

WELCOME 2017!

A happy new year to all our members. May you enjoy a happy and crime free 2017.

In this issue....

Keeping your computer safe from malware, On the Beat news from PCSO Peter Gatenby, fake charity emails and the importance of keeping an eye out for our neighbours.

Fake Amazon Emails

Action Fraud has received several reports from victims who have been sent convincing looking emails claiming to be from Amazon.

The spoofed emails from "service@amazon.co.uk" claim recipients have made an order online and mimic an automatic customer email notification.

In one example below, the scam email claims recipients have ordered an expensive vintage chandelier. Other reported examples include; Bose stereos, iPhone's, cameras and luxury watches.

The emails cleverly state that if recipients haven't authorised the transaction they can click on the help centre link to receive a full refund.

The link leads to an authentic-looking website, which asks victims to confirm their name, address, and bank card information.

One victim reported entering his Nationwide banking details and later found out £750 had been stolen from his account.

After the victim notified Nationwide they cancelled the card and refunded the money in full.

Amazon says that suspicious e-mails will often contain:

Links to websites that look like Amazon.co.uk, but aren't Amazon.co.uk.

Attachments or prompts to install software on your computer.

Typos or grammatical errors.

Forged (or spoofed) e-mail addresses to make it look like the e-mail is coming from Amazon.co.uk.

Amazon will never ask for personal information to be supplied by e-mail.

DIARY WATCH

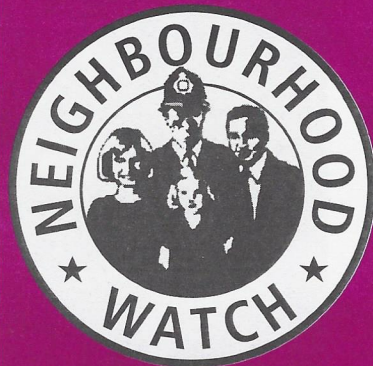
WEDNESDAY, 1st MARCH

7:30pm at the UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL
Stock way North, Nailsea BS48 1AQ

Our guest speaker will be Peter Tinney who will be talking about his childhood reflections of growing up on a farm. Do come along, you will be made very welcome!

All members are most welcome at these General Meetings which are arranged for your benefit. It is also an opportunity to meet fellow members in a relaxed social atmosphere. Free refreshments are provided.

February
2017
Nailsea



THE HIGHER THE VIGILANCE the lower the crime

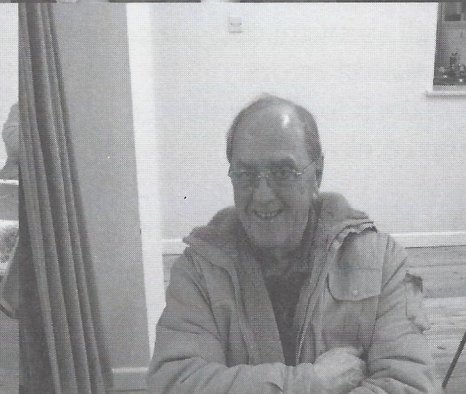
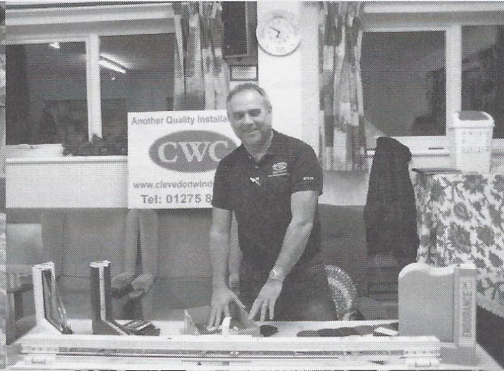
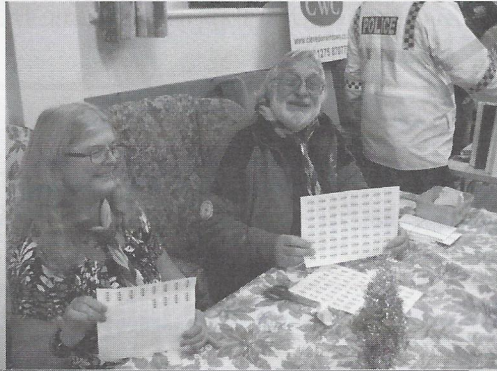
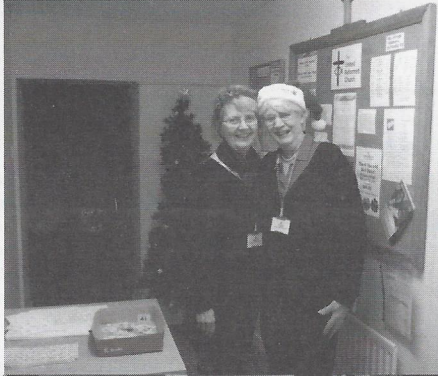
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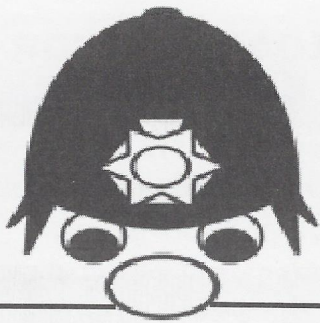
USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

