



HeathWatch



www.surreyheathnw.co.uk

The quarterly Neighbourhood Watch newsletter for Surrey Heath
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Message from the Chairman

Whilst we are nearing the end of another year and looking forward to Christmas and New Year, this is the time of year that one must not forget to take extra precautions when shopping, whether visiting shops or online, as there may be someone who would like to acquire your goods, cards or even empty your bank account. Every week we hear about various scams through the media and directly from website that inform us of the latest tricks. If you have signed up for IN THE KNOW you will be aware of the Alerts issued by Police, Action Fraud and maybe you have also joined the Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Facebook to keep up to date on the trending crimes in our borough and surrounding areas.

At the last Coordinators' meeting I notified you that our Treasurer would not be seeking re-election at the AGM therefore we are appealing for a new incumbent to fulfil this position. This also leaves us with another dilemma as Mike Davis is also the person who has been responsible for the Safer Surrey

Heath exhibition trailer, having ensured it is taken to the numerous activity sites throughout the summer. We are considering other alternative arrangements to make sure we continue to promote Neighbourhood Watch visibility and offer some reasonably priced security products at the carnival/fete/fayre sites.

Stephanie Edwards has handed the reins of Frimley area to Martin Shorten.

We mentioned the matter of succession planning to provide deputies for Area Coordinators and Watch Coordinators also welcome more members to consider an active role on our Support group. Anyone interested with supporting this challenge please contact your Watch coordinator, Area Coordinator or myself.

This leaves me to wish you a most joyful Christmas and happy New Year.

Martin Butcher

From Surrey Heath Borough Commander

The year is disappearing at an unbelievable pace, or so it seems. As I write, November is almost upon us and no doubt so will Christmas adverts on the TV.

Since my last missive, I welcome two new PCSOs to my neighbourhood team, Levy Eli and Josh Wakeford. They are being looked after by the more experienced members of the team whilst they learn how we do things here on the Heath.

I am pleased to say that the team has managed to distribute almost all of the Selecta DNA kits that were allocated to us, and I would like to recognise their hard work in doing so. In fact of the four boroughs on West Surrey division, we were the first to do so. I will be keeping the remaining kits in reserve for handing out should a house be burgled.

With the clocks going back, we are now approaching the time of year where we have in the past seen a rise in burgla-

ries, so please make sure you do all you can to make your home and vehicles secure and also to take some time to check on your neighbours, especially the elderly.

Only last week an offence of theft was reported to us in which the suspect was a door to door sales person, sometimes known as a Nottingham Knocker. We are in the process of investigating this offence and have a named suspect. If an area is not receptive to buying from such people, then they will go elsewhere, so my plea to you would be, do not encourage this type of activity by purchasing goods from people without the appropriate licences.

Remember if it doesn't feel right, then chances are it isn't; help us by writing down descriptions of people and cars including registration numbers. Even better, if you can take a picture without putting yourself in danger, then please do so. You can send the details of a non-urgent incident online at the Surrey Police website. Clearly if an offence is taking place then call 999 or 101 as appropriate.

Bob Darkens



This newsletter is produced by the Neighbourhood Watch Support Group with funding gratefully received from Surrey County Council. We are thankful for the regular help we receive from Safer Surrey Heath Partnership and from Surrey Police in the promotion of Neighbourhood Watch and the distribution of HeathWatch. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Windlesham Parish Council in supporting us.



By the Chairman: Anti-social behaviour



At this time of year, we experience more unsocial behaviour, one of the most common is that of unnecessary noise from house parties, not only from loud music after 11pm but also from departing partygoers who unwittingly become exuberant saying goodbye. Consideration to other residents should be made to demonstrate “neighbourliness”. Our Design Out Crime Officer Steve Cake has provided guidelines on Anti-Social Behaviour as follows, which can be found on www.surreycommunitysafety.org.uk/anti-social-behaviour.

The phrase Anti-Social Behaviour takes in a range of nuisances, disorder and crimes which affects people’s lives on a daily basis. It looks different and feels different in every area and to every victim. What is considered anti-social by one person can be acceptable to another. The Home Office describes Anti-Social Behaviour as, ‘any aggressive, intimidating or destructive activity that damages or destroys another person’s quality of life’. Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) covers a wide range of incidents and is dealt with by a number of different agencies. If ASB is not dealt with appropriately and in a timely manner it can have a devastating impact on the lives of individuals, families and communities. It is widely recognised that single agencies cannot tackle ASB alone and must work in partnership to address the issues.

