



THE

CO-ORDINATOR

SPRING 2006

ISSUE 21

This edition of our Newsletter has a different layout. We hope you approve. There will be more changes with extra pictures and photographs and guest articles by people who really know about local affairs, crime and crime prevention. Of course it remains essential that we continue to provide facts and information about our Association.

Please tell us what YOU think and what you would like to see included. Any publication is good only if it is read and the contents are of interest and use to it's readers. Your views are essential.

Watch Out There's a Thief About

Yes that's an old slogan but sad to say it is very true. It is also true that many robberies and burglaries are preventable if we take the right precautions.

Be very careful about who you allow to enter your home.

Here are some examples of recent thefts from houses.

Don't let it happen to you!

Bexhill

One Saturday in August a man called at a house claiming he was collecting rubbish. He requested a cup of tea and whilst the elderly lady was making it she heard the man go upstairs. He claimed he was looking for a power point for his tools and then said he was going to fetch his van. The man did not return and it was subsequently found that an envelope containing cash was stolen.



Burwash

Another day in late summer a man called at a property on the pretext that he was doing some work on the garden. He asked for some paper to write on. Whilst the elderly occupant was looking for paper the man took money from a wallet.

Who Do You Think You Are?

What a silly question I hear you say. Of course you know who you are. The trouble is someone else might be pretending to be you - and running up bills in your name. ***Identity fraud is now the fastest growing crime in the country but there are ways in which we can make it harder for the potential criminal.***

** Always keep important personal documents, plastic cards and cheque books in a safe and secure place. Keep cheque books and cards separately. Valuable documents include your passport, birth certificate, driving licence, plastic cards, card receipts, financial statements and even utility bills. Without access to this information a criminal will find it very difficult to pretend to be you.

** Don't share personal information unless you are entirely confident you know who you are dealing with. Be particularly cautious if you are cold-called by someone claiming to be from a bank or the police. Your bank would only ever ask for specific characters within your password, not the whole password. Ask them for their number, check it and call them back.

** Also, be wary of responding to e-mails requesting information about you. If in doubt, ask for proof of identity or undertake your own checks.

NEVER disclose your card PIN (Personal Identification Number) to ANYONE.

** Dispose of financial statements, card receipts and other personal documents with care. Rip up or preferably shred any such documents before binning them.

** Always check bank statements and check receipts against your statements carefully. If you find an unfamiliar transaction, contact your card issuer or bank immediately.

** Be aware that your post is valuable information in the wrong hands. If you fail to receive a bank statement, utility bill or other financial information contact the supplier. How easy would it be for somebody to intercept your post? If you receive a credit card application and don't use it, rip it up before binning it.

** Guard your cards. Don't let them out of your sight when making a transaction. Report lost and stolen cards, or suspected fraudulent use of your card account, to your bank or building society immediately. Keep a note of your card issuers' telephone numbers so that you can report lost or stolen cards.

** If you move house make sure you contact your bank and all other organisations to give them your change of address (the Post Office can re-direct post on request).



SHRED YOUR DOCUMENTS BEFORE YOU BIN

We're in the Herald

Peter Austin, Editor of the Eastbourne Herald has agreed to publish a Neighbourhood Watch column in the paper on a monthly basis. So watch out for it. You can spot it easily by our Neighbourhood Watch logo.

YOU CAN SAVE MONEY!!!

A number of local insurance companies have indicated that they will consider REDUCTIONS in House Insurance Premiums for fully registered members of Neighbourhood Watch. These are the companies who have promised so far.

Halifax 0800 1693666

Lloyds 0800 751751

Hastings Direct 0800 00 1066

Swinton 01323 644133

Post Office – Insurance available at most Post Offices.

For advice on dealing with bogus callers visit the following website.

www.bbc.co.uk/crime/prevention/boguscallers.shtml

There are also two schemes in East Sussex which provide details of home improvement traders: Contractor Call, covers the Eastbourne and surrounding areas and can be contacted on 01323 724433. Check the Trader, covers Hastings and surrounding areas. Call 01424 781869 for further information.

For information on how to deal with cold callers and how to make your home as secure as you can from these types of traders please contact NWPSO on 01323 414218.



IMMOBILISE PHONE CRIME

In the past year alone there have been thousands of reported thefts of mobile phones in Sussex.

Sussex Police in partnership with the National Phone Register are seeking OUR help in making our phones safer.

HOW TO REGISTER your phone –

It could not be simpler, just visit the website

www.immobilise.com

It only takes a couple of minutes and its **completely free**, you will need to enter your contact details and your phones 15 digit IMEI number – can be viewed on screen by pressing *#06#.

If it is then lost/stolen, phone the info line on **0870 123 123** and you will be given the right number for your network. Your SIM card and your handset will then be blocked.

If your phone is recovered you will be contacted and told the phone is safe.

Remember the best chance you have of getting your phone back is to register your details.

The more people that register, the more people will get their phones back - and the better chance the police have of catching the offenders.



Contact:
Mrs Jeanette Bird

Temple Bird SOLICITORS

For specialist advice concerning:

- *Wills and Estate Administration*
- *Enduring 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
Open Saturdays

40 Meads Street Eastbourne

Tel 01323 732355

Fax 01323 722611

LEGAL40@aol.com

<http://members.aol.com/legal40>

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS – Crimestoppers
(Anonymous information) 0800 555 111
Recent Crime or Information 0845 60 70 999
Trading Standards 01323 418200

Who's Who in Eastbourne Neighbourhood Watch

There were one or two changes to our Committee following the last AGM. The biggest change was that we said goodbye to Hetty Pittendrigh as Vice-Chairman and Meads representative. Thank you Hetty for all you have done. You will be a hard act to follow.

Chairman – Lionel Lacey-Johnson 728958

Vice Chairman – Jim Harris 728479

Secretary Juliet Heasman 732796

Treasurer – Colin Sargent 731909

Eastbourne Borough Council Representative –
Cllr. Simon Herbert 768004

Newsletter Editors – Barbara & Bert Leggett
479633

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

Devonshire – Bob Andrews 732718

Hampden Park – Vicki Maclean 506187

Langney – Cllr. Rob Slater 734777

Meads – Roy Peacock 647729

Old Town – Keith Scott 730316

OR Derrick Martin 645504

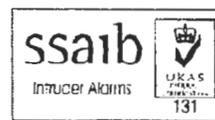
Ratton – Alex Irwin 644374

St Anthony's – Nigel Parker 645529

Sovereign/Langney Point - Jim Harris 728479

Upperton – Colin Sargent 731909

INTRUDER ALARMS ~ FIRE ALARMS ~ CCTV ~ NURSECALL



ELECTROTEC



“ Providing Safe Secure Solutions ”

14 Channel View Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 7LT
01323 729420

ELECTRICAL SERVICES ~ DOOR AUTOMATION ~ ACCESS CONTROL