

Rother Neighbourhood Watch.

July 2014.



Hello everyone.

Welcome to our July issue of Rother Neighbourhood Watch newsletter. Since April we have attended 6 events in Rother to raise funds. The events so far this year are Bexhill Sainsbury's. The Horse show in the Polgrove where we got soaked because the Chairman (i.e. Ted) took the wrong gazebo and it turned out not to be waterproof, so I was not in the good books that day with the rest of the committee. Our Open Garden at 4 Fir Tree Close went well and we had lots of compliments. We hope to do it again next year but a different month. Bexhill Hospital Open Day. And Sainsbury's. . Little Common Fete.

Event for July, August, & September

20th July Bexhill Fun Day in Egerton Park. 10.00 to 17.00

25th July Rother Neighbourhood Watch meeting at Bexhill Town Hall.

13.30 For Tea/Coffee for a 14.00 Start.

27th July Bexhill Moto Fest 2014 the De La Warr Pavilion Terrace 9am - 5pm

16th August 1066 Game & Country Fayre

23rd August Sainsbury's 10.00 to 15.00

20th September Bexhill Fire Station Open Day.



**The Queen's Diamond
Jubilee Volunteering
Award 2012**

Members of the Committee.

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VICE CHAIRMAN Mr. Keith Miller 01424 224401

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webmaster@rothernhw.co.uk

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MINUTES Lynda Fookes.



02 July 2014

New Service Level Agreements between Sussex Police and Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) have been signed in Rother District.

District Commander Chief Inspector Warren Franklin and Rother Neighbourhood Watch chairman Ted Kemp met at Battle police station on Wednesday 18 June to officially agree the levels of service expected of both organizations.

Mr. Kemp said: "I'm very happy to sign up to the NHW service level agreement. We have a really good relationship with the police and in Rother we are already doing all that's required from both sides of the agreement, so this is just a formality for us both.

Neighbourhood Watch is going from strength to strength and that can only come from working hard together helping and reassuring victims of crime, reducing the fear of crime and being the ears and the eyes out on the streets. That's what we're here for and long may it continue!"

Chief Inspector Franklin said: "I'm really pleased to have signed the Service Level Agreement with Rother Neighbourhood Watch. They are really supportive of local policing efforts and provide a great additional service in assisting Sussex Police and the residents of Rother. I look forward to our continued partnership working and I am really grateful to Rother NHW for all their help."

This local agreement follows a county level signing by Police and Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne, Assistant Chief Constable Robin Smith and NHW Federation chairman John Wright MBE on 30 May 2014.



Neighbourhood Watch Supporting Burglary Victims In Bexhill

Rother police are enhancing their victim care by launching a Neighbourhood Watch burglary initiative that will offer follow-up visits to recent victims of crime.

With an initial focus on victims of burglary in Bexhill, victims will be offered the opportunity to receive a follow-up visit from Rother Neighbourhood Watch team who will provide further reassurance, crime prevention advice and an insight into Neighbourhood Watch and the benefits of greater community cohesion in being vigilant to crime.

As Chairman of Rother Neighbourhood Watch I am pleased that we are being recognized in the help we are giving the Rother policing team. I feel that the idea of us doing a follow-up visit to victims of crime is essential as it will give us more insight on what we are looking out for in the future and enables us to be there for the members of the public who have had a crime committed on or in their property."

It's not always what an intruder takes from your home; it's that someone has been in your home without an invite that can be the most upsetting. Also we would have more time to listen and reassure you that we are here when you need us most.

The Initial concept of the scheme was devised by PCSO Rachael Scott of Bexhill Neighbourhood Poling Team, who said: "This is a really positive step forward in working together with Rother Neighbourhood Watch. We are hoping that the extra reassurance from RNHW visits may encourage victims of crime to sign up and become active member's themselves. The more RNHW circulating topical crime messages and keeping an eye on their neighbours can only help with reducing the fear of crime and encourage neighbours to become vigilant in the streets that they live in. RNHW are a vital part of pro-active policing and we thank them for their continued positive support."

This Pilot scheme is being carried out on behalf of Sussex Police and if successful could be pushed out across Sussex

Rother District Commander Warren Franklin said: "Sussex Police is committed to working alongside our many partners and volunteers to help keep Sussex a safe place to live. The enthusiasm and willingness by Rother Neighbourhood Watch to be involved in this scheme highlights the excellent partnership we have and will go a long way to bringing the community closer together."

The pilot scheme will be launched at the beginning of June and last for three months at which point it will be reviewed by Sussex Police and Rother Neighbourhood Watch.

