

Message from the Chairman



You may have received an email from Avon & Somerset Constabulary informing you that from the beginning of October the Police will no longer be sending messages to you due to a change in systems.

I have received an apology from the Police as this email was sent in error to some existing members of Neighbourhood Watch schemes. You need do nothing if you are already receiving messages from the Police. If you are not receiving messages then to receive local news and updates for your area, you can subscribe to their website by clicking on the following link "<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/account>" and following the instructions.

Finally, I would like to wish all our members a very happy christmas and I look forward to seeing you at one of our meetings next year (see back page) ■

Urgent — more committee members needed

We are looking for new Committee members to ensure the future of Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch Association. If you would like to find out more, you will be most welcome to come along without obligation to our next Committee meeting on Tuesday 10th November, 7:30pm at the Tithe Barn (opp. Holy Trinity Church) ■

Subscriptions are due

£1

PLEASE

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

Contact Person name

Contact Person address

Christmas Social

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, STOCKWAY NORTH

Wednesday 2nd December at 7:30 pm

This is the event that all members should not miss. There will be free refreshments, including home made mince pies. Everyone attending will enjoy free entry into our prize raffle with many seasonal prizes, bingo and lots more. Our local Police will be in attendance until 8:30pm to discuss your issues. Remember to bring along your local letters and cards for the Scouts postal service ■



IF YOU HAVE ENJOYED READING THIS NEWSLETTER AND WOULD LIKE A REGULAR COPY
JOIN A LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

November
2015
Nailsea



THE HIGHER THE VIGILANCE the lower the crime rate ..

WAVING THE

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

999 Emergency
101 All non-emergency calls,
Nailsea Station
0800 555 111 Crime Stoppers

Web: nailseanhw.org.uk
Email: nailseanhw@gmail.com

October public meeting

Chris Harrison from the North Somerset CCTV Control Centre gave an interesting and often amusing talk on CCTV in North Somerset. The CCTV Control Centre is located in Weston Town Hall and undertakes a number of duties for the Council in addition to manning the CCTV cameras across North Somerset. The team handle all out of hours calls between 6pm and 8pm for the Council. They have a dedicated operator manning the Carelink service 24/7. They also handle all emergency lift calls from all the Council offices, are key holders for Council buildings and they are the single first point of contact for First Aid assistance.

In 2014 the team handled a total of 6,400 incidents, of which 440 were from Nailsea. Of the Nailsea incidents, the Police used CCTV footage to future investigate crimes in 33 instances. This compares with:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Weston/Worle | 4,610 incidents (490 Police follow up) |
| Clevedon | 450 incidents (12 Police follow up) |
| Portishead | 590 incidents (22 Police follow up) |



Chris Harrison

There is only a small difference in the percentage of incidents followed up by Police in Weston/Worle (10.5%) compared with Nailsea. (7.5%).



PCSO Andy Gatenby

The CCTV team use online databases to maximise efficiency (all built and maintained in-house).

There are 12 CCTV cameras covering central areas in Nailsea, plus additional cameras in car parks. These cameras are owned by the Town Council and operated by the CCTV team in Weston. All other CCTV cameras in North Somerset are owned and operated by the District Council. The cost of running the Nailsea cameras equates to just 12.5p per person per month. Nailsea now has a StoreNet system which allows local businesses to communicate with one another to combat crime. This system is linked into the CCTV Control Room in Weston.

The next step is to upgrade the Nailsea cameras to high definition over a period of years to enable quality footage to be available to the Police when following up crimes. At the moment, the Police are not able to effectively use Nailsea CCTV

footage to zoom in on detail such as identifying vehicles or individuals as the picture is too pixelated. Upgrading the Nailsea cameras will reduce operating costs. Discussions are currently ongoing between the Weston CCTV Team and the Town Council.

PCSO Andy Gatenby, from the Nailsea Neighbourhood Team, also attended the meeting to talk about crime in the local area and to answer questions from the audience.

There is no firm news on the relocation of the Police presence in Nailsea. However options under consideration are the Scotch Horn Centre, the top end of the High Street or the Fire Station ■

Members name: _____

Members address: _____

Member's email address: _____

I have paid my £1 subscription

TAPE YOUR
POUND COIN
HERE

Attention all Contact Persons !!!

In order to make the payment of scheme subscriptions easier, we will this year be providing you in November with details to enable you to pay by Bank transfer if you so wish. Subscriptions can also be paid in by you at the Christmas Social as in previous years. Receipts will of course be provided for all payments ■

Scam Corner

eCrime

The National Trading Standards eCrime team is urging consumers to be on the lookout for scammers flooding popular social media platforms with misleading adverts and bogus offers for the new iPhone. The warning comes after the Citizens Advice consumer helpline received complaints from members of the public about misleading offers for the new phone. One advert in particular targets UK consumers, leading them to a fake BBC News story announcing a “flash sale” on the new phone. In reality, consumers trying to take up this offer would be entered into a prize draw with little chance of winning, and would end up unwittingly signing up to a recurring monthly payment of £74, because of stipulations buried in small print.

