

I would like to thank each and every one of our Contact Persons for representing their schemes, and also retired members for their support of Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch. There is much to be said for people to watch out for others acting suspiciously in their streets. We can no longer rely solely on the Police, not least because there are fewer of them, and with more housing planned for our town over the next few years it is even more important that we look out for each other and not leave vigilance to someone else. I have to say I have been disappointed with the support from the Police at these meetings this year, however with reductions in staff numbers it has not been a total surprise. It would have been nice to have regular crime updates and the opportunity for members to ask questions.

Nailsea continues to have a relatively low level of crime, however we all need to be extra careful in making sure all our assets and possessions are secure at all times. You will all know from the national news and our website that online crime is on the increase. Online scams are an increasing threat to our personal security, so be extra careful.

I do hope you have found our website useful as a single point of reference for Police news, Police messages, the latest scams, advice and meeting information.

Our last visit to the Houses of Parliament on 20th July last year was the second in recent years and was a great success enjoyed by everyone.

As always, my thanks go to the Committee for their valuable contributions during the year. Thanks also to Jill & Geoff Collard for collating the newsletters, and Margaret and Janet for providing the refreshments.

I hope all our members value these open meetings and they will continue to provide the opportunity for members to meet socially and enjoy interesting guest speakers. I would like to thank all of you here tonight, and our other members, for supporting them and the Christmas Social.

I have enjoyed serving on the Committee for the past 15 years and as Chairman for the past 9. I am now taking on new challenges, so I feel the time is right to stand down to make way for someone else to lead this Watch.

Thank you all once again for your support. I am confident that Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch will continue to thrive and play its part in keeping our town safe.

Always remember, Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch is run by the members for the members, and that is something you should all be proud of.

Thank you.