

LNWF Web-Site (Web Master Malcolm Clifford)

Log on to www.lnwf.co.uk :-

For all the latest Neighbourhood Watch News from across The County and keep up to date regarding the latest Crime news and scams etc. and news from around the Divisions

Our Web-site has a page for all the Divisions, Central, Eastern, Northern Pennine, Southern and Western, anyone requiring a page for their own Watch News could be accommodated.

All Watch News would be greatly appreciated. All details can be found on our Web contact Link.

LNWF Committee 2010 - 2011

Norman Irish	Chair	Wyre
Keith Warren MBE	Executive Officer, North West Regional Representative	Chorley
Graeme Austin	Deputy Chair	Heysham
Malcolm Clifford	Web Site Manager	Preston
Councillor Frank Turner		Wyre
Peter Tickle		South Ribble
Graeme Austin		Heysham
Anne Bretherton		South Ribble

Lancashire Constabulary Representatives

Insp. Edward Newton,	Neighbourhood Police HQ	Hutton
P.C. Mark Douthwaite,	Neighbourhood Police HQ	Hutton

They also represent Lancashire Constabulary at the North West Regional Neighbourhood /Homewatch meetings.

Crime Prevention Officers

Carol Hendey	Blackburn
Margaret Rushton	Chorley
Elaine Betts	Lancaster
Beverley Warburton	South Ribble

SPOC Single points of Contact

WESTERN: LYNSAY MILLIGAN - 404076 / ☎01253 604076

NORTHERN: ELAINE BETTS (LANCASTER) - 496988 / ☎01524 596988
TINA POOK (WYRE) - 404341 / ☎01253 604341

SOUTHERN:

BEVERLEY WARBURTON (SOUTH RIBBLE) - ☎01772 625593
MARGARET RUSHTON (CHORLEY) - 246384 / ☎01257 246384
DIANNE WATERS - (WEST LANCS) - 466353 / ☎01695 566353

CENTRAL: PS NIGEL PARKINSON - 209676 / ☎01772 209676

EASTERN: CAROL HENDEY - 353600 / ☎01254 353600

PENNINE: PC PHIL BUCK - 472705 / ☎01282 472705



This Group bring together all parties seeking to make Lancashire a safer better place and is a great help in ensuring co-ordinated activity and support at County, Regional and National level. So I would urge you if you should have concerns, questions or comments to raise Locally, Regional or at National level to contact any Committee Member and we will do our best to help.

The Committee would like to have more representatives from Divisional Watch Associations..

How to Contact the Police

Call 999 in an Emergency OR ☎0845 1 25 35 45

If there is no immediate danger to Life, or a Crime is not in progress.

British Transport Police

Free Phone: ☎0800 40 50 40 Control Room: ☎0121 654 2090 Preston Direct: ☎01772 253682

Crime Stoppers ☎0800 555 111

Trading Standards

General Enquiries: ☎01772 533569 Consumer Advice: ☎08454 040506 or ☎01772 533573

Remember when reporting an incident to say that you are a member of Neighbourhood Watch.

Please ensure that you circulate this Newsletter to as many Watch members as is possible and then to any interested people in your area.

Contact person:- Keith Warren MBE 14 Sutton Lane Adlington Nr Chorley PR6 9PA tel 01257 481850 email keithwarrenmbe@yahoo.co.uk

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Summer Edition Magazine 2010

1st ISSUE

Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Forum



LNWF



Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Forum

Working with the Communities

www.lnwf.co.uk

Community Newsletter



Lancashire Constabulary
police and communities together

Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch linking Neighbourhood Watch across the County, exchanging and promoting good practice, representing Grass Root Members Locally, County, Regional & Nationally!

Comments from our present chair, first Chair and chair NHWN

Welcome by the Chair Alderman **Norman Irish**

As the newly elected Chair of the Forum, may I take this opportunity of introducing you to the new edition of our Newsletter, hopefully to be produced twice a year in the form of a Summer and Winter edition.

We trust you will find the Newsletter both interesting and informative, and if you do have any items suitable for future editions please contact our Editor **Keith Warren** email keithwarrenmbe@yahoo.co.uk or tel **01257 481850**

From Tom Watson First Chair of Lancashire NWA

Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Forum, formerly Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Association, Being formed in 1999 after more than 6 months of consultation and planning. An initial Steering Group was formed, which I was honoured to be asked to Chair. The Steering Group developed into the first Lancashire NWA.

