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Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter



Uttoxeter and District

Issue 3 – December 2012

Welcome to the Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch newsletter to promote Neighbourhood Watch (NW) schemes in Uttoxeter and surrounding areas, keep members and their areas updated and advise potential new scheme members how to get involved.

Do you know someone who would be interested in receiving their own copy of this Newsletter? If so, why not send this newsletter on to them and suggest they come along to the next Neighbourhood Watch meeting, 7pm at Uttoxeter Fire Station on the second Wednesday of every month or contact Margaret Saunders, Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch Membership Secretary.

[email: margaret.nwatch@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.nwatch@gmail.com)

Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch Committee Members are: Janet Dean (Chair), Alan Felthouse (Vice Chair), Rupert Hill (Treasurer), Delia Hill (Secretary), Margaret Saunders (Membership Secretary), Julie Parsonage (Media Co-ordinator)

Foreword by the Chair

I hope you find the information contained in this Newsletter from Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch helpful and informative. As Chairman of Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Prevention Panel I am grateful to my fellow officers for their hard work in support of the Group. I would also like to thank all of you who are involved in Neighbourhood Watch or have signed up to online OWL. Together we make our communities safer.

One of the ways that Uttoxeter Neighbourhood Watch has been promoting crime prevention in recent months has been through the sale and distribution of SmartWater. If any of you would like to take the opportunity to protect your belongings with this product please contact us.

We would love to see more people at our regular monthly meetings and if there are any issues which you think we should be addressing, please let us know.

Janet Dean, Chair, Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Prevention Panel

[Home security measures before you go on holiday](#)

A few simple home security measures for anyone who is going away in the forthcoming weeks.

- Cancel deliveries discreetly e.g. milk, newspapers - don't announce your departure to a shop full of people.
- Only tell people who need to know that you are going away
- Make sure your house looks occupied.
- Closed curtains in the daytime looks as if no-one is home.
- Consider using automatic time switches on lights and a radio set to a talk radio station.
- Don't leave valuable items visible through windows.
- If you have a safe, ensure valuable items are stored in it.
- Lock your garage and shed after putting tools safely away so that they cannot be used to break into your home. If you have to leave a ladder out, put it on its side and lock it to a secure fixture with a padlock and heavy duty chain.

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- Don't leave upstairs windows open when you leave the house, they may seem out of reach, but an agile burglar could access it.
- Lock all external doors and windows. Remove keys from locks and store out of sight.
- Don't leave items in open porches that could be used to enter your home e.g. curved-handled umbrellas to open doors or 'hook' keys through letterboxes.
- If you have a burglar alarm, set it.
- Finally, leave a key with a trusted neighbour and ask them to keep a regular check on your property.

Just before you set off, take a quiet couple of minutes to check that you have done all of the above and most importantly have a good holiday. Merry Christmas!

Police Report

Christmas time, a time for giving and a time for..... taking!

Dear Reader,

Well it's the jolly 'ho ho!' season and to keep it that way, why not think about some simple but effective security measures over the Christmas period.

On the weeks leading up to Christmas we have noticed that most purse thefts take place in the busy town centre on a Friday. Don't forget when out shopping to keep your purse or wallet secure upon your person and out of view in a closed bag. Try not to carry too much money in your purse or bank cards and PIN numbers together. It only takes a matter of seconds for an opportunist thief to take advantage of a purse on display combined with a distracted shopper. You could consider popping into Uttoxeter Police Station and picking up a purse bell, a small (and very festive) bell which you will hear jingle if your purse is moved. Remember; don't pile all those lovely presents into your vehicle clearly on show for the ever vigilant thief. Place them in the boot out of sight and be aware of who is around you. With so much to do it's convenient to place the items on the back seat without thinking of the possible consequences. It only takes one 'naughty elf' to ruin your Christmas.

Finally, ever heard of the term 'FROSTING'???? No! Well it's quite a crafty crime but with a serious impact on the victim. FROSTING generally occurs on cold frosty mornings. People on seeing their vehicles frosted over nip out and start the engine to assist in defrosting the windows and warming the vehicle. They then go back in the house, leaving the vehicle unattended with the engine running. The organised thief will cruise around looking for just such a vehicle and will take this easy opportunity to steal it. After all, the vehicle is insecure, keys in the ignition with the engine running, what could be better??? As already mentioned this crime has a serious on the victim and don't forget insurance companies will not cover vehicles left in this manner.

