



# WATCH IT

The newsletter for Nailsea's Neighbourhood Watch  
April 2019 edition



Welcome to the April newsletter. Please note that the **Crime Report** feature has not been included this time. This is because, at the time of going to press, the most up to date report available on the Police website related to December 2018. We have instead provided a list of names and contact details of various organisations which we hope you will find useful (page 3).

Please send any queries or requests to us at: [newsletter@nailseanhw.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@nailseanhw.org.uk)

## Catalytic Converter Thefts

There has been a spate of recent thefts of catalytic converters from vehicles in the Nailsea area. The stolen precious metals (platinum, palladium and rhodium) contained inside the converters are then being recovered by unscrupulous metal recyclers.

- If possible, park your car in the garage, even if it means finding new storage spaces for the garden chairs / paint tins / recycling bins and all the other items that find their way into the garage
- If your car has an alarm system that is activated if it is lifted or tilted, make sure it has been set when the car is locked
- Catalytic converter protection devices and marking systems approved by [www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com) are available
- Even parking the car in a spot overlooked by residents could be a deterrent

If you see someone acting suspiciously under or around a vehicle, report it to the police. If your catalytic converter is stolen contact the police immediately by calling 101.

## Tips: Keeping Your Vehicle Safe

- If possible do not leave your satnav system in the car and try to remove any sign of the suction cup off the windscreen
- Do not enter 'home' into the system (call it a different name) in order to reduce the risk of burglary if your house keys are also stolen

## Open Meeting – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May

United Reform Church, Stockway North, BS48 1AQ at 7.30pm

We look forward to seeing you all again at the next Open Meeting. We will be joined by guest speaker Ashley Jones who will be discussing **Senior Safety**. Ashley is a serving police officer and belongs to the Senior Citizen Liaison Team, a charity with the sole objective of providing senior safety and social advocacy for the older adult community.



Ashley will explore the extent of the ageing population and some of the safety challenges that they encounter. With a strong focus on empowerment through education, Ashley will discuss the dangers of doorstep crime, telephone and internet deception scams as well as signposting seniors to some other useful resources.

### Wanted: Overhead Projector

Does anyone have an overhead projector that we can use for the next Open meeting on Wednesday 1st May? Please contact our Chair Sue Lomax at [nailseanhw@gmail.com](mailto:nailseanhw@gmail.com) or phone 01275 542 713.

### Schemes Update from Tim Holman

We currently have 3855 members across 160 Schemes. There are a number of Scheme Co-ordinators who have been doing the job for a number of years and are now looking to step down. We will endeavour to find replacements but if no-one volunteers, we are obliged to de-register the Scheme. If you know your Co-ordinator is wanting to retire and feel that you could help (or even be a deputy in cases of holidays / family commitments / illness) please contact your Co-ordinator and/or a Committee member.

- We currently need a replacement Co-ordinator for Youngwood Lane

A number of schemes have had a decline in membership due to people moving away. If you have a new neighbour, please recommend Neighbourhood Watch to them. Similarly, can Co-ordinators ensure that your members know who you are as I have periodically been contacted by members wishing to be put in touch with their Co-ordinator.

Please contact me at [tim.holman@nailseanhw.org.uk](mailto:tim.holman@nailseanhw.org.uk) for more information.

## Useful Organisations

To report a scam or rogue trader and for advice on consumer issues:

The Citizens Advice consumer service  
0345 404 0506  
[www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

For advice on preventing fraud and what to do if you are a victim of fraud:

Action Fraud  
0300 123 2040  
[www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

To stop unsolicited sales and marketing calls, register free at:

Telephone Preference Service  
0845 070 0707  
[www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk)

To stop unsolicited sales or marketing information by post, register free at:

Mail Preference Service  
0845 703 4599

To stop all unaddressed items being delivered by your post-person:

Royal Mail  
01865 796 964 and request an opt-out form  
[www.royalmail.com](http://www.royalmail.com) and search 'opt out'

For advice and assistance if you have bought goods or services from a trader in another European country:

UK European Consumer Centre  
01268 886 960  
[www.ukecc.net](http://www.ukecc.net)

## Dates for the Diary

### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April:

'Meet the Nailsea Policing Team' at Crown Glass Shopping Centre  
10am – 1pm

### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May:

Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch Open Meeting at United Reform Church, Stockway North at 7.30pm

### Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June:

'Meet the Nailsea Policing Team' at Crown Glass Shopping Centre  
10am – 12pm

### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June:

'Meet the Nailsea Policing Team' at the Nailsea Skateboard Festival,  
12pm – 6pm

## NHW Signs

If you have seen any damaged or missing NHW street signs please contact Colin Oliver at: [colin.oliver@nailseanhw.org.uk](mailto:colin.oliver@nailseanhw.org.uk)

## Royal Mail Keepsafe

If you are going away and are concerned about advertising your absence, then Keepsafe may be an option for you. Keepsafe is a service offered by the Royal Mail whereby your mail is held while you are away and safely delivered once you are back. There is a charge for this service and this is dependent on how long you require it. You will need to allow five working days for the service to be set up and the Royal Mail aim to deliver all mail held within two working days of the specified end date. You can apply online at [www.royalmail.com](http://www.royalmail.com) or pick up a form at the Post Office.

## March Meeting Update

Our last Open meeting in March was well attended and we were treated to an extremely interesting talk by Mr Terry Ransom on the first years of the 'Space Race' and all the secrecy surrounding that period. Unfortunately, due to illness and work rosters no one from the Police were able to attend.



Photos by Nick Hastings - used with permission

## USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**999: Emergency services**

**101: Non-emergency calls**

**0800 555 111: Crime Stoppers**

## NHW CONTACTS

**Sue Lomax (Chair)**  
nailseanhw@gmail.com  
01275 542 713

**Anne Slade (Secretary)**  
anne.slade@nailseanhw.org.uk

**Sandra Hearne (Treasurer)**  
sandra.hearne@nailseanhw.org.uk

**Tim Holman (Local Nailsea Schemes Admin)**  
tim.holman@nailseanhw.org.uk

**Newsletter Editors**  
newsletter@nailsea nhw.org.uk

## Nailsea Disability Initiative

Your Committee at their February meeting, agreed to contribute a donation of £250 to this very worthy charity which is based at **10 Crown Glass Place, Nailsea**.

The Nailsea Disability Initiative is a registered charity, run entirely by volunteers and funded by their own fundraising endeavours. Trained volunteers provide free and confidential advice on all issues relating to disability.

Their services include providing advice on benefits and grants, providing help to complete application forms for a variety of benefits such as attendance allowance, blue badges, PIP and ESA payments, referring people to relevant agencies such as those that deal with fuel poverty, heating allowance, etc. and so much more. For more information, please visit their store or their website at <https://nailseadisability.wordpress.com>

## Resolution of the Month

Check that your household insurance covers theft from your garden (including seats, tables, plant containers) garage and outbuildings.