As the first Lancashire NWA Chair, and a founder member of the Association, I also organised its first ever Conference, at Ribby Hall Park in 2000. I was also a founder Member of the Chorley and District Neighbourhood Watch Association, and was its first Treasurer, a position I held for 13 years.

Early Lancashire NWA initiatives included distributing over 20,000 "Message in a Bottle", representing at regional and national conferences, and attracting local sponsorship.

Unfortunately, I had to stand down from Lancashire NWA through ill health, but over the years have continued to support the Association as well as other community safety initiatives such as Positive Action in Chorley East.

A great deal has happened since the Lancashire NWA formed – including partnership working with the Lancashire Constabulary, British Transport Police, LCC Trading Standards and many other statutory and voluntary organisations, and residents of all ages and backgrounds. Today it has approximately 1900 coordinators across the county, representing 97000 households.

Chair NHWN Marion Lewis OBE

Following a grant of £180,000 from the Home Office to NHWN, three new staff have been recruited to help manage and more importantly to support the 7.9 million NHW national members. The new national office will be based in Beaumont Enterprise Centre in Leicestershire.

Chair of the Trustees of NHWN Marion Lewis said " I am delighted that following a search which took us to view many offices across England, the NHWN has chosen to continue to stay within the East Midlands region and in particular Leicestershire."

The new staffs have been in post since May 17th 2010.

- **Kate Daisley** – Operations Director: Kate will manage the strategic development of NHWN, implement the Business Plan and play a key part in supporting the national board to deliver agreed outcomes.

- **Sundeep Gill** – Development Manager: Sunny will support NHWN members, NHW associations and grassroots groups in delivering their activities and outcomes. She will also work with all members to ensure a wide participation in annual events including NHW Week.

- **Catherine Dunn** – Information & Database Officer: Catherine will support regional representatives and local associations and grassroots groups by developing co-ordinated systems to share information, develop and manage the database of members and partners and be the first point of contact for enquiries

Comments relevant to this Report would be most welcome in order to formulate a more Comprehensive 3 year Plan of Development

LNWF 3 year Sustainability Report

Presented to the Executive Committee

Monday 10th May 2010

Since the establishment in 1999 the County Neighbourhood Watch Organisation has made steady progress, providing whenever possible optimum support to Watch Members across the County and assisted in the development of the National Association and Regional structures.

With the advent of the Service Level Agreement between the the LNWF and the Lancashire Constabulary the said document provides the opportunity for the first time for the LNWF Forum to undertake to ensure Neighbourhood Watch continues to develop professionally and maintain the reputation for being a pro-active Watch Organisation.

Priorities must be centred around raising the profile of LNWF and establishing a robust Network of Constituted Divisional Watch Associations throughout the County. The LNWF must take a stance in influencing decisions at Regional and National Level ensuring our Grass Roots Members are fully represented at all levels at all times. Our Grass Root Members must continue to be listened too and its essential to the Watch movement that their views are taken into consideration at all levels of the Organisation.

LNWF in Association with our Partners must develop initiatives in tackling Crime and the perceived fear of crime and LNWF must help people to protect themselves and their properties. Continued efforts must be made to increase the number of Watches throughout the County.

The LNWF Forum is uniquely placed with the Service Level Agreement to offer them this type of support.

LNWF must at all time Promote and support the Home Office Policy on Neighbourhood Watch, Crime Prevention and the Third Sector and LNWF must communicate effectively.

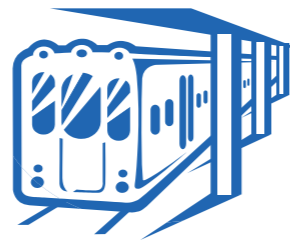
LNWF vision at all times must be that of a caring organisation that is founded on Trust and Respect in which people are safe from Crime and live in Communities that enjoy a good quality of life.

During the past three years thanks to Salford University and the excellent services of Malcolm Clifford our Web-Site Manager. We have a Web-site to be proud of, it is both informative, interesting and it also promotes up to-date News items. The Web-Site is a most valuable communication tool. We must ensure funding is always made available to maintain the Site.

