

Nailsea Watch now covers 3,900 households with 169 schemes. When will we reach that magic 4,000? If you know someone whose street is not covered by Neighbourhood Watch, let us know.

There have a number of retirements during the year, however I am pleased to report that no schemes have been deregistered due to lack of support. I would like to thank each and every one of our Scheme Coordinators for their support during the year. I would also like to thank all retired members for their support of Neighbourhood Watch in the past. There is much to be said for people who watch out for others acting suspiciously in their streets. As I have said before, we cannot rely solely on the Police, not least because there are fewer of them than there used to be. Vigilance is a matter for us all, not something done by someone else. Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch is run by the members for the members and that is something we should all be proud of.

We have seen yet more changes in our local Neighbourhood Police Team, and on behalf of all the members I would like to thank them for the work they do. It would be nice to think these will be the last changes for a while to provide some continuity. We hope our Police Team will continue to have a prominent presence in the centre of town when they relocate from the present Police Station.

Nailsea continues to have a relatively low level of crime. Burglaries from sheds and outbuildings are still happening and we have recently had one vehicle stolen from someone's driveway. We all need to be extra careful in making sure all our assets and possessions are secure at all times. You will have noticed from the national news and our website that villains are now increasingly turning their attention to online crime. Online scams are an increasing threat to our personal security so be especially careful when working online. We have started to highlight some of these in your newsletter and publish details on the Nailsea NHW website.

I haven't noticed any very old NHW street signs around the town recently – so with your help we are continuing to make sure signs are replaced as and when necessary. The visible presence of Neighbourhood Watch on our streets is an important tool in deterring crime.

Our website continues to grow in content and I hope you are making use of it. The site is averaging over 30 visits a day (1000 visits each month; the most popular pages are Ringmaster messages). If you have any ideas on how we can improve it then please let us know.

Our Houses of Parliament visit in September 2014 was a great success. It was vastly over-subscribed, so we have arranged another visit on July 20th. Just a reminder to those of you who are travelling on July 20th to be at Clevedon Road car park by 7am as the coach will be leaving at 7:10am.

As always my thanks go to all of the Committee for their valuable contributions during the year; Jill & Geoff Collard for collating the newsletters; and Margaret and Janet for providing the refreshments. I hope you have enjoyed our meetings and guest speakers this past year. We have a full programme of different guest speakers up to the end of 2016.

Finally I must give all members notice that, regrettably due to future commitments and after many years' service, both Mike West and I will be retiring from the Committee in July 2016.

Thank you.

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