Don't panic though, Uttoxeter Police are well aware of all these types of crime and will be proactively patrolling the streets on foot and in vehicles to ensure all the impact townsfolk have a very merry and crime free Christmas.

Have a good one, be safe,

PC 593 SHEPHERD and PCSO 8880 ELLIOTT.

Keep these things in mind:

1. Review your level of awareness in all aspects of personal security
2. Guard against criminal acts to your home and belongings
3. Report any suspicious activities to the Police
4. Look out for your neighbours, especially those less able to do it themselves

Neighbourhood Watch signs in your road



Is your Neighbourhood Watch sign alright? Properly sited and looking good like the one above, or does it look a little jaded, slipped down the pole or twisted at a jaunty angle, or missing? If your sign is not as it should be, then please let the membership secretary know. email: margaret.nwatch@gmail.com. Signs are available for lamp posts at a cost of £13. After all, properly sited signs show that we are an active Neighbourhood Watch which should hopefully be a deterrent to any would be criminals.

Useful numbers

Police	101	
Police In an emergency	999	
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	
Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 2000 247	
Child Abuse	0800 131 3126	
Adult Abuse	0845 604 2719	
Staffordshire County Council	0300 111 8000	
Trading standards	08453 303 313	
Lost or stolen mobile phone	08701 123 123	(to block all networks)

Communication is key to Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch; do you have an email address you'd like to send us? email: margaret.nwatch@gmail.com

Uttoxeter and District Neighbourhood Watch Crime Report November 2012

Date	Location	Crime
08/11/2012	Dove Bank	Criminal damage to window
10/11/2012	Town Meadows Way	Criminal damage to compound
12/11/2012	Market Place	Criminal damage to windows
18/11/2012	Loxley Green, Uttoxeter	Criminal damage - paint thrown on wall and driveway
23/11/2012	Lovell Road, Yoxall	Criminal damage to garage
26/11/2012	Trinity Square	Criminal damage to window
01/11/2012	Balance Hill	Criminal damage to vehicle – wing mirror broken
06/11/2012	Mosley Drive	Criminal damage to vehicle - tyre slashed

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09/11/2012	Dunstall Road, Barton	Criminal damage to vehicle – wing mirrors damaged
23/11/2012	Mosley Drive	Criminal damage to vehicle - scratch damage
30/11/2012	Manor Park, Rocester	Criminal damage to vehicle - seatbelts cut
06/11/2012	Foxglove Avenue	Theft from motor vehicle - number-plates
14/11/2012	Sandiway, Barton	Theft from motor vehicle - number-plates
15/11/2012	JCB Lakes	Theft from motor vehicle - disabled badge
25/11/2012	Church Croft, Bramshall	Theft from motor vehicle - number-plates
29/11/2012	Cheadle Road	Theft from motor vehicle - number-plates
06/11/2012	Sudbury, Ashbourne	Theft of motor vehicle
17/11/2012	Main Street, Yoxall	Theft of motor vehicle
07/11/2012	Holland Park, Barton	Burglary Dwelling
08/11/2012	Holland Park, Barton	Burglary Dwelling
12/11/2012	Yoxall Road, Newborough	Burglary Dwelling
13/11/2012	Main Street, Barton	Burglary Dwelling
13/11/2012	Windmill Drive, Marchington	Burglary Dwelling
25/11/2012	High Street, Rocester	Burglary Dwelling
24/11/2012	Efflinch Lane, Barton	Changing room burglary

[Always Remember to Close it, Lock it & Check it](#)

Notes on Neighbourhood Watch Conference held at Police Headquarters, Stafford, on Saturday 13th October 2012.

The Conference was entitled ‘Working Together’, a summary of the Agenda follows:-

MC – Dave Twist - Force Crime reduction Manager

The Focus for the day was given by Assistant Chief Constable Julian Blazeby, and as the title implies, was basically for all services and organisations to work together to ensure the safety and well-being of the Community.

Rural Communities – Superintendent Dave Holdway gave a presentation with regard to Wildlife and Rural Crimes. This covered a wide variety of wildlife crimes such as badger baiting, injuries to farm animals and problems with pets

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in the countryside. Certain officers around the region have additional knowledge, enabling them to handle any problems within this area.