The question of Funding must be a Top Priority during the next three years to maintain the sustainability of LNWF and continued development of Neighbourhood Watch throughout the County at all times. LNWF must question itself on an annual basis to ensure its continual development.

A review of our aims shall be carried out prior to the next election of Officer procedures in 2012

British Transport Police – Lancashire



BTP have moved from a response style of policing and have adopted Neighbourhood Policing on the railway network across Lancashire.

There are 3 teams each under the supervision of a Sgt who will cover three sectors across Lancashire, from Blackpool to all areas on the east of the county.

This style of policing will give you dedicated officers, who will have responsibility for a number of stations and lines within your community.

By having identifiable officers you will have the ability to contact them and raise issues which are affecting you.

Our aim is to be attending and holding Pact meetings to help identify any problems which in the past have remained unreported and never resolved.

And by working in partnership with other agencies such as Network rail and Lancashire Police we aim to be able to take significant steps in resolving those issues.

With dedicated teams, neighbourhood policing allows us to deal with issues at your own station, on your local line and within your own community – where it matters the most.

EAST SECTOR NPT

Sgt. Neil Wildridge (neil.wildridge@btp.pnn.police.uk)

Pc Vicky Griffiths – **Cherry Tree, Mill Hill, Blackburn, Rishton**
Pc John Wilson – **Accrington, Huncoat, Hapton, Church & Oswaldtwistle**

Pc Keith Holmes – **Clitheroe, Whalley, Langho**
Pc Steve Davies – **Ramsgreave, Blackburn, Darwen, Entwistle**

Pc Neil Rawsthorne – **Rose Grove Colne, Nelson, Brierfield**
Pc Chris Haughton – **Burnley Barracks, Burnley Central, Burnley Manchester Road**

WEST SECTOR NPT

Sgt. Darren Fawcett (darren.fawcett@btp.pnn.police.uk)

Pc Al Fernie – **Blackpool North, Layton**
Pc Paul Cooper – **Poulton, Kirkham, Salwick**
Pc Gary Clarke – **Blackpool South, Blackpool Pleasure Beach, Squires Gate**
Pc Steve Catterall – **St. Annes, Ansdell, Lytham, Moss Side**

CENTRAL SECTOR NPT

T/Sgt. Paul Southwell (paul.southwell@btp.pnn.police.uk)

Pc Ric Herbert – **Adlington, Chorley, Euxton, Bamber Bridge and Pleasington**
PC Adam Birkbeck

PC John Phillips – **Lostock Hall, Leyland, Croston, Rufford & Burscough Junction**
Pc Lorraine Faulkner

Enquiries: ☎0800-40-50-40 - Call Centre

Problems: ☎01772-253682

Mike Wedderburn - Inspector 3257 Officer in Charge

News from our Co-ordinators.

Graeme Austin LNWF

For career purposes I moved to Lancashire in 1997 and live and work in Heysham. Coming from the overcrowded south-east I enjoy the space and variety of landscapes on offer 'up north'. The lakes, dales and moors are now my adventure playground and I explore them on foot, bicycle or motorbike at every opportunity.

I became involved with Neighbourhood Watch some ten years ago when our road was experiencing problems with anti-social behaviour and damage.

Since then I have become a police community volunteer and a member of the LNWF committee.

The link between the community police team and Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators is an important one. About half of the co-ordinators attend the monthly PACT meetings along with councillors, youth group leaders and local residents. Not all of the actions are taken away by the police. The recently signed service level agreement is an exciting development for our organisation and it will take a great deal of hard work by all parties to make it work effectively.

In this age of instant communication getting our message out is the big challenge. Not everyone is computer savvy or can do text messages. As well as being posted on line, printed versions of the Heysham new-sletter are available at the local library, Youth and Community centre and are passed down the streets house to house. For me this is the best method as it encourages neighbourly contact – which is what Neighbourhood Watch is all about. Not just crime prevention but looking after the vulnerable on our own doorsteps. During the winter it may be just getting the paper, milk and bread for people who cannot get out, or making sure they are keeping warm. Looking out for them if rogue traders are in the district or scams are operating

I recently participated in the Community Crime Fighters programme and look forward to doing my bit at local and county level. The peer to peer visiting programme is interesting as it will enable watches and PACT meetings to share best practice and ideas – it will also give me an excuse to get the bike out!

