

At a national level there are now estimated to be in excess of 10 million members of Neighbourhood Watch, if some of them only do put a sticker in the window . Nailsea Watch now covers 3,900 households with 168 street coordinators or contact persons (some of whom are also area distributors for our newsletter). I would like to thank each and every one of them and our members for the work they do. There is much to be said for people who watch out for others acting suspiciously in their streets. We cannot rely solely on the Police, not least because there are fewer of them on the beat than there used to be. Vigilance is a matter for us all, not something done by someone else or proxied out to the Police. Nailsea Watch is run by the members and that is something we should be proud of.

We have seen 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. I sincerely hope that they will continue to have a prominent presence in the centre of town in the future. There have been several changes in watch Co coordinators this year, so I would like to thank all those who have volunteered and also the retiring coordinators for their service over the years.

Nailsea continues to have a relatively low level of crime. However, we cannot be complacent. Burglaries from sheds and outbuildings have started to exceed those from dwellings, so we all need to pay particular attention to building security. Online scams are an increasing threat to our personal security so be especially careful when working online. There are useful hints and tips on our website.

We have made a conscious effort to replace all the worn out and damaged signs around the town with the help of Barry the Bobby Van man. As you already know we will have to be self sufficient from January when Barry will no longer be able to provide this service. We will continue to supply new and replacement signs, but the local Coordinators will need to arrange to have them erected as and when necessary.

I hope some of you have had a look at our web site and have found it useful. 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.

After several years the Committee decided to re-instate the visit to Houses of Parliament. Well, it was vastly over-subscribed, so the lucky ones had to be decided by draw. We look forward to an enjoyable day on 1st September when we will have a tour of both houses and a meeting with our North Somerset MP Dr Fox in Committee room afterwards. Hopefully, we will be able to arrange another visit later next year after the General Election.

Unfortunately we are no longer officially twinned with Cumberland Park, South Australia. We will however be keeping in touch with our contact there, Terry Harbour, and we will publish any relevant news both in the newsletter and on the web site.

Gill McConachie has decided to stand down from Committee after 6 years as Treasurer and I would like to thank her personally for her excellent work over the past 6 years. I would also like to report that due to the healthy state of our funds, we have decided that there will be a one year moratorium on subscriptions.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Committee for their valuable contributions, Jill & Geoff for collating the newsletters and Margaret, Pauline and Audrey for providing the refreshments. I hope you have

enjoyed our meetings and guest speakers this year. I am always looking for new ones so let us know if you have a particular request. I know I don't need to remind you of all those things you should do to keep safe, so stay vigilant and together we will keep crime down in Nailsea.

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