Trading Standards – Sarah Byrne gave a presentation on the work they handle and the need for constant awareness by the general public of the wide variety of scams and bogus traders. Website: www.tradingstandards.gov.uk

Vulnerability - A new organisation; **Olive Branch** by Staffordshire Fire & Rescue concentrated mainly on the vulnerability of people in their own homes. We all watched a video in the form of a quiz which showed a multitude of hazards around a home and we had to identify the hazards. It was highlighted that anyone from any of the services or just visiting a friend should be aware of any aspects which could cause injury to the occupant or start a fire. In addition door entry security was highlighted and the need to always be sure of any callers identity before allowing them entry to your home. Website: www.olivebranch@staffordshirefire.gov.uk

Purple Pages – Kevin Phillips explained the Purple Pages web site: www.staffordshirecarespurplepages and how people could use it to their advantage with a lot of information about services available and a printable directory.

Staffordshire Consortium of Infrastructure Organisations (SCIO) – Paul Jay explained how 12 local infrastructure organisations (LIO's) have come together to deliver the Governments Change UP agenda. The 12 comprise a range of organisations including Councils for Voluntary Services and specialist bodies.

National NHW – Ray Jones, Regional Chairman gave an overview of Neighbourhood Watch operations on its 30th Anniversary. Website: www.ourwatch.org.uk

Keeping you safe and assured – Chief Superintendent Bernie O'Reilly – Commander for Staffordshire reiterated much of what had been said during the day in how the Police are working hard to meet their requirement to keep our communities safe and assured.

A **County Award** was presented to Ron Parkes for his long service to Neighbourhood Watch.

[Neighbourhood Watch](#)

Neighbourhood Watch is one of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives ever and is grounded in a partnership between the community, the police and other statutory agencies. Neighbourhood Watch is not solely about reducing burglary or break-ins it is about fostering and growing communities who care. Neighbourhood Watch aims to reduce crime and fear of crime. Neighbourhood Watches are co-ordinated by local residents and supported by Staffordshire Police. A scheme can be of any size. Members pass on information about anything suspicious and in return the force sends messages via the Online Watch Link (OWL) to alert members of suspected local criminal activity. Alerts are sent by phone, fax, text or email and there is a website: www.owl.co.uk, where members can view messages and information about their local area. If you're interested in setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme please contact: Margaret Saunders, Membership Secretary. [email: margaret.nwatch@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.nwatch@gmail.com)

SmartWater

Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch is offering Members a SmartWater home coding pack at a cost to residents of £20 per household – a one off payment. For more information on SmartWater: <http://www.SmartWater.com/Personal/Products/Forensic-Property-Coding.aspx> or for any questions regarding Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch please contact Margaret Saunders, Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch Membership Secretary. [email: margaret.nwatch@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.nwatch@gmail.com)

Here is a new way of being parted from your money

A man at a local restaurant paid for his meal with a credit card. The bill for the meal came, he signed it and the waitress folded the receipt and passed the credit card along. Usually, he would just take it and place it in his wallet or pocket but he actually took a look at the card. It was the expired card of another person. He called the waitress who looked perplexed. She took it back, apologised and hurried back to the counter under the watchful eye of the man. All the waitress did while walking to the counter was wave the wrong expired card to the counter cashier, who immediately looked down and took out the real card. No exchange of words, nothing. She changed cards and came back to the man with an apology.

Verdict: Make sure the cards in your wallet are yours. Check the name on the card every time you sign for something and that the card is not taken away for even a short period of time.

Police dogs at Staffordshire Police are equipped with FidoCam in a UK first



The digital camera, fitted to the dog's head, transmits live images to a monitor held by police.

They can be used in firearm incidents, searching for an offender or a missing person.

They can already stop a criminal in his tracks. Now police dogs will be able to help their masters in new ways after being fitted with head-mounted video cameras.

The £10,000 devices transmit live footage back to a colour monitor for officers to watch.

Police believe the technology will help them gather evidence during drug busts or when dogs chase offenders.

The live footage can be recorded and used as evidence.

****Diary date: Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch meeting:**

Wednesday 9th January 2013 at Uttoxeter Fire Station, 7pm. All Welcome. **

Uttoxeter & District Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter is compiled from several sources such as police information, books and leaflets produced by community services, co-ordinators and websites. Whilst every endeavour is made to check these details, we cannot be held responsible and print them in good faith. The Media Co-ordinator reserves the right to select the material for inclusion from items submitted for publication.

Have you seen anything unusual? If so, let us know....

Notes:-

Date:

Time:

Location:

Description: -

Male/Female

Age (approx.)

Hair (colour, length etc.)

Clothing

Other distinguishing features

Vehicle:-

Make and Model

Colour

Type (saloon, estate etc.)

Registration Number

Other Details