New PCSO's in Rother.

Bexhill Town.

Town Centre. PCSO David Jones. 07769241006

Sidley. PCSO Ryan Welby. 07810815131

Old Town. PCSO Vikki Kemp. 07557031306

Battle.

Ticehurst, Wadhurst, Etchingam. PCSO Iain Tomsett.

Netherfield. PCSO Sam Kemp. 07787685723

Rye.

PCSO Ruth Seal. 07901715967

PCSO stands for

Police Community Support Officer.

Jason.Kemp@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Speeding continues to be a key concern for all the residents in the Rother area. Have you got a problem with speeding drivers in your area?

Residents are being encouraged to help tackle the issue by joining Community Speed Watch groups to catch motorists driving illegally.

Rother has a Community Speed Watch team and we are looking for more people to become involved. Volunteers are trained by police officers in how to use speed monitoring equipment and make the reports to us. Offenders are written to and warned to stick to the speed limits while those caught repeatedly breaking the law are monitored by police patrols.

It is only through working in collaboration with the local community to help educate drivers that we will stand a chance of reducing speeds and making our communities safer.

If you are interested in joining the Rother Community Speed Watch team, email jason.kemp@sussex.pnn.police.uk or call 101 ext. 564243.

What is Rother Neighbourhood Watch Doing? In Rye.

In Rye we are recruiting Co-coordinators as well as other areas of Rother. We will be at the Northiam Fete on Saturday 09th August with PCSO Rebekah Unicombe and would love to see you there to have a chat and catch up on what we can do to help you.

If you have an event or meeting that you would like us to attend please contact us on the addresses on the second page of this newsletter.

I will get around to your areas to give a talk but it will take time to cover the area of Rother.

I hope that next year when I am typing this I will be telling you a lot more of things that we are doing in your area, but I will need your help to make this happen.

What is Rother Neighbourhood Watch Doing in Battle?

Catsfield was once a strong Neighbourhood Watch area, but for some unknown reason it came to a standstill. Was it because there was no communication between the committee and the residents of this village?

As the new Chairman I intend to promote Catsfield as a safe place to live for the community. I will need your help in making this happen.

My committee and I have been door to door dropping flyers explaining who I am, and a form for you to fill in, with a stamped addressed envelope to send back to us .I have received some of them back and they have now received their welcome packs, but we would like to get more of you onto our books.

Please note that the information you enter on the joining form is confidential and secure. Each coordinator has a police check before he/she can start, if they have any conviction`s we do not allow them to come onto our books.

Please do not wait for something to happen in your area before you join, get in touch now. And the saying I hate most of all is,

(IT WON'T HAPPEN TO ME.)

Our Contact details are on the second page of this newsletter.

Bexhill-on-Sea resident resists attempted courier fraud

On Monday, 9 June, there was a courier fraud attempt on a Bexhill-on-Sea resident.

A telephone call was received at approximately 2pm from a man claiming to be from the Ministry of Justice. He claimed to be calling in relation to PPI (payment protection insurance) and said that the resident was owed £2040.

The man then said that the intended victim needed to pay a £250 administration fee and asked her to go to a local shop and purchase a cash conversion money voucher to the value of £250.

The fraudster then told the victim she would need to go back to her home address and await collection of the voucher from the Ministry of Justice.

Thankfully the recipient of this suspicious telephone call realised that this was a scam and contacted police.

Inspector James Scott, of the Bexhill Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: "We want to encourage everyone to continue to resist telephone calls like these and to please pass on this information to any friends and relatives who may not be aware of this particular type of targeted fraud, which looks to exploit elderly and vulnerable people."

If you ever doubt the credentials or intentions of anybody calling you, or you receive a suspicious telephone call asking for bank details or instructing you to withdraw money or purchase a money voucher, we urge you to contact police immediately. No genuine organisation will ever ask to collect money or bank cards from your home or ask you to confirm a PIN (personal identification number).

If you receive a suspicious telephone call of this nature, call 101 or email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk quoting Operation Edisto.

If somebody is at your door, or if you believe somebody is on their way to your address expecting to collect money or bank details from you, call police on 999 immediately.

The Life of a Wildlife PCSO in Battle.

The Wildlife and Heritage Officers role is to deal with reports of Wildlife and Heritage Crime and link in with those partner agencies and authorities to best deal with them in a timely manner. The role is also about education and working with communities as well as positive enforcement.

I have worked in the role for five years and I pro-actively engage with all my local communities encouraging the reporting of crimes, I further patrol and offer reassurance to those affected by those related crimes.

