



BINGHAM

**Neighbourhood
Watch**

**Newsletter
Winter 2017**

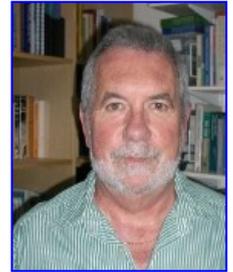
Chairman's Message

As Chair, on behalf of your officers and co-ordinators, I wish you all Season's Greetings and best wishes for a safe and peaceful Christmas and New Year. Thank you all for your support and vigilance over the past year.

With no sign of a reduction in pressure on police resources, the eyes and ears of Neighbourhood Watch members and volunteers assume even greater importance. Remember to report all incidents immediately on the non-emergency 101 number. Call 999 when:

- Life is in danger or someone is seriously injured
- Someone is using violence or there is an immediate threat of violence
- A crime is in progress or an offender has just been disturbed at the scene
- Serious damage is being or could be caused to property
- There is a road traffic collision in which someone is hurt or there is a danger to other road users
- An immediate police response is necessary.

Please be mindful that Christmas offers lots of opportunities for criminals. Remember, in particular, not to leave presents visible from the outside of your property or in unattended cars. Dispose of packaging discreetly so that thieves will not be alerted to the presence of new, high value items in your home.



Community Safety

Rushcliffe Borough Council's Community Safety Project Officer, Judith Brown, tells us about her role.

I rejoined Rushcliffe Borough Council in my current role over 3 years ago having worked for them previously in the Housing and Health department before the housing stock transfer in 2003. I work closely with Rushcliffe Neighbourhood police team on crime prevention and reduction. Despite me not having Police enforcement powers, I assist them by raising public awareness of crime and giving valuable crime prevention advice. I use many channels to deliver our messages including social media, newsletters, leaflets and holding community safety events and initiatives.

My main focus has been on West Bridgford, the area of the Borough with the highest crime levels where I am particularly targeting theft – which has significantly become a high crime type. Shop theft and bike theft has hit hard over the summer months in this area and we have also seen increased levels of vehicle crime sporadically over the Borough.

Some crimes are preventable, especially theft. For more information on how you can keep your property safe contact your local Neighbourhood Watch coordinator or me at Rushcliffe Borough Council communitysafety@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Remember as the nights are now drawing in Leave a Light On!

Discounted Security Items

A reminder that Bingham security company **SURE24** are still offering discounted security items. Since advertised in the summer newsletter, shed alarms (£6) and window alarms (£4) have proved popular purchases by Bingham residents. They are very easy to fit and act as a visible deterrent. Remember timer switches (£2) on lights are a good idea now the dark nights are upon us. These can all be ordered via your local NW coordinator. If you don't know who your co-ordinator is, please contact **876635**.

New Scheme Launch

On Wednesday 4th October, at a meeting in the Old Court House, we launched a new Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for Thoresby Road. The Chair of Bingham Neighbourhood Watch Association, David Mason, and new co-ordinators, Alan and Sue Bird, were joined by some dozen residents to be briefed on the operation of the scheme and to have their questions answered. We were grateful to have in attendance PCSO John Heaps who gave up his time to provide a police perspective on the contribution made by NW to crime prevention.

WELCOME to Bingham NW to Alan and Sue Bird!



The police monthly crime data for the second quarter of 2017 shows an average of just over 39 offences per month. August had only 18 crimes, less than half the average crime rate.

Again anti-social behaviour remained the most commonly occurring crime, accounting for 38% of all crime in Bingham. The rate of domestic burglaries and vehicle crime fell considerably, with only 3 and 4 cases, respectively, reported over the quarter.

While we are fortunate in Bingham, that crime figures are relatively low, we should continue to do all we can to avoid becoming a victim of crime by reducing a criminal's opportunity. This is especially important during the darker months.

For more details about the latest crime figures and useful crime prevention advice, visit bingham-watch.com or police.uk/nottinghamshire/31-22/crime

SITUATIONS VACANT

Vacancy: Bingham Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

Locations: Long Acre East/Raymond Drive,
Nursery Road,
The Paddock
Quantock Grove/Newstead Grove/Rufford Grove .

Hours: 1.5 hours, 4 times per annum + 2 excursions

Salary: Er, nothing

Job Description:

An important and integral part of your community, your local BNW Co-ordinator lives discreetly in plain sight amongst the residents of our lovely town.

Roles & Responsibilities:

You will be required to attend quarterly meetings where you will integrate within the BNW community, sharing insight and feedback from your designated area and its inhabitants. You will also be required to deliver 2 BNW newsletters per year, keeping your residents informed about the latest in household, personal and online security. Our newsletters are a key feature of the BNW programme and whilst they will be written and printed for you, input to the content is welcome. Supporting our Summer and Christmas fair stalls is encouraged.

The ideal candidate will:

- Have sufficient knowledge of Bingham to be able to locate the meeting venue (or have access to and a basic understanding of 'SatNav').
- Be personable and able to remain alert for the duration of the quarterly meetings (or at least look interested).
- Have the drive to visit each of their resident's premises twice annually (staying for a cuppa is optional and at the co-ordinator's own risk).
- Have the ability to both open a letterbox AND push a newsletter through it - although please mind those fingers!

In exchange, you will receive:

- Job satisfaction (honest)
- 359 days holiday per year (you lucky thing)
- Fresh air and exercise
- New friends (we're lovely)
- The chance to be officially nose

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To help save a current scheme from being closed and avoid losing the benefit of any home insurance discounts, consider joining us at Bingham Neighbourhood Watch. Please call Bingham 876635 for a friendly chat.

STAY SAFE AT CHRISTMAS



 Don't forget the basics. Police research suggests that 73% of burglars use doors to enter a property and in 3% of cases the door is unlocked.

 Ensure window or door locks aren't compromised by Christmas light cables.

 Packaging for TV or computer equipment is an open invitation to thieves and should be broken down and taken directly to the local tip.

 Invest in security lighting that switches on when someone is nearby. This is especially important in winter when it's darker for longer.

 If you're going away for any length of time, don't announce it on social media such as Facebook and Twitter and make sure other family members are careful too. Disable the tags that reveal your location on photos you post.

 Make your home appears occupied when you're not there with the use of timers for lamps. Leave a radio playing on a 'talk' station and draw the curtains if you're out for the evening.

 Ensure the burglar alarm is set properly and is visible to potential thieves. A house alarm will deter intruders and detect when a window or door is open. Always buy from a reputable company and use an installer affiliated to a body such as the National Security Inspectorate (NSI) or the Security System and Alarms Inspection Board (SSAIB).

 Talk to your neighbours before you go away and ask them to watch out for any mail not pushed through the letterbox properly.