The eCrime team have said this attempt to capitalise on the iPhone launch is a type of ‘subscription trap’, where consumers are enticed to make a small payment to access an offer before becoming trapped into making costly monthly payments which can be difficult to stop. Subscription traps often misuse online advertising and continuous payment authorities (CPAs) to take money from people’s accounts without their informed consent. Whilst the ‘iPhone for £1’ offer differs significantly from ‘free’ trial offers normally associated with subscription traps, the National Trading Standards eCrime Team is worried the timely offer will lure many technology enthusiasts into subscription schemes.

Mike Andrews, national coordinator for the National Trading Standards eCrime Team said: “I would also urge people to report possible subscription traps to Citizens Advice via the consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06 – complaints from consumers are crucial in helping enforcement teams clamp down on the criminals behind these scams ■”

Council Tax Scam

Fraudsters have been phoning victims telling them that they have been placed in the wrong council tax bracket for a number of years and are entitled to a rebate. They normally say that this rebate should be worth about £7,000. Once the victim is convinced, the fraudster tells them that in order to receive the rebate they will need to pay an administration fee in advance. The payment they ask for varies between £60–£350. The victim provides the details and makes the payment, but then is no longer able to make contact with the person they spoke to on the phone. When they phone their council about the rebate and the fact that they are in the wrong tax bracket, the council will confirm that they know nothing about it and that they have been contacted by fraudsters.

The fraudsters have mainly been targeting both male and female victims who are aged 60 and over and live in the Sussex area, but it is likely that the fraudsters will also start to target victims in other areas.

Protect Yourself:

- Never respond to unsolicited phone calls.
- Your local council won’t ever phone out-of-the-blue to discuss a council tax rebate. If you receive a call of this nature, put the phone down straight away.
- No legitimate organisation will ask you to pay an advanced fee in order to receive money, so never give them your card details.
- If you think you have been a victim of fraud, hang up the phone and wait five minutes to clear the line as fraudsters sometimes keep the line open. Then call your bank or card issuer to report the fraud. Where it is possible use a different phone line to make the phone call.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone 0300 123 2040.

Houses of Parliament visit

A coach full of Nailsea NHW members visited the Houses of Parliament in July and had a super day out. We had guided tours of both Houses and time with our local MP Dr Liam Fox afterwards. This was the second year in succession that Dr Fox has kindly hosted a visit for us. We are very grateful to him for his our visit and giving his time on the day ■



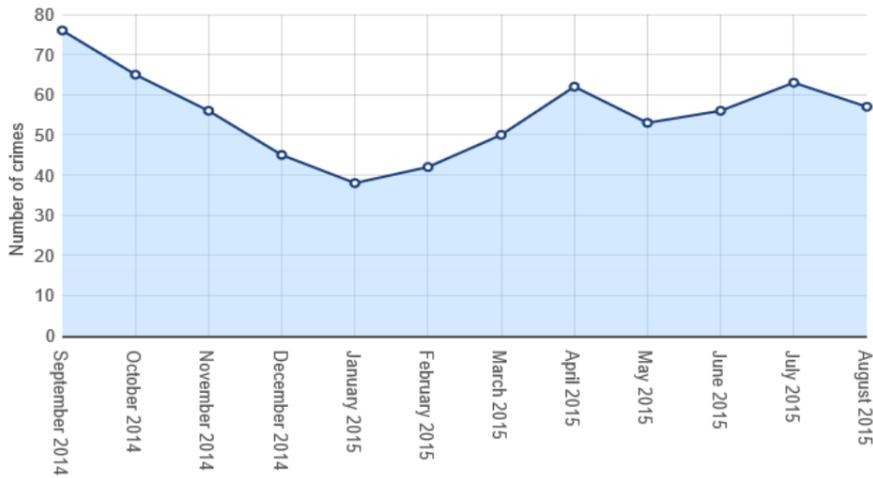
BURGLAR BILL SAYS:

“Don't tempt me by leaving all your Christmas presents piled up in full view of the windows”.