For me to be most effective I work with many partner agencies and authorities to enable me to deal with reports effectively and with most impact, with the expertise of partners we can address those identified issues.

Working with Partners has the added benefits that we all have different tools and where one may not be able to deal with an issue generally another one can, it is though our combined strengths we are most effective.

I will deal with reports of Wildlife and Heritage crime which can come through the reporting channels as criminal damage, wildlife persecution, theft, trespass with firearms, examples such as Badger sett and Bat roost destruction, arson, and many more.

I have had involvement with many reports and incidents both Wildlife and Heritage related, one Operation I was very involved with was around Poachers in Rural Rother Sussex was very successful with several arrests which resulted in a number of convictions and firearms offences. I have investigated reports of Night Hawking (illicit metal detecting) and have had positive intervention with those parties involved including successful prosecutions. I have had further involvement with Heritage crimes which are currently being

investigated one of which is another Operation around Post Box Thefts and the other around further Night Hawking.

The profile of Heritage and Wildlife Crime is growing rapidly in Sussex. I attend Archaeological Forums at Lewes and Link in very closely with the Portable Antiquity Scheme's finds liaison Officer and County Archaeologist and his team. I further work closely with English Heritage and local history groups and the local Archaeology group in Hastings.

With regards to Wildlife crime I link in with the RSPCA, Natural England and the Forestry Commission, and have given talks at local RSPB Royal Society of the protection of birds and have worked with BASC British association for shooting and conservation and the Deer Society. I make a point of linking in with local landowners, estate managers and gamekeepers. I also work closely with the rural communities and local services.

I feel very strongly that encouraging the reporting of crime and working/educating Communities is the key to reducing all crime. I engage with everyone that I can as to enable me to have eyes and ears across all the areas I cover. By building trust and rapports intelligence can be built and crime can be reduced, the biggest part of my message is to encourage reporting..... if it doesn't look or feel right please call it in at the time on "101" or "999"



Neighbourhood Watch and comparethemarket.com reveal special edition logo

New research reveals 65% agree neighbourhoods would be stronger if people were encouraged to get to know each other better

- Yet one in 10 can't name a single neighbour
- Residents encouraged to join local neighbourhood and home watch scheme at comparethemarket.com/neighbourhoods to strengthen communities
- Iconic Neighbourhood Watch window sticker given new meerkat twist as the famous characters use their cheeky charm to help attract a wider audience

News research* out today, Wednesday 15 July, reveals that one in ten UK residents can't name a single one of their fellow neighbours. Despite the apparent disconnect, 65% agreed their neighbourhood would be 'a stronger community if people were encouraged to get to know each other better' instilling a sense of togetherness and reducing crime levels. Almost a quarter (24%) would even be 'willing to socialise' with their neighbours if they had the opportunity to get to know them better.

In a bid to bring communities across the nation together, comparethemarket.com has today joined forces with Neighbourhood Watch as the movement marks its 50th Anniversary. Residents of an original Neighbourhood Watch area came together to reveal the first ever revamp to its logo in the charity's history. The visual has been updated to include meerkat favourites Aleksandr and Sergei with the writing updated to 'neighbourhoods watching,' as the meerkats use their cheeky charm to help Neighbourhood Watch attract a wider audience.

Becoming part of Neighbourhood or Home Watch not only helps to create a safer, more connected community but can also have a positive impact on each and every household. Members both new and old are able to obtain a special edition Neighbourhood Watch window sticker by visiting comparethemarket.com/neighbourhoods

Jim Maddan Chairman of the Neighbourhood and Home Watch Network (England & Wales) said:

“We've seen a real change in the structure of neighbourhoods over the years with people moving further away from their extended families and an increase in short term rental contracts. This move can leave some people feeling lonely or unsupported, especially young families and the elderly, who hugely benefit from having a strong community and neighbours to rely on in times of need. This is why we're behind comparethemarket.com's campaign to rally more people to start by simply saying hello to their neighbours. We're also big fans of the addition of well-loved meerkats to the special edition logo.”

Helen Phipps, Head of Home for comparethemarket.com adds:

“We've partnered with Neighbourhood Watch because, like them, we believe in better connected neighbourhoods and the benefits this can bring, both physically and emotionally. It's our belief that people still want to feel part of a strong community and we're working with Neighbourhood Watch to encourage small gestures that can have big impacts. It's the little things, such as greeting your neighbour with a simple 'hello,' that can make such a big difference to someone's environment and peace of mind at home.”