Graeme Austin

WHAT'S A CO-ORDINATOR

“I wondered if you would consider being a Chorley and District Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for your lane in Charnock Richard?” the voice on the end of the telephone said.

“Oh ok” says I “what's involved?”

“Well....” He replied “All you have to do is keep an eye out for any problems regarding policing, in your area, let your neighbours know you are their co-ordinator and any information they have you will pass on.

“Great” says little ol' me “I can do that.....”

So I let everybody in the lane know – relaxed and as Nick say's on Crime watch – “Sleep well, don't have nightmares” etc....Hello” I said answering the phone “ Oh can you help? There's a herd of about fifteen ponies escaped from their field and galloping down the lane towards the main road”.

Wellies on, 4X4 across the lane, farm gates opened outwards and broom in hand I watch transfixed as about six little cute shaggy creatures stroll toward me munching on the grass at the edge of the verges then on through the open gate into a lovely lush field, I could almost hear these endearing ponies singing The green green grass of home – not the crime of the century, but glad to be of assistance!!

“Hi” I said answering the door to a man and his dog.

“You've got cows owt 'ere onth lane” he said – man not dog – “Thowt you'de wanna know as they ave 'orns”

“Oh yes ta, lovely, thanks for letting me know, I'll inform the farmer” Call farmer, shut gates on house opposite (well - cows were in her front garden and I needed to contain them) she, I have to say was not amused at the cow pats and dints in grass, but that's life. The big black and white with 'orns was quite amicable really, and the coat I was wearing was really old anyway – the bruises took a while to go but maybe singing ROLLING ROLLING ROLLING _ RAWHIDE was not to her liking. Still I stopped them straying onto the railway line – even with 'orns she was no match for the 6.30 to London.

I have to say there has been a dumping of rubbish (registration number taken and duly given to environmental dept. and police) Motor bikers and sharp shooters at the local signs, sign now says **N TH OUCH OAD** – I'm still trying to decipher that one, it will come I just need a bit of time.

So with every ones help, and my quick mind and wit (*NO I DIDN'T FORGET THE T*)

The lane is now a haven of peace and tranquillity and all because I decided “I can do that”

So you could do that too, it takes one person in each lane, road or avenue to fight crime and criminal damage, not to turn a blind eye but to be there for each other and be a C.A.D.N.W.A. Co-ordinator.

And there is more see next page

Cassandra Wellum





Hello, Marton Super Squirrel here, Mascot for Marton/Fylde Neighbourhood Watch & **“Super ★ Star”** (just made that last part up!!!!),

I think that I have just spent the most Boring 2 hours of my life watching my “Adopted Human Mummy” paint a wall, ready, she explained for a lean-to Greenhouse.

I now understand the well known expression “Watching paint dry!!!!”

I was feeling decidedly grumpy by the time Mummy had finished, and even the offer of some Hazelnuts did not help my mood.

Mummy came in from the garden all “Smiley and Happy!”

“Right next job” she said “Neighbourhood Watch Business”

“OH MUMMY, I WANT TO HAVE FUN” I said.

*“Listen Marton, when the greenhouse is up we will have lots of fun watching things grow, but you need to understand that when you own a house it is not enough just to invest time and work on your property, you also need to invest and care for the Area that you live in as well, that is why **You & Neighbourhood Watch is so Important to Everyone”***

Mummy is right of course, and just like me she is

NUTS ABOUT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH!!!!

BYE BYE FOR NOW ... MARTON SUPER SQUIRREL

Written and Produced by Mary Naylor

Energy firms guarantee to respect consumers who say no to cold callers

Fed up consumers who say no to receiving cold calls have today won assurances from energy firms that they will no longer be bothered on the doorstep.

Following lengthy campaigning by energy watchdog Consumer Focus and the Trading Standards Institute (TSI) the Big Six energy companies have said they are now committed to respecting the wishes of people who live in recognised 'no cold calling zones' or display signs saying no to cold callers.

