

Bedford and District Neighbourhood Watch



Charity No 1062009

May 2016 Newsletter

**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH**

Bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org

Welcome to the second Newsletter of 2016. We hope you find it helpful.

Our Members Quarterly Meeting was held on Wednesday 4 May 2016, in the lecture theatre at Police Headquarters. The agenda covered updates regarding changes at National Neighbourhood Watch and Bedford & District Neighbourhood Watch. Our guest speaker for the evening was Wayne Humberstone, Chief Officer Special Constabulary and Head of Force Control Room.

Juliet Wright is the new Watch Scheme Development Coordinator. Juliet was a PCSO in Central Bedfordshire before she took on this new role, which is initially funded for one year. She is based in Flitwick and covers the Central Bedfordshire and Luton areas as well as Bedford and District.

New Contact Details

For 19 years Lynne Arch was our contact via telephone and email, and her postal address was always where she had an office. This was Riseley Police Station for many years, but was also Greyfriars, Bridgebury House and Halsey Road.

We have now agreed our new contact details and these are:

Postal Address:
Riseley Police Station.
37 High Street. Riseley.
Bedford MK44 1DX

Telephone: 01234 842 861
(Voicemail)
**This phone is not manned every day
but all messages will be answered**

Email: bedfordnhwatch@gmail.com

Website: bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org.uk

New Trifold Leaflet

This new leaflet has been produced recently and is specifically designed to promote Neighbourhood Watch & encourage Membership. It includes all the information needed for registration.

Copies can be obtained by leaving a message on:
01234 842 861



If you need to speak to someone, then please ring Juliet Wright, based at Flitwick hub, on 01234 842613

National Neighbourhood Watch Updates

In January, we spoke of a new constitution for National and this is due to be ratified at their AGM in July. This new constitution is to unify and standardise existing NHW Associations throughout the country and prevent unrecognised and un-constituted groups using the name of NHW illegally. In the past, it was possible to buy the old logo on line; the introduction of the new constitution will prevent this from happening. Another change in the new constitution, states that National will only recognise a Force Level organisation, the definition being: Bedfordshire Police is our Force Level, operating across the County and not just in Bedford & District area. In order to meet the National requirements, we have been in discussion with our NHW colleagues in Central and Luton to introduce another level:- THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The purpose of this Association is:

- To provide one point of contact for National.
- Share good practice and initiatives throughout Bedfordshire and
- Hold funds for County use.

This group will not affect the day to day running of our individual local schemes. The Trustees continue to have overall control of Bedford & District NHW.

New Branding for Neighbourhood Watch

Because the old logo was misused nationally. (you could buy it from Amazon), National have decided that only "Force Level" Watch schemes can apply for a licence to use it and only selected printers will be licenced to use it. Local printers can apply but there is a fee. We intend to negotiate this fee with National and our recommendation for now is to continue to use your local printer for any work and use the old logo.

Members are asked to let the Trustees know which Printer Company they use for any NW work and how often. Please email: bedfordnhwatch@gmail.com



Our guest speaker was **Wayne Humberstone. Chief Officer Special Constabulary and Head of Force Control Room.**

As well as his police role, Wayne has been a Special for over 25 years, joining because he wanted to make a difference in the community where he lived. He spoke of the plan to recruit up to 500 new recruits by the end of 2017 and if all went to plan, Riseley Police Station would be base for 22 Officers.

The Specials were building up to be a force with expertise in a variety of specialities as well as patrolling our streets. Specials work out of rural police stations, help with the busy night-time economy in the town centres and also work on specialist teams like the dedicated Football Unit, forensics and dog handling.

Op Salcotes is the name given to a new initiative that concentrates on one area in a day, to promote recruitment of Specials, Watch Schemes and concentrate on law enforcement, including speeding, uninsured vehicles, ASB etc. There have been two successful events in Maulden and Houghton Regis and Members were invited to the next event to be held in Clapham on 4th June 2016. Neighbourhood Watch will be there to support and assist.

If you are interested in becoming a Special, then please follow the link at:

Bedfordshire.police.uk/recruitment

Local Policing



We have all seen a decrease in the number of PCSO's across the County and we appreciate what affect this on our Members. Those PCSO's

remaining have been pooled together, to go where needed rather than have allocated areas.

Members are encouraged to use 101 to report any criminal activity, including ASB.

To contact an Officer, email:

communitynorthneighbourhoodsupervisors@Bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk.

Sgt Gary Kidd: Rural & Sgt Paul Ayling: Urban

Go to <https://www.police.uk/> and click on

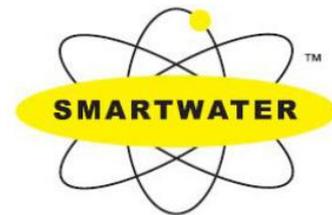
"find your neighbourhood" if you are unsure.

Ring 101 if you see anything suspicious.

999 if you see a crime being committed.

Monthly Crime Statistics

This complimentary service to Members and Parish Councils, given by Neighbourhood Watch, ceased when Lynne Arch left us as she was the only person in our network with access to the required data. However we are please that two Members, Dave Girling from Felmersham and Margaret Carpenter from Brickhill, have agreed to be trained so that the service can be reinstated.



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PROTECTING THE THINGS AND PEOPLE YOU LOVE

Buy the Neighbourhood Watch Patlock at our exclusive discounted rate of £42.50* (including VAT and delivery) at: www.ourwatch.org.uk

*£42.50 at www.patlock.co.uk

SECURE FRENCH DOORS AND CONSERVATORIES WITH PATLOCK

See how Patlock works at: www.patlock.co.uk

EVENTS THIS SUMMER
National Neighbourhood Watch Week
18TH - 26TH June 2016

Saturday 18th 10:30-4:00

Harrold Country Park: Public Engagement Day
& Sponsored Walk – Sponsor forms available:
Please email bedfordnhwatch@gmail.com
Or agree to sponsor Hazel Snowball or Pat Maskey



Thursday 23rd 10:30-3:30

Bedford town centre. Public Engagement Day
Outside the library.

Saturday 25th

Local activities: Why not join any local activities in your area. Or have a coffee morning to promote Neighbourhood Watch. Just email us with any plans and we'll support you with literature and give aways.

Bedford River Festival
Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th July
Look for the big yellow gazebo
and our flags!
Tombola, raffle, games.



For more information
– visit our website:
Bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org.uk

Please

Can you help at any of these events?

We would love to hear from you.

Just email bedfordnhwatch@gmail.com

and let us know.

You will be most welcome

Next Quarterly Members Meeting: The AGM

Wednesday 20th July 2016

**Please consider standing as a Trustee for the coming year
and submit a nomination form before the meeting.**

Your Neighbourhood Watch needs you