



FLEET & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

www.fleetnhw.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

Volume 17 Number 2
Spring 2011

Police Information

Police performance for the Hart region for the year is available at:

www.hampshire.police.uk/Internet/stats/northeast/hartdist/fleet/index.htm

Further information about the Fleet Safer Neighbourhoods Team is available at:

www.hampshire.police.uk/Internet/localpolicing/northeast/hart/fleet/3HLSNT1.htm

NHW Committee - Secretary Volunteer urgently required

Our Secretary, Christine Kavanagh, has advised us that she has had to resign from the NHW Committee as she is moving from the area. The role of NHW Secretary is not too demanding but it is an important appointment. Consequently, we are seeking a volunteer to come forward as soon as possible so that he or she can discuss the role and its associated duties with Christine before she departs. If you are interested please give Christine a call (her contact details are on page 4 of this newsletter).

On behalf of all our members we thank Christine for her support as Secretary over the past few years and offer her our best wishes for the future.

Chairman's Report

Fortunately a fairly quiet time of the year is behind us with the short days and dark evenings, but now the time is approaching when vandalism and anti-social behaviour raise their heads once again. Light warm evenings (we hope) seem to bring out the worst in a number of our inhabitants. If you see it, report it. Please do not assume that it is up to someone else. It is your town. Protect it.

We are still being advised of several scams operating in Hampshire. If you are close to someone you feel might be vulnerable, look out for them, offer to help when unusual callers come knocking at the door. I recently had a youngster call with a card saying he was deaf, offering his own paintings and drawings, and when these were declined, the reverse of the card asked for a donation. I don't know whether the lad was deaf or not, and I hope that I was too sensitive to ask, but this just could be another cold-calling scam to make you feel guilty and pay up. Beware! There are some very clever people around just looking to relieve you of your hard earned money.

Have a good Summer and lock up those valuables whether they are in your house, garage or garden shed. Lastly, please give consideration to the notices in this edition as we urgently need a new NHW Secretary and a new Senior Coordinator for Ancells Farm.

David Bunclark - Chairman

FLEET & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held at

**THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES
HART DISTRICT COUNCIL, HARLINGTON WAY
FLEET GU51 4AE**

On Thursday 15 September 2011 at 7.30 pm

Apart from the normal agenda items, as usual the AGM will feature a presentation of local interest (further details to follow). All members of the Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch are invited to attend the AGM. Any member who wishes to put forward an item for inclusion in the agenda or propose an amendment to the Constitution is requested to contact the Chairman in writing by: **Friday 26 August**.

Calls to the Police:

999 Emergencies and crimes in progress

0800 555 111 Crimestoppers - free, anonymous crime-related calls

101 Non-emergency and anti-social behaviour issues: vandalism and graffiti, noise nuisance, threatening and abusive behaviour, abandoned vehicles, dumping and fly-tipping, drunk and rowdy groups, drug related anti-social behaviour

0845 045 4545 Routine Police matters and for crime related issues that have already occurred

POLICE & CRIME REPORT

Currently we are still based at Fleet Police station which is open to the public:

Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm (4.30pm on Friday). We are closed weekends and Bank Holidays. The Teams' varied shift patterns provide coverage at the peak times day and night throughout the week. We try to keep the time spent in the office to a minimum, so please leave a message either on our email account or by calling 0845 045 45 45. 24/7 Police coverage is based at Yateley but they spend a lot of time in Fleet patrolling.

The Safer Neighbourhoods Team for Fleet Town Centre is: PC Dan Lehec, PCSO Dan Eaves, PC Paul Franks. The team has been involved in detaining burglars and recovering stolen property and supporting the Elvetham Heath and Ancells Farm Team in getting a Crack House closure on Ancells Farm that was being used by drug users who were committing crimes on the town centre beat. The guilty are now in prison. The team has been involved in the arrest and charging of people responsible for thefts, frauds, damage, assaults and public order in the town centre. Cycling on footpaths remains a problem in Fleet and a priority for the team. The team also continues to target those involved in ASB and those who cause damage to property, particularly when leaving the licensed premises in Fleet town centre. Beat surgeries are planned for the following dates:

Monday 9 May - Fleet Library 1 - 2 pm

Monday 6 June - All Saints Community Centre 2 - 3pm

Wednesday 6 July - Hart Shopping Centre 3 - 4pm

Wednesday 10 August - Fleet Library 12noon - 1pm

Wednesday 7 September - Hart Shopping Centre 1 - 2pm

Thursday 6 October - All Saints Community Centre 2 - 3pm

Wednesday 2 November - Hart Shopping Centre 1 - 2pm

Tuesday 6 December - Fleet Library 2 - 3pm

The Fleet West team consists of: PC Tash Farr and PCSO Nick Greenwood.

Cycling on the footpaths is a continuing priority. PCSO Greenwood has issued several tickets over the past few months and he has carried out targeted patrols with PC Lehec at the known hot spots. The team has also been working with local schools, Hart District Council parking enforcement wardens and other agencies to deal with illegal parking around schools at drop-off and pick-up times. The police do not have any enforcement powers in relation to double or single yellow lines as these powers are held by the District Council. The team has been targeting those responsible for criminal damage to motor vehicles on Crookham Road (Thurs - Sat nights) and offering crime prevention advice to try and reduce the risk of damage. The mobile HART CCTV van has been used, as well as the more traditional patrols, to provide a visible deterrent to those who cause the problems.