Evidence has shown that it has been routine practice for energy agents to ignore householders' requests not to receive unsolicited calls, even when they live in a No Cold Calling Zone or display a sticker outside their home warning off doorstep sellers.(1)

Research by the energy regulator Ofgem in 2008 revealed that just under half of customers who switched supplier in response to a direct sales approach ended up on a worse deal. (2) This prompted the introduction of new protections around energy sales so that when consumers sign up to a new deal on the doorstep they must receive a price comparison to prove the deal being offered is better than their existing one. In addition a Consumer Focus survey in July 2009 revealed that nearly seven out of 10 consumers who had received a direct sales call from an energy supplier rated the experience as negative and a third described the experience as intimidating. (3)

Consumer Focus and TSI say that energy companies should have strict penalties for any sales-staff who break the commitment on cold callers. If consumers still receive cold calls at their door from energy suppliers despite clearly displaying a sign requesting not to do so, they should complain directly to the energy firm in question and contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040506.

Audrey Gallacher, energy expert for Consumer Focus, said:

'If householders clearly say they don't want salespeople to call, energy companies should assume they mean it. Whether people display a sticker saying they live in a No Cold Calling Zone or scribble a sign on the back of a piece of paper and stick it in the window, energy companies should respect their wishes.

'Energy salespeople and their firms have had a poor reputation for years because many have not shown basic respect to people on their own doorsteps. This is a victory for common sense. Energy firms should stick to their promise but if people continue to get cold calls from salespeople, they should contact Consumer Direct and complain to the company in question.'

Brian Smith, crime and disorder lead officer at TSI, said:

'The energy companies' recognition of the signage and No Cold Calling Zones will assist Trading Standards and the Police in their fight against doorstep crime and rogue traders. It gives a positive lead in the business sector and should be seen as an example of good practice and ethical behaviour by all companies that cold call consumers in their homes.'

'No Cold Calling Zones, launched by TSI in 2005, have been growing in popularity over the years, but there remains a hard core of salesmen, deliberately ignoring the wishes of residents in these areas. While we have some concern over which NCCZs will deem to be 'recognised' by the energy companies, this is a very welcome step forward. NCCZs and door signage is not just designed to deter rogues; a major aim is to protect citizens, especially the vulnerable, from feeling pressured in their homes by salesmen. TSI is firmly of the view that No means No.'



MASS MARKETING FRAUD can take all sorts of guises. Anybody, can be taken in by this type of crime, however, it would appear that the elderly are most at risk, but in most cases, the effects of this crime are devastating, not only for the victim, but for their families too. Traditionally, these types of scams have been relatively easy to spot, however, the fraudsters are becoming increasingly innovative and as a result more people are being conned into wrongly believing that they are rightfully entitled to receive vast amounts of money. Mass marketing fraud is a very complicated crime for the Police to investigate and successful prosecutions in this country are relatively rare. The fraudsters are proficient at distancing themselves from the crime, as they usually conduct their operations in and via overseas jurisdictions and make use of accommodation addresses, mail forwarding and money transfer agents to cover their tracks. Hence, Lancashire Constabulary has initiated a two year project aimed at prevention by education and by working together, not only as a Force but with our various partners. I am grateful to Keith Warren of the Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Association for assisting the Constabulary with this venture and I would urge everybody reading this publication to stop and consider someone known to them who might be vulnerable to this type of crime

Detective Inspector Janet Baldwin Lancashire Police.

A National Story

'THINK JESSICA and SAY NO'

Don't be a **SCAM MAIL VICTIM'**

The full Jessica Story can be found by clicking on to www.Thinkjessica.com web-site.

Think Jessica Story was the focus of a Mass Marketing Fraud Conference hosted by Lancashire Constabulary on the 12th February 2010. Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Forum has decided to support the Jessica campaign across the County.

Unfortunately Jessica became a chronic Scam Mail Victim, despite the best efforts of family members. Over some 5 years Jessica sent around £50,000 to the Scammers and had even suggested releasing some Equity from her house. Fortunately the house was in the name of her three children so she could not sell it. Lindsay Hoyle MP has raised the question of Scam Mail in the Prime Minister's Question Time.

If you think that people who fall for SCAM letters are stupid.

