



WATCH IT

The newsletter for Nailsea's Neighbourhood Watch
November 2019 edition



Invitation to all Members

Welcome to the last newsletter of 2019! We hope you enjoy this issue and have a peaceful and prosperous holiday season. Please come and join us at our **Christmas Social Evening** on **Wednesday 4th December from 7.30pm** at the **United Reformed Church, Stockway North BS48 1AQ**, for an evening of entertainment and festive refreshments.

Last Call for Subscriptions!

A big thank you to everyone for submitting their subscriptions following the last newsletter. There is still time, so please submit your £1 subscription and slip to your Coordinator by the end of November 2019. If we do not receive this, we will have to delete your details and you will no longer receive Police Alerts and Newsletters.

Coordinators: Sandra Hearne, our treasurer, will be at our Christmas Social to collect any subscriptions. Any Coordinators wanting to pay directly into the bank via Online banking please quote your Scheme Number as the reference or contact Sandra for a paying in slip.



£1
PLEASE

Please complete both sides, cut out and return in an envelope with your subscription to:

Coordinator to complete:

Coordinator name:

Coordinator address:

First Open Meeting of 2020: Wednesday March 4th

United Reform Church, Stockway North at 7.30pm



Our speaker at the next Open Meeting will be Mr Terry Ransome. He has promised us a fascinating talk titled '**Filton in Space - 60 years and counting**'. The Filton works of the British Aircraft Company entered the 'Space Race' in 1956 and provided part of the first British rocket to reach space in November 1957.

Charity Scams at Christmas

Charity Scams happen all year round but during the Festive season we tend to receive more requests for money; especially through the post, on the street and from door-to-door collectors.

There are two main types of scams to watch out for:

1. Scammers that create a false charity and then request donations
2. Scammers who present as collecting on behalf of a genuine charity but pocket the donations

Legitimate charities will have a charity number that can be checked on the Charity Commissions website. Street collectors must carry their Official Charity identification which you can ask to see.

If you are at all unsure, just say no to the request

Please complete and return to your Coordinator before the end of November 2019:

Member name:

Member address:

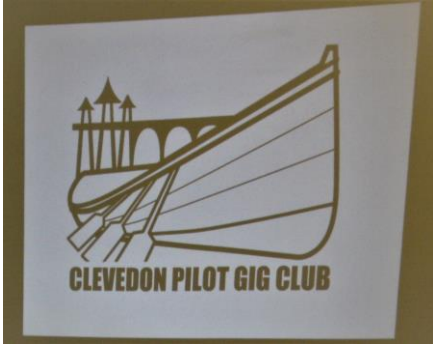
Member email address (for Police Alert messages):

Tape your
pound here

I have paid my £1 subscription & wish to receive Police Alerts and Newsletters
(Coordinator: Please retain this returned slip until next audit)

October Meeting Update

A very humorous and informative evening was had by all who attended our Open Meeting in October. The meeting was well attended and our guest speaker, Sarah Harris gave a very interesting talk on Pilot Gig boats and the clubs around the west coast. The designs of the craft originated from the Viking Longboats and were used in Cornwall for smuggling and rescue. Sarah has been both Cox and Rower and had many stories to share with us.



Photos by Nick Hastings - used with permission

Neighbourhood Watch Signs on Concrete Lamp Posts

We have been informed that no new or replacement NNHW Street signs can be erected on existing concrete lamp posts because of their age. There is a replacement programme organised where these concrete posts will be replaced with metal ones within the next two years. Permission for replacement of signs will then be given and, as confirmed by the North Somerset Streetlighting Department, any existing NHW signs will be replaced.

Nailsea NHW Online

Many thanks to Grete Howard who has very kindly taken on the role of maintaining our Facebook page. Please have a look and keep up to date with what is happening in Nailsea and the surrounding area.

Our website is in the process of being revamped as we have had accessibility problems with the existing system. It will be up and running by November. Our thanks to Colin Oliver for all the work he has put into developing the website.

Website: www.nailseanhw.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nailseanhw

Schemes Update

The 'Duchy' scheme is still without a Co-ordinator. If anyone is interested in taking on one of the three roads (Truro road, Fowey Close, St Austell Close) which make up the 'Duchy,' please contact Tim Holman: tim.holman@nailseanhw.org

Nailsea Police Station opening times:

Mondays to Fridays: 10am – 6pm

Closed for lunch: 1:30 – 2:15pm, Closed: Saturdays, Sundays and Bank holidays

Nationwide Increase in Theft of Catalytic Convertors

Theft of catalytic converters has been increasing over the last year due to the soaring prices of the precious metals contained in them (rhodium, platinum and palladium).

Hybrid cars are more likely to be targeted as the converters on these vehicles are in better condition (they are not in use when the vehicle is running on electricity). Vans and 4x4 vehicles are also frequent victims as they have a higher ground clearance.

One of our members had their converter stolen when parked at Long Ashton Park & Ride at the end of September. According to the Police, six vehicles (five of them hybrids) were targeted that same afternoon within a 3-hour period.

The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 made it illegal to pay cash for scrap metal without recording the transaction. There are however unlicensed yards that do accept these stolen converters and so the thefts will continue.

Suggestions to limit risk:

1. If possible, park close to fences, walls or kerbs with the exhaust closest to that side to prevent access from underneath
2. Security lighting, CCTV and alarms may all deter thieves
3. Engrave your converter with your car registration number or VIN number
4. Fit a protective covering over the converter
5. Park in a secure garage while at home, converters have been stolen from cars parked on owners drives

According to the Police, Park & Ride and Public car parks (including hospitals) are popular sites for this crime.

Bristol City Council have confirmed that there are no staff continually on site at the three Bristol Park & Rides however, they have regular patrols throughout the day and 24-hour CCTV coverage that is regularly monitored.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

999: Emergency services

101: Non-emergency calls

0800 555 111: Crime Stoppers

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