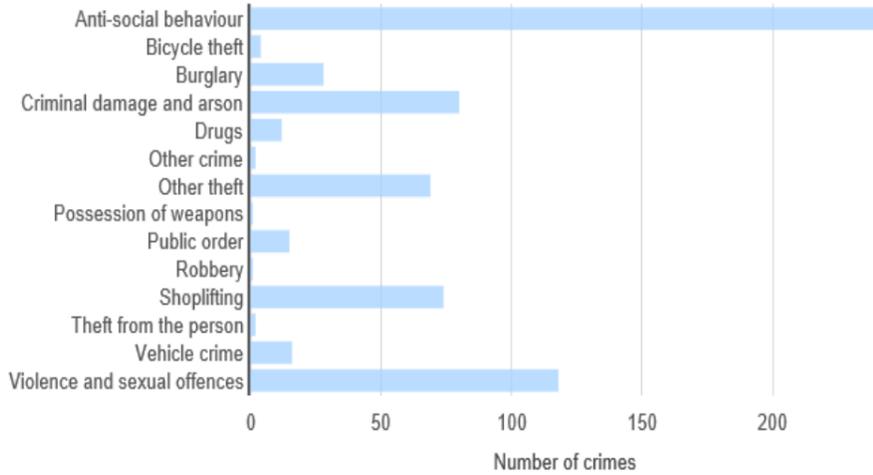


CRIME FIGURES

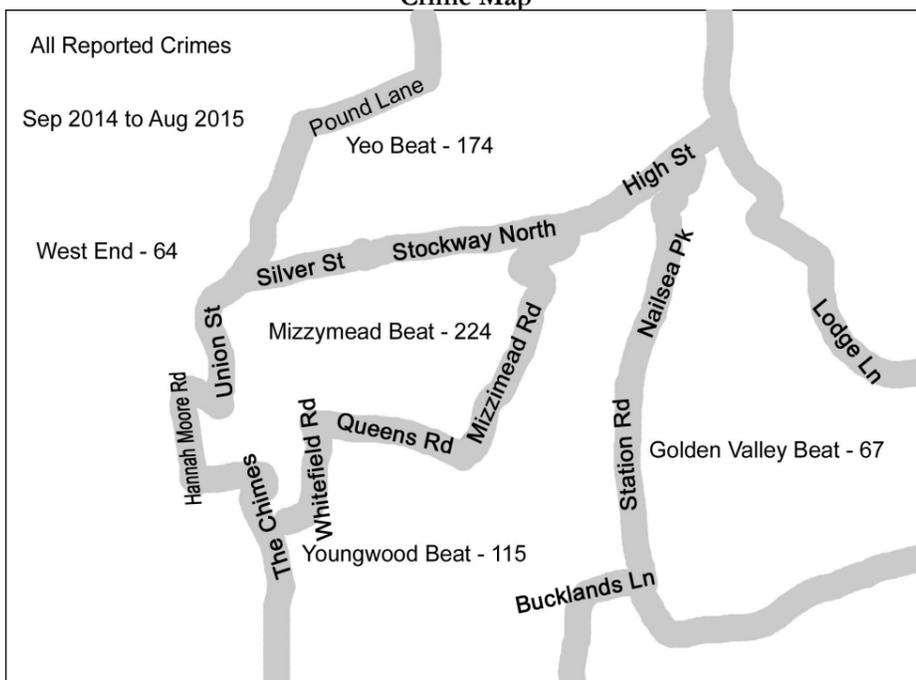
Total crimes for the Nailsea area - Sept 2014 to Aug 2015



Crime types



Crime Map



*Our local Police Team are unable to continue providing us with detailed crime analysis. 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.
Data source: www.police.uk. * Includes all of Nailsea, West End and The Elms development.*

Around the schemes

We are currently seeking a replacement Contact Person for Dunster Gardens. Please contact the chairman urgently on Nailsea 857418 if you would like to volunteer or require further information ■

Dear diary

WEDNESDAY 2nd Dec 2015

Christmas Social

WEDNESDAY 2nd Mar 2016

Cyril Routley

Life on board the SS Great Britain

WEDNESDAY 4th May 2016

Jon Yabsley, The RNLI

WEDNESDAY 6th Jul 2016

AGM

Cliff White

Behind the scenes of the Antiques

Road show

WEDNESDAY 5th Oct 2016

Gary Gowans

The Stately Homes of Roman Britain

WEDNESDAY 7th Dec 2016

Christmas Social

Nailsea Police Station Opening Times

Mon-Fri 10:00am to 06:00pm
(closed for lunch 1:30pm to 2:15pm)

Weekends CLOSED

Bank Holidays CLOSED

STOP PRESS

We now have a stock of the CCTV contact cards as mentioned by Chris Harrison at October's meeting. These will be available at the Christmas Social. Any surplus will be available at our March meeting. ■

On the Beat

You will have noticed that there is no "On the Beat" report for this issue. This was due to staff sickness. Normal service will be resumed in February.