THINK AGAIN

Scam Mail is NOT Junk Mail, registering with the Mail Preference Service will not reduce or stop it from being delivered

- Criminals worldwide are sending millions of Scam letters into the UK
- Scammers from abroad can have Scam Mail disguised with the Royal Mail printed stamp, to give it the impression it has originated from this Country(see Campaign page)
- They are hunting down and preying on our most vulnerable.
- Scam mail tricks, befriends, threatens, and often swears the victim to secrecy
- After replying to the first “tempter” letter victims are put on the “suckers list” these lists are sold to other criminals all over the world.
- **A chronic scam victim** is someone repeatedly taken in by scams. This may be because they are trusting, socially isolated, or suffer from a mental incapacity such as confusion, memory loss or dementia.
- **30/40/50** over 100 criminal letters a day is not unusual for a chronic victim.
- Those snared will empty Bank Accounts and sell homes to keep with the scammers demands.
- 22,000 chronic victims replied to one scam in one day sending £500,000. (see SOCA news)
- Victims are also harassed and threatened by phone calls.
- Currently no help is available for chronic victims or their families, (other than “lip service”)
- **£3.5 billion** is scammed from UK citizens each year, only one in five victims comes forward!
- Chronic Victims need supporting by the Government/Taxpayer when they have been robbed of their wealth, but emotional devastation caused by criminal mail can never be measured

TRADING STANDARDS DOORSTEP CRIME PROJECT has as its main aim the protection of Elderly and Vulnerable from exploitation by doorstep callers and SCAM mailings. Many victims of this type of crime are lonely and isolated and unlikely to report incidents to the authorities. They can therefore be most difficult members of the Community to make contact with, particularly to provide information to which may prevent from becoming victims in the first instance.

Neighbourhood Watch provide a valuable contact for us within communities. Representatives can pass early warnings about callers in the area, and can pass back vital information which may never otherwise come to light

Trading Standards can only ever be part of a solution – the support and commitment provided by our partners in the Community gives that vital link of local care and support, together with the exchange of two way information to better address the perpetrators of these crimes.

Amanda Maxim LCC Trading Standards

Community Safety Officer Lyndsay Milligan said: "Neighbourhood Watch sees neighbourhood policing teams working with local residents.

"The event was a chance to find out about how you can get involved in the scheme and how it can assist in reducing crime in your area."

Representatives from the police and local councillors attended the event along with members of Neighbourhood Watch.

Free bike marking was offered by the police to residents attending the event.

The aim of Neighbourhood Watch is to prevent crime, assist the police in detecting crime, reduce the fear of crime and improve police and community liaison.

Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators are regularly updated on police news, given local crime figures and crime prevention literature and receive regular contact with members of their neighbourhood policing team.

Over 100 people attended the event and was a great success. Lesley even made it on to the radio Lancashire promoting the event.

If you are interested in finding out more about Neighbourhood Watch, contact your community beat manager or call Lyndsay Milligan on 01253 604076.

Boost to Neighbourhood Watch scheme

THE Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Talbot ward has had a boost after 15 new coordinators joined the scheme.

The crime prevention scheme, which sees neighbourhood policing teams working with local residents, originally had two active coordinators within the ward.

It now has 17 active coordinators for the association after local officers raised awareness of the scheme and encouraged other members of the community to get involved.

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for Talbot ward Dennis Nelson said: "The Neighbourhood Watch scheme is one the most successful crime prevention initiatives introduced.

"It is a vital element in assisting the police to reduce crime and it also helps reassure those residents who live in a Neighbourhood Watch area of their safety and encourages neighbourliness and closer communities."

The Neighbourhood Watch scheme for Talbot now has its own website,
<http://fyldeneighbourhoodwatch.co.uk/talbot/>.

A neighbourhood watch coordinator is responsible for arranging meetings for representatives and communicating relevant police information on crime. They circulate crime prevention information and encourage members to inform the police quickly of suspicious and criminal incidents.

If you are interested in becoming a neighbourhood watch co-ordinator, contact your community beat manager or call Lyndsay Milligan on 01253 604076.

THE Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Brunswick ward has had a boost after ten new coordinators joined the scheme.

