cups of coffee and tea with biscuits available!

Perhaps you'd even like to join our mentoring team—we get very busy most weeks and would appreciate any help you can give. A basic knowledge of computers and using software is all it takes.

Ferndown Police Community Office

The Ferndown Police Community Office is located in the Barrington Centre in Penny's Walk. It is operated by police volunteers and is open daily (except Sunday) from 10 until 12. Please come in and see the wide variety of security devices and leaflets that we have available.

Key safes now available



A few years ago we sold a key safe that would be fixed to an outside wall, a spare key kept in it and the combination number given to people who would need access to your house (carers, delivery, relations, etc). We stopped selling this item as it did not have police approval.

However, there is now a police approved version available and we have a supply at £48 each (pictured). A Neighbourhood Watch member is available to fit the safe for a small charge.

Shed alarms

There are still too many shed break-ins, we have an economic shed alarm that is remote controlled and wire free.

With a detection area of 5m and angle of 90 degrees, these alarms cost just £10 each.



Card defenders

We also have card defenders that protect your contactless credit/debit cards from skimmers stealing the card data. These are available at 50p each. At a recent Sheducation event on KGV field in Ferndown a lady came to see us to buy some of this item. She told us that she had been in the queue at a supermarket with her card in her hand, while the person in front put their shopping through the checkout. The operator then asked her if she was aware that she had just paid for the other person's shopping. You can't be too careful!



Cycle locks



We also have various cycle locks including an alarmed version at £8.

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.uk

Roadworks are on the way!

During the coming months there will be a considerable amount of roadworks taking place which will affect commuters.

The programme which costs over £21 million is being funded by Central Government as part of the Sustainable Infrastructure Program.

The affected areas are:

- **Improvements to the Blackwater junction.** This will improve access to the A338 (east junction starting September 2017, west junction starting Spring 2018)
- **A proposed new junction** at Wessex Fields to improve access to Bournemouth Hospital
- **Possible widening** between the



Blackwater and Cooper Dean junctions to improve travelling times to and from Bournemouth

- **Improvements to the Chapel Gate roundabout** to reduce delays at peak times when passing the entrance to the industrial area, are currently under construction
- In addition as part of the new housing development at West Parley, a new road will be developed as part of the plans

The aim of these schemes is to improve journey times.

More details will be available in due course.

Councillor Ray Bryan

Neighbourhood Policing Team report

Welcome to the Neighbourhood Policing Team report for the St Leonards and St Ives areas. To begin with, we would like to announce the upcoming retirement of PC Julian Humphries who will be leaving the force in September. PC Humphries joined Dorset Police fourteen years ago following an army career and has been involved with neighbourhood policing for nearly all of his service with the police. We wish PC Humphries the very best for the future, he will be missed by the team.

Rogue traders

We have seen a steady increase in the number of rogue trader incidents in the area this summer. Residents have been experiencing cold calling from traders predominantly purporting to be gardeners, able to carry out on the spot work with no contract. For those who fall victims to these rogues the work is carried out to a very low standard, if at all, before the trader demands large sums of money. The traders are always keen to be paid in cash and this has seen incidents of victims being tricked into paying more than they agreed. It has been known for traders to deliberately miscount cash in front of the victim claiming they have not been given enough. With their pressure tactics many are then forced into parting with more money, often to simply encourage the traders to leave. Our advice is to never deal with any trader who visits you unsolicited at the doorstep.

Rogue traders often target the elderly and the most vulnerable in the community, but anyone can be a target. The following is **Trading Standards** advice to consumers:

- **Don't deal with traders who knock on your door touting/offering their services**, even if it is for work you want doing. It's better to find a trader you trust rather than someone who has just knocked on your door. (Display a 'we don't buy from doorstep traders notice' at your door.)
- If you need some work doing, we recommend using a **personal recommendation** from a friend, family or neighbour. If this is not possible you can phone 03454 04 05 06 and obtain a trader from the Trading Standards audited **Buy With Confidence Scheme**.
- The Consumer Rights Act 2015 states that **any work must be completed with due care and skill, completed within a reasonable time for a reasonable price and any products should be as described, fit for purpose and of satisfactory quality**.
- If the contract is agreed while the trader is in your home, they should give you clear information

about themselves (i.e. their name, address and telephone number), the price or how it will be calculated and information on your cancellation rights (**you should be allowed a 14-day cooling off period**). This must be given in a durable medium (i.e. not verbally).

