

LOCAL WATCH-WORD



The Newsletter of the Eastleigh Neighbourhood Watch Association keeping you up to date with crime and safety issues in your area

Jun 2021

INVITATION TO JOIN US VIRTUALLY, FOR OUR AGM



Hopefully everyone has seen the revised ENWA Constitution which we sent out to every Coordinator in April for approval in the run up to our AGM. So far, the response has been unanimously in support. We will look to ratify the new Constitution formally at the AGM on 5th July. This will be held virtually using 'Zoom' (fingers crossed, as it our first time using this approach).

If you wish to participate in the AGM on 5th July at 7:30 pm via Zoom please let me know by Friday 2nd July and I will provide you with joining instructions. Please email me on mikea.enwa.chair@gmail.com for Zoom entry code. All coordinators and scheme members are welcome to 'attend' the AGM but only the former are able to vote (in line with the Constitution).

The agenda for the AGM will, as usual, include the Election of Committee members. There are four existing Committee



Quarterly Tip

Very small jumpers for sale

Ideal for tight knit communities!

members up for renewal but again, as always, we would welcome new faces - why not join us?

Prior to the AGM we will be sending out the agenda plus a copy of our Annual Report and a nomination form for Committee membership.

After the 'business' part of the AGM, that will include the Financial report, John Corben will give a short presentation on Cyber-crime and an update on our successful Hants Cyber Watch initiative and Cyber Champions.

If you have a question that you wish to raise as part of 'business' please let me know in writing by 2nd July. There will also be an informal open session for questions after John's presentation.

We hope you will be able to join us for the AGM and look forward to seeing you in the mini-screens, on the night.



HAMPSHIRE ALERT

Lets you know what's happening in your community



As a local resident, you can play a key role in helping us to prevent and detect crime and anti-social behaviour.

Improving the flow of information between the local community and the police is vital to achieving our aim to work together to deter criminals.

By signing up to Hampshire Alerts, you will receive timely updates covering crime

prevention advice, crime alerts and witness appeals for incidents in the local community. It is your way of being kept informed of what we're doing in the community, allowing us to keep the communities of Eastleigh and Hedge End safe.

[Click here to sign-up to receive regular Hampshire Alerts](#)

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A Note From Our Chairman

Mike Anthony



ensuring these are safe and secure. More advice can be found at <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/protect-home-crime/secure-shed-garage/>.

Public Liability Insurance (PLI) and Croods 2

One of the benefits of signing up to be a formal Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator is the free PLI that is provided to members. The May edition of Our Watch

<https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/2021-05/May%202021%20OUR%20NEWS.pdf> provides a summary of the cover that is provided.

This issue also has the winner of the NW 'Croods 2' kids design a treehouse competition.

Royal Mail parcel could not be delivered?

Finally, I'd like to mention the dreaded Royal Mail scam that sends you a text or email supposedly from Royal Mail about a parcel that could not be delivered. This invites you to log on to what appears to be a very authentic site and requests to make a payment (typically £1.99) entering credit card details and then Bank details. You may have seen the BBC report that 8 men across England have been arrested for a criminal operation behind a bogus Royal Mail website. This is good news, but the texts still seem to

As we see the sun at last, and start to tackle those waiting jobs in the garden, please remember to make sure your house is secure whilst you are outside and lock up your garage and shed at the end of day. Garage and Shed break-ins are on the rise again and account for the majority of reported residential burglaries. So the advice of Eastleigh police is to avoid the loss and hassle by



Lots more information can be found on our ENWA website

www.eastleighnhw.org.uk/

and also take a look at our [Facebook](#) page



be appearing, and there are other bogus emails purporting to be from Morrisons, Dyson or other well-known companies that are also phishing for your personal information.

Most of us just ignore them, but remember to chat to any vulnerable neighbours (now we can) or family about them – don't let them become victims of these speculative texts or emails.

Keep safe

Corben's Corner

By John Corben

Online, phone and text scammers are having to be even more sophisticated in their attempts to persuade unsuspecting victims to reveal their personal information.

This is in part due to stronger passwords being deployed by most computer users, resulting in it being more difficult for the scammers to break them. So if they cannot break the passwords then they will resort to using various other tactics to coerce potential victims to reveal their personal data.

In general if you are contacted by any means and the nature of that contact includes

- i) Threats, for example of prosecution
- ii) Monetary gain or loss, for example a monetary refund or 'unexplained' withdrawal

iii) A need to make a fast decision to avert some form of negative result to you,

then there is a strong possibility it is a potential attempt to scam you.



In these circumstances you should employ three words: **STOP**, take no immediate action. **THINK**, is this a potential scam, does this contact feel right. **CONTACT**, speak to somebody who can independently help you, your local bank/building society branch, a relative or contact **HantsCyberChampions** for free on

the following link: [very large space https://hampshirecyberwatch.org](https://hampshirecyberwatch.org)

Never click on any embedded links or press phone numbers to make contact as this could open you to starting the scam or worse downloading malware.

Be aware that scammers can employ tactics to make their phone number look like the real bank / building society number and they are quite capable of making online pages look and feel exactly like real company web pages. Both of which are designed to fool you into thinking you are dealing with the legitimate companies.

Finally, as well as keeping your computer security suite updated, it is also important to ensure you regularly check for, download and install updates to your phone and computer operating system as these can contain important security patches which fix vulnerabilities that can be exploited by scammers, if not installed.

Bike and Scooter Advice

Whilst cycle theft is not the worst problem in our area, statistically, it is still a significant issue. The last '90 day reported crime statistics' for Eastleigh and Hedge End contained 29 incidents of cycle theft. This was up by 14 on the previous three months.

