

During this time I found myself on television! The then Chief Constable was filmed for a 'back to the floor' TV programme working with local officers executing search warrants at various locations. I was caught on camera as I ran upstairs in a property to detain the suspects – the camera man followed me and friends from all over contacted me asking, 'was that your backside we saw on the TV?!'

From 1998 to 1999 I took a 12 month secondment on the Beat Crime Unit at Eastbourne and Hailsham – a small department to support officers processing suspects in custody detained for offences like theft, shoplifting and motor vehicle crime.

In 1999 I returned to section having passed the promotion exam and became an acting Sergeant. In 2000 I was promoted to Sergeant and worked in Lewes with a small team of uniformed officers. I recall vividly Thursday 12th October 2000, the day Lewes Town flooded! The team worked tirelessly all morning to evacuate those most vulnerable as the water levels got highermy eyes nearly popped out of my head as the waters broke the river bank wall at Harvey's Brewery and came rushing towards me! That day was very long and wet; officers from all over the Force were drafted in to assist other emergency services as Lewes disappeared under the full force of Nature. The true extent of the damage and disruption caused was reported in detail across the country. I had the honour to represent Sussex Police at 10 Downing Street afterwards, along with other emergency services, to receive acknowledgement of the commitment and professionalism displayed that day and in those following.

In 2001 I escaped the flood waters of Lewes and returned to Eastbourne where I continued as a uniformed Sergeant until in 2003 when an opening arose to work as a Sergeant on the Tutor Unit at Eastbourne - a chance to influence the initial training and development of police officers during their early months of service and ensure that they were well equipped with knowledge and skills prior to achieving independent patrol and cutting that cord between tutor and trainee.

In 2005 I took the opportunity to work as a custody Sergeant, then returned to uniform response work and later applied for a job as a Sergeant on the Neighbourhood Policing Team at Seaford.

My time as a Sergeant was the most challenging, yet enjoyable in my career. There is no doubt that this rank was, and still is the most demanding position, and is key to everything that we do. It offers extreme levels of stress and anxiety coupled with a great feeling of satisfaction. For officers and members of the public who think the job of Sergeant is easy, think again.....it is most certainly not!

In 2009 I was promoted to Inspector. I now have the pleasure of working with an extremely motivated and dedicated group of Police Officers and Police Staff on the Neighbourhood Policing Team at Eastbourne. They work really hard to provide the best possible service to the people of Eastbourne, from front office staff at Grove Road to Police Community Support Officers walking and cycling their beats tackling the priorities identified by you.

BLOUNT AERIALS LTD

Aerial installations for FREEVIEW
Satellite dish installations for FREESAT
Aerials repaired. Extra TV points, SKY agent
Freesat receivers supplied and installed
Wall mounted TV installation service
Dish alignment and repairs

LOCAL FAMILY FIRM
ESTABLISHED 39 YEARS
EASTBOURNE 638816

Gas & Plumbing Services
 by **Verrall & Parks**

| | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Boiler Servicing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gas Fire Maintenance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central Heating Breakdowns | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Landlords Certificates |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Boiler Replacements | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 24 Hour Call-Out |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central Heating Systems installed | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fully Qualified Engineers |

And Everything Plumbing... 

225-227 Seaside - Eastbourne Reg No 1349
01323 737633
 www.verrallandparks.co.uk 

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.



Your local NHW Scheme Co-ordinator is:

Winter 2010/11

Issue 38

EASTBOURNE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

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

CONS & CARD FRAUD

One of the major objectives of Neighbourhood Watch is to warn members of the public about becoming victims of cons or credit card/ identity fraud. Unscrupulous people out there prey on the vulnerable to relieve them of their hard earned cash, savings or pension. They may be doorstep or telephone callers, or have somehow obtained your e-mail address. For instance -



IDENTITY FRAUD

- Never give personal information on the telephone or by e-mail.
- No bank or card issuer will contact you by these methods to ask for such details.
- Never put bank statements in your dustbin - invest in a crosscut shredder and shred any sensitive documents or personal information so that it cannot be used or seen by others.
- Should you lose your card or suspect fraudulent use of it, you MUST inform your card company immediately.

2 Million people in the U.K. were affected by identity fraud last year, in each case it took up to 200 hours to investigate and rectify the fraud.

Fraud costs our economy £30 Billion every year.



ROOFING AND DRIVEWAYS

You may get a doorstep caller saying, 'We were in the area and noticed there were tiles damaged/missing on the roof, we can fix it for you' followed by 'Your driveway looks in need of repair, we have some spare Tarmac on board'. Chances are there is nothing wrong with the roof or driveway, but if you allow them access to the roof they will often break or dislodge some tiles, then report back with 'the problem'! In either case they will charge you large amounts of cash for work either NOT done at all or NOT done properly. A member rang us recently to say she had a smartly dressed man call on her and tell her she had a 'dodgy' roof and that repairs were needed. She told him she had a new roof fitted two years previously by an approved roofing company and was sure no work was needed. When told to go away he became rude and aggressive, causing the lady unnecessary distress.

More advice on Scams and how to avoid them in our next issue.



Cartoon by Jim Hunter
 First published in 'The Oldie' magazine.
 www.theoldie.co.uk

Please support the advertisers, whose revenue is important to us.

Contact: www.eastbournenp.org Tel: 07733 480858 email: jan.newens@sky.com

Neighbourhood Watch Gets Things Done!

A teenager appealed to her local Ward Co-ordinator for help in getting information to complete a school project about local crime, and a survey on how the Police deal with it. She and her father went to the Co-ordinator's home, and left with various leaflets and booklets to help to research the subject.

One happy young bunny!