Vehicle crime

It is at this time of year that we see a spike in thefts of items from parked motor vehicles. We are fortunate to have some very picturesque forest and woodland areas and it is in these car parks we see the majority of the crimes. It is normally found that these thefts are of items visible to the opportunist thief. Items like loose change, sat navs left on windscreens or bags and coats left on seats/in foot wells prove too tempting to passing thieves and they leave the vehicle owner with a smashed window and their property missing.

Something we have found particularly alarming while patrolling our local car parks is the number of vehicles left with windows open and items visible. It is unlikely these vehicles are alarmed. Although it is tempting in the warmer weather to leave windows open to keep your car cool, it leaves it particularly vulnerable to thieves.

Remember anything left should be out of sight and it is best not to leave any valuables in your car.

Police mobile devices



All frontline Police Officers and PCSO's in Dorset Police have been issued Police Mobile Devices to assist them in performing their duties more efficiently. These devices are similar to a normal smartphone, but are loaded with Police Specific Applications and Security. These devices will allow officers to pick up jobs and information while out on patrol reducing the need to visit a station to access a computer.

The smartphones offer a whole range of facilities to officers including essentials such as phone, email, camera and maps to access force incidents, which includes 101 and 999 calls. Please bear this in mind should you see officers using mobile devices when they are on patrol, as there is often an incorrect perception that they are using their personal mobile phones. Please take a look at the picture here of an officer's utility vest, which holds the police smartphone and radio.

**Police Sergeant Nick Lee,
PCSO's Adam Fitzwalter and James Marsh**

Friends Against Scams

Nationwide Neighbourhood Watch and Home Watch members are being asked to become a 'Friend Against Scams'. This is quite a new initiative and I registered last October when it launched by completing a short, 15 minute online learning session, which can be done in the comfort of your own home, at work or wherever is most convenient for you. I would urge you to do this, however basic you think your knowledge may be, as the online learning is interactive and you will be able to learn about scams in a fun way. And you get a free certificate too! Go to:

www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk.

There are also Friends Against Scams awareness sessions, run by SCAMchampions, (I am about to become one) who are trained and supported by the National Trading Standards Scams Team. Each 45 minute awareness session is fun and interactive and a chance to meet other people who want to 'Take a Stand Against Scams'. Currently there are no awareness sessions in Hampshire or Dorset.

Crime is increasing



According to the latest figures from the Office of National Statistics the police in England and Wales recorded nearly 5 million crimes for the 12 months to March 2017, which

is an increase of 10% over the previous 12 months. Only Cumbria and North Yorkshire police forces recorded a reduction in crime levels. For the last 20 years crime figures had been dropping, so some of the increases are down to changes in the way police are now recording crimes. Over the last three years total crime rates increased by 3% in March 2015, 8% in March 2016 and now 10% in 2017.

These latest figures show that the rise in violent crime was 18%, including a 20% increase in gun and knife crime. There was a 26% increase in the homicide rate and theft (particularly vehicle theft), domestic violence, antisocial behaviour, burglary and robbery rates have all increased, but not so significantly. Cybercrime is prevalent now, but of course that is the nature of crime – it evolves to suit prevailing circumstances.

This means Home Watch and Neighbour Watch schemes are more relevant than ever because our ethos is the importance of remaining vigilant, looking out for each other and being aware of what is happening in our area.


Nearly half of people in the UK have been targeted by a scam, in many cases the scammer adds his victims to a mailing list, which is subsequently sold to other criminals to target the responder with yet more 'too good to be true' opportunities. Any scam is fraud and fraud is a crime.

I'm passionate about helping people to avoid scams but we have to be careful when we talk about scams as we talk a lot about statistics and 'vulnerable people' as a group. However, we should always remember that we are talking about real people and that these people are often in a situation that made them vulnerable at that time, rather than being vulnerable in themselves. So, we need to educate people on how to spot and avoid a scam and we need to look out for our neighbours, friends and relatives by checking for the tell-tale signs of scams and taking away the loneliness, shame and stigma from victims.

Viv Frecknall

Royal British Legion



Ringwood and District Branch



A Concert by
The Hampshire Police Band
In Aid of the Poppy Appeal

Saturday 21st October 2017

at 7.30pm in

Ringwood Parish Church

Tickets £9.00 in advance

from:

**The Meeting House; Greyfriars,
Grants in the Furlong and
Julie Keeble: 01425 540837**

Or £10.00 on the door

**Refreshments will be available in
the Interval**