The crime prevention scheme, which sees neighbourhood policing teams working with local residents, originally had two active coordinators within the ward. It now has twelve active coordinators for the association after local officers raised awareness of the scheme and encouraged other members of the community to get involved. Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for Brunswick ward Andy Machin said: "The Neighbourhood Watch scheme is one the most successful crime prevention initiatives introduced. "It is a vital element in assisting the police to reduce crime and it also helps reassure those residents who live in a Neighbourhood Watch area of their safety and encourages neighbourliness and closer communities."

A neighbourhood watch coordinator is responsible for arranging meetings for representatives and communicating relevant police information on crime. They circulate crime prevention information and encourage members to inform the police quickly of suspicious and criminal incidents. If you are interested in becoming a neighbourhood watch coordinator, contact your community beat manager or call Lyndsay Milligan on 01253 604076

JUSTICE SEEN JUSTICE DONE COMES TO BLACKPOOL

30 seconds with Russ Weaver, Blackpool's Crime and Justice Coordinator

What is Justice Seen, Justice Done?

Justice Seen, Justice Done (JSJD), is a national campaign that does exactly what it says; it's there to make justice work and make sure that people see it working locally.

In Blackpool JSJD will make a difference not only to how antisocial behaviour and crime is dealt with, but will also make the Criminal Justice System work better for people than it does now. For instance, the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has just appointed a Community Prosecutor whose job is to make sure that the CPS listens to how local people feel which informs their decision making. Magistrates too have started coming out and meeting community groups to listen to what local people want from the Courts.



You hardly ever hear what happens to people when they get caught, or even if they get caught?

There is more going on than people realise, but that is part of the problem; it is behind the scenes and it shouldn't be. I am making arrangements for much better information to be given out to local people about what the Police, Council and many others are doing about crime in their area. You may even see people who have committed crime in your area working hard on 'Community Payback schemes' that you suggested needed doing near you.

Isn't 'community payback' a soft option to prison?

Many criminals who get community payback sentences say they would actually prefer prison, so a community sentence is not 'getting off' with anything!

A community sentence can drag on for months and can be quite tough with offenders undertaking work which is unpaid, hard, dirty and unpleasant. Also while they're out doing this work, offenders are required to wear high visibility orange jackets with the words Community Payback on the front and back, meaning that members of the public are able to know that justice is being done. All in all, it's about very public hard work.

Police Open Day

BLACKPOOL and the Fylde police will be holding an open day between 11am and 4pm on Sunday 25 July.

It will be held in St John's Square in the town centre and will provide residents with the chance to find out more about the work that the police do. There will also be plenty of entertainment and lots of fun activities to get involved in.

The event will be free of charge to attend and any money raised will be donated to Trinity and Brian House Children's Hospice.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

As part of National Neighbourhood & Home Watch Week, which takes place between Monday 14th and Sunday 20th June, police are asking people to think about joining watch schemes that already exist in their neighbourhoods, or to consider forming a new scheme if appropriate. Neighbourhood Watch is a community-run initiative where members work closely with the police to help create safer and confident neighbourhoods. It is a large and extremely successful crime prevention partnership and there are currently 1900 schemes covering 97,000 households across Lancashire.

Inspector Eddie Newton said "Neighbourhood Policing in Lancashire is one of our most important priorities. Her Majesty's Inspectorate considers us to be a 'beacon force' in both Neighbourhood Policing and in delivering the Policing Pledge commitments to the public. We are currently the only force in the country to be graded as 'Exceeds the standard' for Neighbourhood Policing (www.hmic.gov.uk/MyPolice)

We have 231 Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NHPT) in Lancashire providing community policing to 1004 Neighbourhoods. Every square foot of Lancashire has its own NHPT, so no matter where you live or work in the county you have a team of Community Beat Managers and Police Community Support Officers dedicated to you.

However, we recognise that we cannot achieve safe and secure communities on our own. We need to work with those who live in each community and other organisations (e.g. Councils, Housing Associations and Lancashire Fire and Rescue) to be successful.

The Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch network is critical to achieving success and its members are considered by the Constabulary to be key partners. It is for this reason we have worked with the Lancashire NHW Forum (<http://lnwf.co.uk/>) and recently signed a Service Level Agreement (SLA) that will set out how both organisations will work together for the good of our communities. The agreement has chief officer support at the highest level and has seen our partnership with LNWF go from strength to strength.

