



THE CO-ORDINATOR

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Issue 31

**The Newsletter of the Eastbourne Neighbourhood Watch Association
encouraging the Community to work together to fight crime in close co-operation with the
Police, Crime Reduction Partnership and supported by Eastbourne Borough Council**

EASTBOURNE NEIGHBOURHOOD PANELS

Eastbourne Neighbourhood Policing Team is instigating the setting up of 21 Neighbourhood Panels across the town. The panels are run "by the people, for the people". Neighbourhood Panels are all about creating a structure that will give the community more chance to drive local priorities at a street level, which realise the needs of the neighbourhood. It is about having Neighbourhood Policing Teams sitting at the heart of every community and the community at the heart of every team.

Eastbourne is a very safe and beautiful place to live and we are very fortunate that our "problems" are, in the scheme of things, very minor but they do impact on our quality of life. The main areas of concern raised so far are:

*** Drug Dealing * Litter and Fly Tipping * Dog Mess * Parking / Speeding**
*** Anti Social Behaviour * Under Age Drinking * Street Drinkers * Abandoned Cars**

Some Neighbourhood Panels are well supported by local residents who bring to the table the problems they wish to have addressed. However, the news about Neighbourhood Panels has not yet spread to all areas of the town. It works like this:

- 1) Identify which is your particular Neighbourhood Panel and find out contact details of the Chairperson.
- 2) Make contact and report anything specific.
- 3) Identified problems will be discussed at the next Neighbourhood Panel meeting and prioritised. At each meeting three specific problems are identified and acted upon by Police, Councillors etc., and outcomes reported at the next meeting.
- 4) Every other month the Chairs of all the 21 Neighbourhood Panels meet with Inspector Tony Wakefield who heads up the Neighbourhood Policing Team. This meeting is to ensure that things are getting done.

Neighbourhood Watch is represented on all Neighbourhood Panels as are other partners, ie Community Enforcement Officers, Councillors, Trading Standards and anyone else who can improve our quality of life in Eastbourne. Neighbourhood Panels are non political - they just want to get things done.

The role of the Neighbourhood Policing Team is to concentrate on just that - neighbourhood policing - let us all help them to do this. Why not get involved? For information about your local Panel please call 07733 480858 or visit www.eastbournep.org or e-mail jan.newens@virgin.net



Eastbourne Neighbourhood Watch Members' Handbook hits the streets!!

You will have just received or will shortly receive your copy of our very own Members' Handbook. Thanks to help from the Eastbourne Crime Reduction Partnership, the Commander of Eastbourne Police District and the East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, the handbook is being issued **FREE** to every NHW scheme member in Eastbourne. Deliveries are being carried out by Ward and Street NHW Co-ordinators so, if you have not yet received your copy, please get in touch with your local NHW Co-ordinator. Should you have any difficulty doing this, please call the Neighbourhood Watch Police Support Office on 01323 414218, leave your name and telephone number, and a member of the NWPSO will help.

The handbook covers most subjects relevant to the needs of a NHW member including tips on home and personal security, how to report incidents to the Police, how to deal with Cold Callers and Fire Safety in the home. The back cover has spaces in which to write the names and contact details of your local Neighbourhood Policing Constable and Police Community Support Officer and a reminder of the Emergency telephone number for calling the Police, Fire or Ambulance services together with the non-emergency number on which to call the Police.

Although the handbook is issued free of charge, the cost of production was 30p per copy so please look after your copy and, should you have to give up being a NHW member – through moving or some other reason – please pass the copy on to the new occupant of your premises or hand it back to your local NHW Co-ordinator

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR FOREIGN STUDENTS THIS SUMMER

As another foreign student year approaches, please be aware that, if your students are subjected to incidents of any kind, from anybody, please report all incidents to the Police as soon as possible. If an incident is in progress dial 999. If your student reports an incident to you when he/she gets home, please report it to the Police on 0845 60 70 999 at that time - do not wait until the following day as vital time and evidence is lost.

It is only by recording these incidents that the picture will become clear and the Police will be able to direct resources appropriately and stop this problem.

Also, any business displaying the “red and yellow hand” exclusion notice in their windows or doors means that a student can go into any of these premises and ask for assistance should they need it - a “safe haven” for students.

www.litteraction.org.uk

The Litteraction website is all about helping you to take action against litter. The aim is to offer a range of actions that you can take, from joining (or even forming) a local volunteer litter-collecting group to collecting litter on your own to exchanging views on the Litteraction forum and to writing to your Council to report litter



Contact:
Mrs Jeanette Bird

Temple Bird SOLICITORS

For specialist advice concerning:

- Wills and Estate Administration
- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Inheritance Tax planning and Trusts
- House Sales and Purchase

Wills and House Title Deeds stored free of charge

Home visits arranged by appointment

40 Meads Street Eastbourne
Tel 01323 732355
Fax 01323 722611

***LATEST THREATS ***



Still too many PREVENTABLE crimes.