Issues that can be considered as ASB include:

- Rowdy, noisy behaviour in otherwise quiet neighbourhoods

- Night time noise from houses or gardens, especially between 11.00 pm and 7.00 am.
- Threatening, drunken or intimidating behaviour
- Vandalism, graffiti and fly-posting
- Litter and fly-tipping rubbish
- Aggressive begging
- Drinking in the street
- Setting off fireworks late at night
- Abandoning cars

What is not Anti-Social Behaviour?

Though annoying, some behaviours are not classed as anti-social:

- Children playing in the street or communal areas – unless they are causing damage to property
- Young people gathering socially – unless they are rowdy, inconsiderate and being intimidating to individuals
- Being able to park outside your own home
- DIY and off road car repairs – unless these are taking place late at night or early in the morning.

Surrey Police crime reduction advice from Mike Jones

I would like to highlight some of the burglary crime trends in Surrey Heath during October and provide some ways to combat them.

1. Entry by smashing a large glass pane in a window, or door and climbing through, usually to the rear of the house.

This is a worrying trend and highlights the need to secure the rear of your property with good 1.8 metre high fencing with 300mm of trellis on top and a similar secure gate with the lock in a central position. Keeping your garden secure, this not only protects your home but those of your neighbours. Criminals ‘garden hop’, by entering one insecure garden and then climbing a poor quality fence into another garden. Ensure tools and anything capable of smashing a window is locked away. When upgrading your doors and windows, ask for PAS24 2016 standard and laminated glass. Cover all accessible glazing with ‘anti shatter film. Consider an intruder alarm.

2. Burglaries while people are away on holiday:

It is heart breaking to return home from holiday to a burglary, but this has happened to several Surrey Heath residents this month. Your neighbours should tell you when they are away, if so keep a close look out for anything suspicious and report it, especially the sound of broken glass, but do not put yourself at risk by going to investigate. Use timers to turn on lights, ask neighbours to open and close curtains and remove the post. If you have

an alarm, make sure it is well serviced and the keyholder details are up to date.



Entries via:

4. Smashing a key safe

If you need to have a key safe get a good one, look on this website, which has several that are registered with them:

securedbydesign.com/?post_type=product&s=keysafe

5. The letter box

To stop the use of your letter box by an intruder, consider a ‘hood’ on the inside which makes it harder to put anything through. Never leave your keys in the door, put them on a hook close by, but well out of reach. Consider blocking up the letter aperture and using an external mail box. (Ask for one of TS 009 standard, see securedbydesign.com/?post_type=product&s=letterbox for some options)

6. A ‘bogus caller’

We are still finding criminals are conning their way into people’s homes and stealing. Look out for your neighbours and encourage them not to open the door unless they really know who it is and to report anyone who will not go away or becomes difficult.

Particularly with the darker evenings, check your light timers are set to come on earlier in the afternoon. Here is wishing you a safe and secure winter.

Young fraud victims on the rise



A worrying report from ourwatch.org.uk reports that young people, previously seen as more savvy on the digital crime front, are falling victim in increasing numbers to constantly evolving, complex methods of fraud. New data reveals 24% rise in under-21s falling victim to identity fraud.

- New figures published by Cifas, the UK's leading fraud prevention service, show an alarming increase in incidences of fraud among young people
- Number of identity fraud victims among under-21s has reached a new peak, increasing by 24% in 2018
- Cifas is urging banks to 'do more to inform and educate young people' as a 26% increase of under-21s acting as 'money mules' is also revealed

Cifas has just released startling new figures showing a marked increase in the number young people falling victim to identity fraud.



The new figures reveal that Cifas members identified a 24% increase in cases of under-21-year-olds falling victim to impersonation fraud in the first nine months of this year, a significant rise from the same period in 2017. The majority of fraud for under-21s related to plastic payment cards – such as bank, debit, credit or store cards –

with 34% of all cases reported in that sector, a 79% increase in the past year.

Cifas has also reported a steep rise in the number of young people acting as 'money mules', with a 26% rise in

reported incidences in those aged 21-and-under between 2017 and 2018. So far in 2018, 9,636 under-21 money mule perpetrators were identified in the UK by Cifas members. Being a 'money mule' is when an individual allows their bank account to be used to facilitate the movement of criminal funds, a form of money laundering which carries a maximum prison sentence of up to 14 years.

Cifas is now urging banks to do more to provide information to young people when they first open an account to warn them of the implications of becoming a money mule.

