



WATCH IT

The newsletter for Nailsea's Neighbourhood Watch
February 2020 edition



Photo by Nick Hastings - used with permission

Welcome to the first edition of 'WATCH IT' of the new decade. We hope 2020 will be a safe and crime free year for you and your family. We are very fortunate living in Nailsea with its low crime rate; but we all still need to be diligent, especially in the increasing field of cyber-crime.

No one is exempt from being a victim of fraud

Vacancy for newsletter editor

Due to work commitments, one of our editors is no longer able to continue and so we are urgently in need of someone to volunteer to take their place, mainly on the formatting side of production. If you can use a computer and spare just a few hours every other month we would love to hear from you. If you are interested, please contact Sue Lomax (Chair) at nailseanhw@gmail.com or the Newsletter Editors at newsletter@nailseanhw.org.uk

Corrections and Apologies

Our apologies for misnaming the United Reformed Church in several editions of the newsletter over the last year. We also apologise for any misunderstanding regarding holding personal data of our members from our article in the November edition. The only personal details Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch Association holds relates just to our Coordinators and no other members. It is only the Coordinators who hold the details of each individual member of their Scheme for the purposes of passing on Police Alerts and delivering the Newsletter.

Subscription reminder

If you have not had a chance to pay your £1 subscription, there is still time to do this. Please do not wait for your Coordinator to come around and collect, just post it with your name and house number/name through their letter box. Coordinators: Please ensure all collected subscriptions are paid in before the end of the accounting year (31st May 2020). Payments can be made via internet banking or directly at the Barclays Bank in Nailsea. You will need a 'paying in' slip for the latter which can be obtained from our treasurer, at sandra.hearne@nailseanhw.org.uk

Next Open Meeting – Wednesday 4th March

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

Our speaker at the next Open Meeting will be Terry Ransome and he has promised us a fascinating talk titled '**Filton in Space - 60 years and counting**'. Terry worked in the space industry for over 30 years, building and testing satellites and spacecraft and will be talking about the role of Filton in the 'space race'. All members are very welcome, with free entry and refreshments. See you there!



Dark Night Issues - Reminders

At night wear something bright otherwise you may not be seen until it's too late:

Cyclists: Wear light reflecting clothing and use good quality lights

Car owners: Make sure all your car lights (brakes, headlights and number plates) are in working order. Also remember to wash your number plates so that they can be seen.

Many thanks to one of our members for the above item. We are always keen to hear your feedback, articles and welcome requests for future topics.

Schemes Update

- Unfortunately, we still have not had any response to take over the role of Coordinator for 'The Duchy'.
- The Coordinators for Glastonbury Close and Station Road 1 have also had to stand down so these Schemes will need replacements if they wish to remain registered and receive Police Alerts.

Please contact tim.holman@nailseanhw.org.uk if you think you can help. Please note, it is not a prerequisite to be a resident in the Scheme, you can be a Coordinator for any area.

We would like to say a big thank you to all our Coordinators, both current and 'retired'. Without all of your efforts Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch would not be able to function

Resolution of the month

Make sure you have your bank and credit card company's 24-hour contact numbers stored in your phone in case of any emergency.

Be Scam Aware

No one, young or old is exempt from being a victim of fraud. Below are several points to be aware of:

- The age group 45-65 is of particular interest to fraudsters because they are able to access funds from their pension pots and are often looking for attractive investments giving high returns. Although Cold calling regarding pensions is now illegal these calls are continuing to be made and scams are still occurring.
- If you receive a scam email or text message, do not reply or click on any links as this lets scammers know your email address or phone number is active. Delete the email/text or report it as 'spam' and block the sender
- Just because a website has an address ending in .co.uk this does not mean it is necessarily based in the UK. Likewise, scammers can fabricate a caller's ID information that appears on your phone, including dialling codes, so that 020 number that you think is from London could in fact be from anywhere in the world.
- Always access your bank directly via their official website and not via any links in emails purporting to be from the bank. If you want to check by phone always use the number on your bank or credit card, never any included in a text or email.
- Your bank will NEVER ask you to authorise anything by entering your PIN into the telephone.
- If you receive any scam post it should be reported to the Royal Mail. They can be contacted on 08456 113413, e-mail: scam.mail@royalmail.com. Or post to Freepost Scam Mail, PO Box 797, Exeter, EX1 9UN
- If you have Power of Attorney for someone and you are concerned about the risk of them being scammed, then you can apply on their behalf for a Redirection of Mail to your address. This can be done at a Post Office counter or by post.
- MOST IMPORTANTLY- if you have been a victim of a scam or fraud, please report it. Don't be ashamed or embarrassed, it could happen to anyone of us and your report could help catch the people behind it!

Unwanted Xmas presents

If Santa delivered a 'smart' device that was not on your Christmas list and you plan to return it to the elves do not forget to do a 'factory reset'. This will remove all your personal data and return it to its original settings. Details on how to do this will be found on the manufacturer's website.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

999: Emergency services

101: Non-emergency calls

0800 555 111: Crime Stoppers

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Pictures from the 2019 Christmas Social

A very big thank you to Nick Hastings for providing us with these and other photos from all our Open Meetings throughout the year.