Although crime figures for Eastbourne have shown a very satisfactory drop in the past year, it is still estimated that nearly half of the recorded incidents of burglaries and theft of and from vehicles should **NOT** have occurred had the owners followed the advice given in the many Police and Neighbourhood Watch leaflets. There have been a number of burglaries where the thief has merely walked into premises via an unlocked door or has found easy access via a partly opened ground floor window - left open to let the cat out or get fresh air whilst asleep!! Theft from vehicles nearly always involves the loss of some attractive item which has been left in full view of someone passing by. Please remember that every recorded incident takes up valuable Police time and resources. By cutting down on the number of preventable incidents such as those described above we can all help the Police to achieve better response times in dealing with the more serious incidents.

DOG MESS!!!! MINOR IRRITANT – OR SHOULD WE BE MORE CONCERNED?

Did you know – Toxocariasis is an infection caused by worms commonly found in the intestines of dogs (*Toxocara canis*), and cats (*Toxocara cati*). *Toxocara* worms produce a large number of eggs in the dog or cat's stomach, and the eggs then leave their bodies in their faeces, contaminating soil and other surfaces. There are three forms of Toxocariasis:-

Covert Toxocariasis - This form of the condition is the most common. It has mild symptoms or may have no symptoms at all.

Visceral larva migrans – This form develops due to severe or repeated Toxocariasis infection. It can cause swelling of the body's organs or central nervous system (the brain, spinal cord and the nerves connected to it).

Ocular larva migrans - This form of the condition occurs when a *Toxocara* worm enters an eye. It can cause reduced vision and, in some cases, blindness in the affected eye.

Children are most likely to develop Toxocariasis, especially children between 2 – 7 years of age. This is because children are more likely to come into contact with soil or sand that contains dog or cat faeces, and are less likely to follow sensible hand-washing hygiene

The disgust that dog mess causes to those who have stepped into it, sat by it or seen their local parks and beaches ruined by it through others' laziness, is felt by us all, including responsible dog owners. Eastbourne Borough Council, along with all local authorities, has the power to enforce dog-fouling byelaws under which a person in charge of a dog can be fined £75 for allowing dogs to foul in a public place.

Our Eastbourne Community Enforcement Officers patrol regularly and have, in the past three months, handed out three Fixed Penalty Notices (£75). If these FPNs are not paid within fourteen days, the next step is a trip to Court and a much heavier fine of up to £1,000 is imposed. One of the above offenders has been taken to Court, heavily fined and now has a criminal record as well.

Do you know of any irresponsible dog owners who constantly allow their dogs to foul our streets and parks? If so, contact our Community Enforcement Officers on 01323 415934, communityenforcement@eastbourne.gov.uk, or our Dog Welfare Officer, Sue Criddle on 01323 415934 - sue.criddle@eastbourne.gov.uk Surveillance will be carried out and Fixed Penalty Notices will be served!! Let's promote "responsible dog ownership".

Neighbourhood Watch in Eastbourne has a mission to: -

Help to Prevent Crime - Assist the Police in detecting crime
Reduce the fear of crime - Improve Police-Community liaison

Reporting Incidents

Generally speaking the standard of our reporting of incidents is still not as good as it might be.

Please always remember the golden rule-

Crime in progress or about to happen—Call 999

Concern or recent incident ---Call 0845 60 70 999

The Neighbourhood Watch Police Support Office (NWPSO) telephone number 01323 414218 should NOT be used to report incidents of criminal activity because-

- a. The desk is only staffed on a voluntary part time basis
- b. The desk officers have no direct access to the Police Control room which records all reported incidents for future reference.

The NWPSO number should be used to obtain advice on NHW administrative matters such as who to contact about non-criminal problems and the placing of NHW Street Signs.

Devonshire Cllr Nigel Goodyear	641211	Old Town	David Visick	724982
Hampden Park		Ratton	Alf Pulfer	507639
(East) Keith Fillery	504042	St Anthony's	Nigel Parker	645529
(West) Roger Strange-Burlong	508863	Sovereign	Tim Raggett	725414
Langney Jan Newens	749100	Upperton	Colin Sargent	731909
Meads Roy Peacock	647729			

OPERATION CRACKDOWN

Are you fed up with anti-social drivers? Don't tolerate it – report it!

The Police need your help to tackle:

- Speeding
- Thoughtless driving or riding
- Under-age drivers or riders
- Drink or drug driving
- Tailgating
- Mobile phone use at the wheel
- Vehicles in unsafe conditions
- Abandoned cars.
- Untaxed cars and motorbikes
- Non-wearing of seatbelts and child restraints

REMEMBER! Do not attempt to write anything while driving and always stop in a safe place prior to using a handheld mobile phone.

When at work or home, visit: www.operationcrackdown.org or call: 01243 64 22 22 to record your information which will only take a few minutes.

Disclaimer. Eastbourne Neighbourhood Watch Association is unable to accept any liability for claims arising as a result of readers using services advertised in this Newsletter.