Whilst there is really no safe way to prevent the determined thief, there is a lot you can do to reduce the risk of losing your bike. Here is a short list of some ideas:

- Use a good lock. Cables are fairly easy to cut but a good D lock takes more specialist equipment to break.
- Attach the lock to a secure immovable object and make sure the frame and wheels are tied together.
- If you can park near to CCTV in a brightly lit area.

- Change routes and parking location to prevent your bike being targeted.
- Don't leave easily removable accessories on your bike
- Think about using a lower value bike for commuting.
- Don't forget to secure your bike when it is at home.
- Keep a note of your bike's serial number and register it with Bikeregister <https://www.bikeregister.com/> as this may mean, if your stolen bike is recovered, you could get it back.



On another subject, there has been a noticeable increase in the use of electric scooters. As the law stands at the moment these are illegal to use anywhere on public roads or paths. Clearly many people are unaware of this, but until the law changes there is a risk you may be prosecuted and have your scooter confiscated.

Who is looking at your Facebook Account?

Facebook is a good place to keep in touch with friends and share your photos and life experiences but it is not without its pitfalls. It can be used by less scrupulous individuals to 'mine' data which can then be used to maybe steal your identity or your money. It is possible, however, to limit the people who have access to your posts and give yourself a degree of protection. A good starting point is to use a tool provided by Facebook themselves.

Go to the symbols at the top right of the Facebook page and click the down arrow.



Then select
followed by



You will then be taken through a series of stages where you can change who sees your posts and what information you share with who. Importantly you will see what is shared publicly and can change to just your friends or just yourself. Your date of birth is one piece of information that can be useful to would be identity thieves, but you have the opportunity to show just the day and month (useful for your friends to wish you a happy



birthday) but you can hide the year.

You can improve your password and ensure it is not one used on any other applications. You also have the option to choose to use two factor authentication.

Obviously you need to be certain who you have selected to be your friends and haven't just randomly confirmed anyone who has popped up requesting to be your friend, just to clock up a large number of acquaintances. It is worth being selective anyway since you may no longer be interested in the eating habits of somebody you met on holiday ten years ago!

Because Facebook makes money out of advertising and because advertising is more effective if it is targeted, then Facebook wants to use your data to decide what it thinks you want to see. You can opt out of this and see less relevant adverts. Go to the Ad Preferences option then Ad Settings and deselect the Use Data From Partners switch.

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, CIO no: 1173349

PROTECT YOUR POOCH

Dog theft is on the rise and we are urging the public to keep their dogs SECURE, IN SIGHT and SEARCHABLE, and to help make pet theft a SPECIFIC OFFENCE.

Keep them:

- 1. SECURE** (pets are easily stolen from unsecured gardens if left unattended)
- 2. IN SIGHT** (when out and about keep them close and practice good recall)
- 3. SEARCHABLE** (to support quicker recovery if they go missing keep them microchipped, tagged and up to date photos)

ourwatch.org.uk/ProtectYourPooch

Protect Your Pooch Update and Nala's Law Petition: For more information on these initiatives and links to the petitions go to the ENWA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Eastleigh-Neighbourhood-Watch-1320387824693082>

Dave Humphries, providing support for local policing



I'm **Chief Inspector Dave Humphries** and I'm head of Local Policing Support in Hampshire. My job is about ensuring that your local district commander, Chief Inspector

means I am linked in with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Neighbourhood Watch Association, we meet regularly to discuss local policing issues, particularly crime prevention and how we can help you with the fantastic support you give us.

I have 29 years' service in Hampshire Constabulary mostly in the east of the county and have been in my current role for about 18 months. I am very good friends with your district commander Marcus and we worked together as PCs in Portsmouth for many years. Last August I covered for him as Eastleigh District Commander for two weeks whilst he was away and I really enjoyed a brief spell in the operational world working with the teams at Eastleigh and Hedge End. I can honestly say I was really impressed with what I saw going on in the Eastleigh District and the commitment and enthusiasm the teams have.

I guess my key message to you would be, only be so afraid of crime that you ensure you your house is secure and you lock your car, don't be so afraid that you can't sleep at night or are not confident to go out. Eastleigh is a really safe place to live and work and you have great local policing teams.

Marcus Cator, has the resources and support, to deliver our force local policing model across Eastleigh. Local Policing are those resources out in uniform in your community on a daily basis, predominantly our Response and Neighbourhood policing teams.

The support my team provide might be ensuring the district has sufficient resources (people or equipment) or it might be responding to changes in policing, new legislation and training. It also includes managing our volunteer schemes who also support policing locally. We have two types of volunteers, those we call Citizens in Policing, consisting of our Special Constables, Police Cadets and Police Support Volunteers and those we call Active Citizens which include Neighbourhood Watch, Community Speedwatch, Dogwatch and Horsecwatch. My role

Do you know what Fleeceware is??

No, it's not a comfortable coat you would wear on a cold day! But actually a crafty way for certain dodgy App developers to make an income out of your phone downloads. If you're careful, you shouldn't fall foul of this scam but you need to be aware the risk is there.

You should always download your Apps from a trusted source such as Google Play or Apple's iOS App Store. Although there is always a possibility that some malicious Apps may have sneaked through. But, fleeceware does not generally contain any harmful code. They don't steal your data or try to take over your device, meaning there's nothing malware-like for Google or Apple's vetting process to catch. Instead, these scams hinge on

apps that work as advertised but come with hidden, excessive subscription fees. The apps also take

advantage of users who don't know how to cancel a subscription and keeps charging them long after they've deleted the app.

To check if you have unwittingly taken out a subscription on Android, open the Play Store, click on your account identity (usually a letter in a circle) top right in the search bar. Select Payments and subscriptions, then Budget and History, you will then get a listing of all your financial transactions.