In addition, we recently hosted the Lancashire NHW forum AGM at police headquarters. Guest speakers from Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Trading Standards provided valued support and enhanced what was a hugely successful event.

Keith Warren, MBE, CEO of The Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Forum said: "The Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Forum since its formation in 1999 has always received excellent support from the Lancashire Constabulary at all levels.

"The agreement not only strengthens our Partnership but will ensure that Lancashire will continue to be safe and a stronger place to live, work and visit"

If you would like to become a Neighbourhood Watch coordinator or to find out more about joining a scheme in your area, please get in touch with your divisional single point of contact (details below)

To contact your local neighbourhood policing team visit the Lancashire Constabulary website (<http://www.lancashire.police.uk/>) type your postcode into the My Neighbourhood panel and you will be taken to your own local pages.

You'll be able to see who your local team is, how to contact them by phone and e-mail, what the current priorities are and also what action has been taken over the past month.

You can also see crime maps for your area on those pages.

Alternatively, you can ring 0845 1 25 35 45.

You can also call Crimestoppers with information about crime on 0800 555 111. You do not have to say who you are, only what you know.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Divisional News

Chorley

Open Spaces Watch

Chorley & District Neighbourhood Watch Association has launched an "Open Spaces Watch" to compliment the other factors that it focuses on. Neighbourhood Watch predominantly focuses on the immediate area in which you live, but our lives do not completely revolve around our homes.

A substantial amount of us are workers, dog walkers, ramblers, joggers, fishermen and women, birdwatchers, photographers, etc. and have other interests which involves the utilisation of the open spaces surrounding Chorley. The fundamental idea behind this is for anyone that is using the local facilities in our parks, gardens, and other open spaces to become more observant as to what is happening in the more remote parts of Chorley and passing relevant information to the relevant agency who could either help alleviate the problem, or be utilise the information.

We are approaching all types of groups who use these facilities, on a regular basis, to sign up for this new initiative which hopefully will see the number of crimes, fly tipping offences, and acts of anti-social behaviour drop.

A large number of organisations have already been contacted to join this group and these include The Friends of: Astley Park; Cuerden Valley Park; Yarrow Valley Park; The Friends of The River Yarrow; and Healey Nab, together with United Utilities, British Transport Police, The West Pennine Moor Advisory Group, Chorley Borough Council and British Waterways.

"Open Spaces Watch" will keep its members up to date with regular newsletters and later in the New Year provide credit card sized cards which will contain all relevant points of contact where you can inform different agencies of any problems you encounter.

The Chorley & District Neighbourhood Watch Association want to encourage all the residents, within the Chorley & District area and beyond, to become involved in this initiative becoming the unassuming eyes, ears and guardians of our green spaces which could have a significant impact on these areas.

If you would like to become involved in this initiative and require any further information then please do not hesitate to contact Margaret Rushton, Community Crime Prevention for Chorley Police, on 01257-246384.

Heysham

The 'Think Jessica' DVD was shown at our PACT meeting in Heysham last night to a mixed audience. I explained a little about the background and the fact that it was shown at our AGM. Shocked and amazed were the two main responses. I have at least two other groups who are keen to watch it; the local Royal Air Forces Association branch and a senior citizens church group. I will make arrangements as soon as practicable. Once word has got round I am sure there will be more viewings. You have to think a bit laterally as well, I have asked my wife to see if her colleagues at the residential care home would like to see it. I will try my best to ensure the copy we have in Lancaster / Morecambe is utilized and am happy to go along and introduce it if required.

Graeme

Eastern Division

Carol Hendey Crime prevention Officer took part in a live broadcast on Radio Lancashire regarding the launch of National Neighbourhood Watch Week. Carol spoke with regard to the signing of the Service Level Agreement between Lancashire Constabulary and the Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Forum and the important role Neighbourhood Watch plays in creating safer and stronger Communities.

Blackpool

Neighbourhood Watch awareness day

Residents were invited to attend a Neighbourhood Watch awareness day to find out more about the crime prevention scheme.

The event, was organised by two neighbourhood watch coordinators Frank and Lesley Turvey, and was held between 12pm to 3pm on Saturday 27 March at The Guard's Club on Whitegate Drive.