The team also spends a lot of time giving presentations to local schools to educate the young and their parents about Sex, Drugs, ASB and computer-based bullying on Facebook and other web-based forums. It has also been targeting a group of youngsters who have recently started using Basingbourne Park and whose behaviour has been linked to damage and ASB at the park. Beat surgeries are held on Linkway Parade (last Tuesday of every month) and at Fleet Football Club (first Tuesday of every month). Please check website for times.

The Church Crookham team consists of: PC Caroline Webster and PCSO Adam Merrick.

Their priorities are to prevent damage and anti-social behaviour in the Zebon Copse Community Centre and the surrounding play area. The team has been carrying out patrols of the community area. Whilst the majority of people enjoy the facilities without causing problems, a minority remain intent on causing a nuisance. Reports have also been received of cars driving around the car park in an anti-social manner in the early hours of the morning. Police are actively seeking those involved so we appeal to anyone with information to come forward. Parking and traffic issues in and around Oakwood, Tudor Way and Tweseldown Road is a long term problem

(Police & Crime Report continued on page 4)



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**Hart Exhibition & Advice Roadshow - 27th and 28th May 2011
NHW Senior Coordinators & Coordinators - volunteers wanted**

Hart Exhibition and Advice Roadshow (HEAR) is a 'Safer Hart' project which runs twice a year in the Hart Shopping Centre in Fleet. The event enables the people of Hart to access a number of local services in one place at one time. Visitors to the shopping centre will be able to visit a variety of stalls providing advice, information and the opportunity to report local issues. The next exhibition will run for two days on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th May and it will provide the opportunity for Hart's residents and visitors to meet representatives from the 'Safer Hart' Partnership. These include Hart District Council, Hampshire Constabulary, Sentinel Housing Association, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service and, on this occasion, Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch. The NHW stall will be manned by members of the Committee; however, we would be grateful for any help from our Senior Coordinators or Coordinators who could spare an hour or two to meet and talk to the members of the public visiting the 'Safer Hart HEAR' event.

This event gives the agencies an opportunity to present their services to the community and show the public how working in partnership can be effective. So if you would like to help on our NHW stall on either 27th or 28th May please give the Chairman a call (contact details are on page 4).

Senior Coordinator for Ancells Farm - volunteer wanted

As advertised in the last edition, the Senior Coordinator for Ancells Farm had to retire recently for personal reasons. As a result we are now looking for a volunteer to take over the role of Senior Coordinator for Ancells Farm. Ancells Farm is our largest distribution area; however, there are 25 Coordinators who kindly help to deliver the newsletters. So the task, which only occurs four times a year, should not be too demanding. If you are interested please give a member of the NHW Committee a call (our contact details are on page 4).

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with no easy solution. The current situation has been made worse by the building of the Sure Start Centre in the old car park with its associated construction traffic. Patrols and a joint operation with Hart traffic enforcement officers will continue. Our last operation in Oakwood saw a reduction in congestion and obstruction issues, and we are hoping the same will be true with Tweseldown Road. High visibility patrols have increased during the night to deter criminals and to prevent garage and shed breaks across the area; however, the majority of crimes are opportunistic. The best advice is to ensure that all your property and outbuildings are secured. Security lighting, padlock alarms and improved locks are all simple and cost effective ways to keep your property safe.

The North Fleet team consists of: PC Neil Prescott, PCSO Kat Coutts and PCSO Bill Evans. Their priority is anti-social behaviour on Elvetham Heath. Attempts to tackle this problem are ongoing. High visibility patrols in problem areas continue to be carried out by Police, PCSOs and ACSOs, and groups of youths have been spoken to. We have seen a reduction in ASB on Elvetham Heath. Ancells Farm residents are having driveways and pavements blocked or obstructed by the thoughtless parking of individuals. This has resulted in several tickets being issued in the area in an attempt to educate drivers. Beat surgeries will be held at the Tesco Car Park from 6 - 8pm on Thursday 28 April and Thursday 26 May. Also at the Key, Elvetham Heath from 3 - 4.30pm on Wednesday 4 May and Wednesday 1 June.

Fleet has seen a 32% reduction in residential burglaries compared to last year. However, there has been a steady increase in shed and garage breaks. Arrests have been made and convictions obtained but the trend continues. We must all take responsibility for our valued possessions and lock our sheds and garages and use additional security to make it more difficult for the opportunistic thief. Vehicle crime is 5% down on last year but there is still a steady trickle of which much is easily preventable. The common report is: "No damage, no forced entry, property stolen"! This suggests to me that people are forgetting to lock their cars and to check that they have locked them properly. **Sgt. Dave Hill 2979, Fleet Safer Neighbourhood Team, Fleet Police Station**

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If you would like further information or have any questions please contact: **Lynn on 07748 498024** or e-mail **waterfall_therapies@yahoo.co.uk**

Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch Committee Members

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Hart DC Reps: Caroline Ryan Tel: 01252-774476 email: caroline.ryan@hart.gov.uk

Coordinators' Representative: Vacant
Ewshot: Sue Freeman Tel: 01252-851534 (Not on Committee)
Police: Sergeant David Hill Tel: 0845-045-4545
Councillor Jenny Radley email: jenny.radley@hart.gov.uk

Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch Website: www.fleetnhw.co.uk

Please send inputs to the Editor. Deadline for the next edition: **30 June 2011**

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