A local NHW member phoned her Ward Co-ordinator for advice about security for her property while she was away. Advice was given, and the Co-ordinator arranged that both he, and the local PCSO kept an eye on her home. When she returned, she phoned to thank them and assure them that her property was fine.

Pleased to be of help!

A NHW Street Co-ordinator asked the advice of her Ward Co-ordinator regarding some tall trees which could be a danger to her own property and others nearby, if they fell in adverse weather. She had tried to contact the landowner without success. Her Ward Co-ordinator contacted our MP, Stephen Lloyd, who quickly responded, and put the matter in the hands of a County Councillor. That gent has now visited the site and is arranging for the trees to be lopped and pruned.

Problem well in hand!

The residents of all 50 flats in Croxden Court are NHW members. They held an Open Afternoon to raise funds for St Wilfrid's Hospice but could not find anyone free to open the afternoon. They asked their Ward Co-ordinator for ideas, and that W.C. happened to be slightly acquainted with Dec Cluskey of The Batchelors.

An e-mail was sent to Dec, explaining Croxden Court's dilemma. Dec replied and agreed to open the event, which was a great success, and a good sum raised for the Hospice.

A famous face saved the day!

Do you have any concerns we may be able to help with? Contact John & Pam on 507665 or Alf on 507639. **That's what we're here for!**

For Talks & Presentations about Neighbourhood Watch, phone 507665 for details.

FEEDBACK ON 'OUR NEW LOOK'

In our previous 'first of the new look' newsletters we asked for readers' comments. Your phone calls and messages of praise were music to our ears. Members said how much brighter and more interesting it was: and the idea of introducing colour was brilliant. Our MP, Stephen Lloyd wrote to us: 'The newsletter is tremendous, keep up the good work. The contact list insert was a particularly good idea.' So please keep the comments (and any ideas/suggestions) coming in: John & Pam 507665: Alf 507639

WOULD-BE INTRUDERS ? PRICK MORE THAN THEIR CONSCIENCE!

Worried about someone trying to climb the fence or wall of your property? Then consider (legally!) putting 'Prikka Strip' on the top. Made of polypropylene these spiked half-metre long strips nail, screw or glue in place and whilst not actively harmful, gives a very nasty shock to fingers grabbing the top of your fence in order to climb over. It comes complete with 2 warning notices to be placed clearly, and is recommended by Crime Prevention Officers. For more details and to order, ring Jan on 07733 480858



Friendly family business, established 30 years. For all your domestic and commercial security needs.

27-29 Seaside, Eastbourne BN22 7NB
Tel: 01323 725190
www.armoury.biz

Members of The Master Locksmith Assoc. and NACOSS.



Butterflies Florist
Flowers for all Occasions
Weddings ~ Funerals ~ Birthdays
~Anniversaries~

Valentines & Mothers Day Flowers
free local delivery
Order your bouquet today!!!!

20 The Broadway, Hampden Park
Tel: 01323 521914
butterfliesflorist@hotmail.co.uk
www.butterfliesflorist.info

Community Payback at work in Eastbourne

As part of their sentence, convicted offenders have helped to transform areas of Eastbourne.



Alleyway before clearance commences

Eastbourne Borough Council's Community Enforcement Team has been working with Surrey & Sussex Probation Trust's Community Payback Team to improve the environment across Eastbourne. Leaf Road and Ashford Square have been the latest alleyways to be cleared of vegetation and litter making them once again easily accessible to residents. These are just two of the numerous projects that Community Payback has taken on in Eastbourne to enable people convicted by our courts to make amends for the harm they have caused. You can nominate a project on the Surrey & Sussex Probation Trust's website www.surreysussexprobation.gov.uk/ or ring 01273 227979.

Projects undertaken range from landscaping and forestry, grounds clearance, building and maintenance, painting and decorating, to litter picking and graffiti removal.



Residents can see community Punishment in action and benefit from the work done.

After Community Payback clearance

Spotlight on Inspector Barrow



The relationship between Eastbourne NHW and Sussex Police is second to none. There is mutual support and strong communication. My officers and staff consider NHW a crucial partner in everything we do. When invited to contribute to this Newsletter, I took time to consider what sort of thing members would want to read. I will try to keep this interesting with a personal edge, some humour and an insight into my policing career so far. I joined Sussex Police in January 1994, attending Ashford Police Training College for basic training then returned to Eastbourne to complete my 2 years' probation. At this time female officers were still called 'WPCs'. I was issued with a short wooden truncheon which fitted snugly into the special pocket in my police issue uniform. We had police issue handbags and a small monthly allowance towards buying tights/stockings.

The first 2 years were a real experience for me. I recall my early days as a probationer constable with great fondness. My Sergeants then were like characters from the TV series Ashes to Ashes, Bob Gough & Roy Hurry (I thank you for those memories!). The more experienced officers looked after and encouraged me to improve my knowledge and street skills during the hours and years of foot patrol. I continued in Eastbourne as a uniformed officer until 1997 then spent a year in plain clothes working alongside CID officers in Eastbourne and Lewes Districts.

continued over the page...

EASTBOURNE CRIME REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP
"Making Eastbourne Even Safer"

Overall crime has reduced by 21% from 2003/4 compared with 2009/10
Crime in 2010/11 continues to fall compared with 2009/10
Burglary, criminal damage and violent crime have seen a major reduction over the last 12 months

OUR PRIORITIES FROM 2008 - 2011 INCLUDE:

- Anti-social behaviour and criminal damage
- Public place violence, particularly in the Town Centre at night
- Supply of illegal drugs

Working to make Eastbourne an even safer place to live, work and visit.
www.eastbourne.gov.uk/crime



Contact: Mrs Jeanette Bird

Temple Bird SOLICITORS

For specialist 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

40 Meads Street Eastbourne.
Tel: 01323 732355 Fax 01323 722611