

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

Issue 37
Summer 2010



Keep Watching

**Covering the area of
Rochford District Council**

Best wishes from the
Neighbourhood
Watch team:

Richard Bills
John Metcalfe
Michael Bubel
Bill Coulson
Mike Hooper
Debbie Agambar

Please contact us by phone, letter or
E-mail:- NHWRayleigh@essex.pnn.police.uk
Our office is staffed from 10:00am – 12:00am
each weekday, please leave a clear message on the
answer phone at other times and we will get back
to you as soon as possible

S.E. Essex Police and your NHW team thank
you for your support

Personnel Change

We welcome Debbie Agambar who has recently been recruited into our team and will be covering the office duties on Wednesday mornings.

Message in a Bottle

Help us to help you. This is a community initiative, which has been established for some years now and is designed around those who live alone, suffer ill health or require regular medication.

A simple plastic bottle is placed in the fridge containing details of the person's next of kin, medical condition and doctor so that correct assistance can be given quickly and effectively in the event of any emergency.

Please contact us if you require one.

Lead Thefts

We have been asked by our police colleagues for any information on the current state of lead thefts in the area. With scrap metal prices currently at a premium this is a growing problem in the district, but around Rochford especially at the moment.

When you leave it Lock it

You may have seen this slogan being advertised as a reminder to always lock your vehicles wherever you leave them.

It is an unhappy statistic that half the vehicle thefts taking place in Rochford could be avoided if everyone followed this simple and obvious advice

Telephone Preference Service

Have you ever sat down to your evening meal and then received an unsolicited double-glazing telephone call? You can get them stopped, but it isn't possible to stop calls from market research, local companies or charities that may already have your number.

This service takes around 28 days to become effective and may not stop them all but will certainly considerably reduce them.

To register call 0845 070 0707

Some information from Ofcom

Silent calls are a significant Cause of inconvenience and anxiety for thousands of people every month. Most silent calls are not generated with malicious intent but occur when call centres using automated calling systems generate more calls than their available agents can deal with. When the person called answers the telephone there is no agent available, resulting in silence on the line. All abandoned calls must carry a short-recorded information message identifying the source on the line.

Ofcom have the power to impose fines of £5000 to £50000 for each breach of the rules.

Parking on Pavements and Verges

We have recently had a number of complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking practices of some neighbours and their visitors. Often there is not enough space left on pavements for pushchairs, wheel chairs or mobility vehicles to pass. Road space needs to be left for access by emergency services – it may be you or a neighbour who needs that ambulance or fire engine. Obstruction is an offence and parking on or damage to pavements and verges also contravenes local bylaws and has been raised with the Essex Chief Constable at Council meetings. So please show consideration to others.

Bike Tagging

As previously mentioned bike tagging events are taking place around the county with a very successful one at Rayleigh Library last month. Apologies to those of you turned away when we ran out of time and kits. We have to warn that cycle thefts in the area are on the increase and our tagging initiative is in direct response

to it. Please give our office a call to find out where and when the next tagging event is to take place, meantime please make sure that your cycle are made secure at all times when left unattended.

Crucial Crew

Neighbourhood Watch personnel were pleased to help out again at the annual Crucial Crew event, which took place at Belchamps Scout Camp in June. This initiative is aimed at primary school children in their last term before they moving up to senior school. Over a thousand children attended over the week in morning or afternoon sessions where they were instructed in Stranger Danger, Bullying, 999 Calls, Drugs Awareness, Railway Safety and First Aid and others. It's an exhausting week but if they take notice of just some of the messages given it is worthwhile

A couple of bits of good news

The person responsible for much of the graffiti recently in the area has been arrested and charged and is now wearing an electronic tag and is restricted to his home evenings through to 9:00am each morning.

Graffiti perpetrators by the nature of the 'personal tag ' once caught can be identified as having committed many other offences in the district.

An individual who drove around the Rochford area in a black VW purporting to be a policeman has now been arrested and is presently serving a 4-year goal sentence.

Well done and thanks to Essex Police

Useful numbers

Springboard Group **01702 545140**
For small household repairs, trustworthy gardeners etc.

Alcoholics Anonymous - All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence.
0845 769 7555

Crimestoppers - for general information to police given anonymously. **0800 555111**

Your Local Co-ordinator is.....

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