999 Emergency
101 All non-emergency calls, Nailsea Station

0800 555 111 Crime Stoppers
www.nailseanhw.org.uk
nailseanhw@gmail.com

Christmas Social 2016





On the Beat

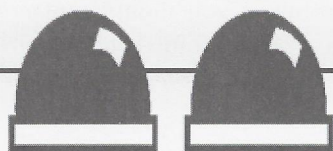
The month of December including the Christmas and New Year period passed relatively quietly in Nailsea. Anti Social Behaviour was at a very low level and the usual evening hot spots of Millenium Park and the skatepark and Morgans Hill saw no activity at all. We will continue to patrol these areas all year round.

As for the New Year, myself and PCSO Julie

Berchall are looking to reinforce our links with our schools, this will include delivering our Crime and Consequence packages to our Primary School year 6 classes. The package teaches them about the criminal age of responsibility which is 10 and that anything they do of a criminal nature could possibly have an impact on the rest of their lives. We have found this package to be very effective over the years and we strongly believe that regular contact with our schools has led to a fall in anti social behaviour incidents involving young people.

As has been released to the press we are moving to the Fire Station in due course which we believe is great news as it maintains our permanent presence in the town. This is very important to the beat team and the area as a whole.

PCSO Andy Gatenby



Beware Fake Charities Online

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau's (NFIB) Proactive Intelligence Team have identified an emerging fraud where social media platforms are being used to attract members of the public to donate money to animal welfare charities overseas that do not exist.

The NFIB has discovered that criminal groups based in Spain or Cyprus and are using social media to target donors from the UK. The money is then laundered from the UK to overseas and rather than be used to tackle animal cruelty it is simply used to support a criminal lifestyle in the sun.

They will canvass for contributions through their existing social networks which will expand over time, attracting more donors.

The NFIB were informed that the people committing this fraud are merely supplementing their income as they are always linked to organised crime groups in the UK and overseas.

Protection advice

Sometimes the article or post on social media may indicate the payments are for charitable organisation or a "worthy cause". Sadly not in all instances are these genuine, and if any doubt please undertake your own due diligence.

Other signs to look for include:

Genuine charities are registered with the Charity Commission and print their registration details on all documentation, collection bags, envelopes, electronic communications etc. Check these details exist and also contact the Charity Commission to confirm they are authentic.

If the collection is for a charity you know is genuine, check the collection is authorised by asking the charity directly, using contact details from the phone book or a website that you know is genuine.

Watch out for poor grammar and spelling.

Send your donation to the charity directly. This may mean going to a little more trouble, but at least you can be sure your donation will get to where it's intended.

If you have any concerns you can also get further information from Gov.uk. Report fraud and cyber crime to Action Fraud and receive a police crime reference number.

Fraudsters Targeting Empty Homes

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau's (NFIB) Proactive Intelligence Team is warning homeowners about organised criminal groups that target empty properties in the UK to apply for mortgages and loans.