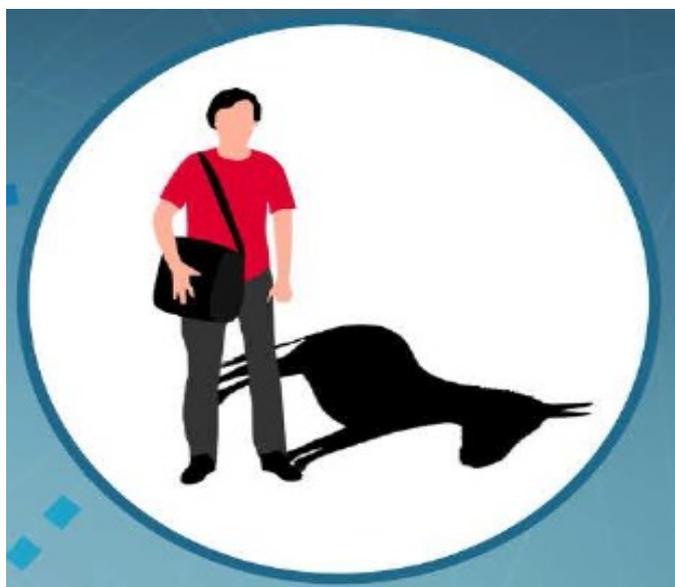
Chief Executive Officer of Cifas, Mike Haley, says: "Our new figures are alarming to say the least. Young people are increasingly at risk of becoming victims of identity fraud, with little idea of how to protect themselves. For all of us, as parents, teachers, and responsible citizens, we have a duty to ensure we're taking every opportunity to educate young people on the dangers of becoming a fraud victim – and equally, a perpetrator of fraud.

"As the rise in money mules demonstrates, many young people seem unaware of the risks they're running and the consequences it can have not only for the individual concerned but for society as a whole. More needs to be done to raise awareness about the harm of fraud and financial crime.

"We're calling on banks in particular to ensure that they are providing young people with the necessary knowledge to prevent them falling victim to fraud – or becoming fraud perpetrators."

On behalf of the Home Office-led Joint Fraud Taskforce, Cifas recently launched new lesson plans with the PSHE Association to educate young people about how serious money mule fraud is in the hope that they will think twice before getting involved.

The lesson plans also provide young people with an understanding of the protective behaviours needed to keep themselves safe from online scams and identity fraud more



Watch Updates

The final Watch Coordinators' and Members' meeting for 2018 is on 19th November, at St Mary's Church, Park Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 2SR. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Can you help?

Your Watch Coordinator does a grand job in running your Neighbourhood Watch but he/she needs your support and assistance in distributing HeathWatch and sometimes deputising at the Watch Coordinators' meeting. These are not onerous tasks and your Watch will benefit. Please do contact your Coordinator if you are able to offer your services. Many thanks.

Your Neighbourhood Watch Support Group would be very grateful for any contribution towards its work, large or small. Should you wish to contribute, our bank account details are Lloyds Bank, account name Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group, Sort Code 30-91-53, A/C No. 00859924. Thank you for any support.

Watch News

New Watches

None

Watch closures

None

Watches: New Coordinators

Watch Name/Ward

Coordinators

Abelia Close, West End

Alan Clark

Bramcote, Heatherside

Derek Laken

Badger Drive & Mount Pleasant Close

Will Wright

Useful websites

- Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch: surreyheathnw.co.uk
- In The Know: intheknow.community
- Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network: ourwatch.org.uk
- Surrey Heath Borough Council: surreyheath.gov.uk
- Safer Surrey Heath Partnership: safersurreyheath.info
- Lost Property: virtualbumblebee.co.uk
- Reporting minor crimes: police.uk
- Property Register: immobilise.com
- Most Wanted: crimestoppers-uk.org
- National Fraud Intelligence Bureau: actionfraud.org.uk
- Surrey Police: surrey.police.uk
- Twitter @surreypolice

Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinators

- Camberley, St Pauls, Old Dean, Town, St Michaels & Watchetts:
Alan Hitchcock, 01276 406911,
ahitchcock@surreyheathnw.co.uk
- Frimley, Parkside, Heatherside, Deepcut, Frimley Green & Mytchett:
Martin Shorten, 01252 838639
mshorten@surreyheathnw.co.uk
- Lightwater, Bagshot, Bisley, Chobham, West End & Windlesham:
Mike Potter, 01276 474231,
MPotter@surreyheathnw.co.uk
- Surrey Heath Police Neighbourhood Team Coordinators: 01483 639880
- Design Out Crime Officers (DOCO)
- Stephen Cake, 01483 633272, 07967 988734,
stephen.cake1@surrey.pnn.police.uk
- Mike Jones, 01483 636626, 07967987908,
mike.Jones2@surrey.pnn.police.uk