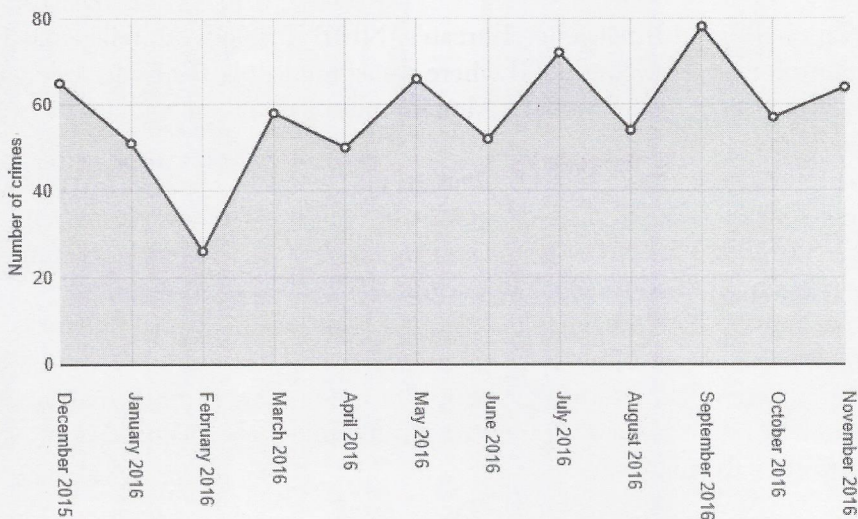
The team have gathered information that shows criminal networks identifying empty properties by using names on the published obituaries and carrying out research on the Land Registry.

Once a suitable property is discovered the criminal group then organise for fake documentation to be produced and register on the electoral role and with utility providers.

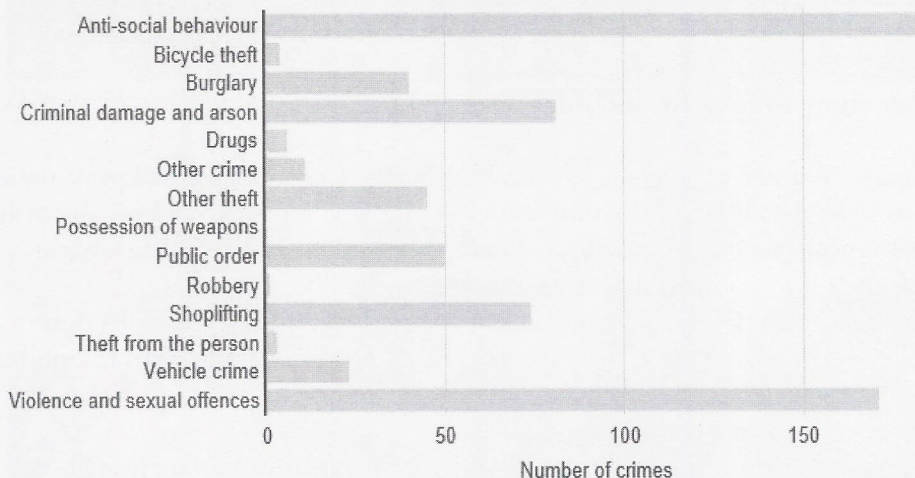
The group tirelessly work through the legal hurdles until the funds are released by the organisation, whilst the innocent party has no idea a crime has taken place.

Source— Action Fraud

Crime Figures



Crime types



The Police have changed their presentation of crime statistics. Unfortunately this means that we are no longer able to provide a breakdown by beat area within the town. The data we have collated and shown here is in a simplified form and provides an illustration of the crime trend over the past year. Includes all of Nailsea, West End and The Elms development ■

Data source: www.police.uk.



If you have anything you would like to suggest for inclusion in the next newsletter please email sarah-ann-davies@hotmail.com

LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER

Keeping an eye out for our elderly and vulnerable neighbours is always important, but especially so in the winter months.

You could help them with shopping, putting out their bins, or just stopping in for a cup of tea if they haven't been able to get out due to icy conditions.

We can all make a difference.

DIARY

WEDNESDAY 1st March

Peter Tinney- "Reflections, Growing up on a Farm"

WEDNESDAY 3rd May

Shirley Hobson- "Every boy should join the Navy."

WEDNESDAY 5th July

AGM

WEDNESDAY 4th Oct

Speaker TBC

WEDNESDAY 6th Dec

Christmas Social

Keep Your Computer Safe From Malware

Don't click on links or open any attachments you receive in unsolicited emails or SMS messages. Remember that fraudsters can 'spoof' an email address to make it look like one used by someone you trust. If you are unsure, check the email header to identify the true source of communication.

Always install software updates as soon as they become available. Whether you are updating the operating system or an application, the update will often include fixes for critical security vulnerabilities.

Create regular backups of your important files to an external hard drive, memory stick or online storage provider. It's important that the device you back up to is not left connected to your computer as any malware infection could spread to that as well.

If you think your bank details have been compromised, you should contact your bank immediately.

Source: Action Fraud