



Message from the Chairman



Dear NHW Members,

As you will see from Vic's current warnings the type of crime being committed on cars has stepped up a level – and is much more expensive for owners. Similarly with the fabulous summer weather we are seeing river crime on the increase. Please ensure your boat and its engine are secure. Also be aware that from this January Thames licensing rules changed and if your boat is in the water – even if you are not planning to use it until later in the year – it must be licensed.

Please do report **every** criminal, anti-social, etc instance. Whilst there may not be bodies able to attend, this doesn't mean your call is a waste of time. Quite the reverse - the number of times I have heard residents at the end of their tether tell police that they are beleaguered by anti-social behaviour, etc., and the fact is there's no record to support these assertions. This is a big problem. Each call helps build a picture of activity. Also your report is supported. For an area where anti-social behaviour or criminal activity occurs persistently, over time a record is compiled. And the police work on statistics. Simple fact of life.

Regards, Vivienne

NHW Borough Statistics.

We now have **230** watches in Spelthorne.

At the moment, Neighbourhood Watch covers **29.36%** of households.

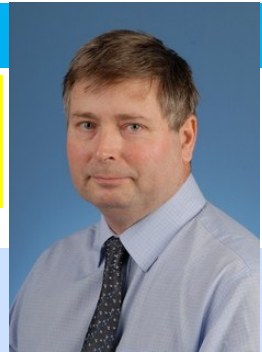
We have lost a couple of watches lately due to co-ordinators moving out of the Borough so our percentage has dropped slightly.

It is important to let us know of your deputy coordinator or someone willing to take on the task if you move away.

The only thing to do with good advice is pass it on.
It is never any use to oneself. - *Oscar Wilde*

Tips From Vic

**Crime Prevention advice from
Surrey Police Community
Safety Team.**



Metal thefts.

Have I mentioned metal thefts recently? Over the past months we have seen a huge increase in all sorts of metals being stolen. As scrap metal values go through the roof, anything and everything made from copper or lead is at high risk. Once again, these offences are occurring down every street and around every corner.

Lead

Not only are thieves getting up onto roofs of large civic or educational building to steal the lead flashing, they are also taking the lead from off the front porches of houses in the street – and in broad daylight! This is occurring across the Borough, with recent spates on the Staines and Laleham border and in Lower Sunbury.

Thefts of Catalytic Converters

Peugeots and Citroens continue to prove popular with thieves, who quickly and efficiently remove the catalytic converters from underneath the vehicles. Iveco, Ford and Mercedes vans are also favourites to target. I have written to every Mercedes Sprinter van owner in Spelthorne to make sure they are aware of the problem and what they can do to help combat the problem.

Surrey Police are working with Retainagroup Ltd, manufacturers of a product that protects a CAT from theft, by marking it visibly and permanently with a unique code and the 24/7 phone number of the International Security Register on which the code and details of the owner and vehicle are recorded.

To purchase a CAT marking and registration pack for just £9.95 call: 01233 333000 (24 hours) or email: register@retainagroup.com (website: www.retainagroup.com)

Thanks

Vic

RETAINAGROUP®
MARK • REGISTER • VERIFY • RETAIN

BITS FOR TECHS

INTERNET SECURITY

SpooF Emails

Continuing from the last newsletter, different aspects of PC/web/Internet security which hopefully covers many aspects. Some may be linked to examples on our [web site](#).

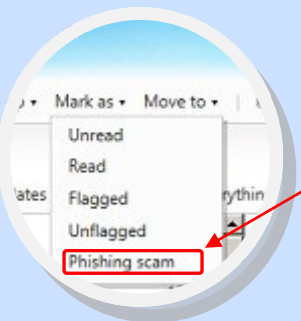
Information and further advice is available from GetSafeOnline, free, independent, user-friendly advice website.

We've all had them, those pesky emails that fill up our inbox. They are either from a reliable source like a regular newsletter from a company you've done business with online or that your details have been sold to another company which may be affiliated with it. Either way its considered junk mail.

But what about those ones which arrive in your inbox which look and sound convincing? How do you know it's real or not? How do you deal with it?

If we cover every eventuality, it may fill up quite a few newsletters on its own but generally, if the email asks you to enter a password or login details, forget it! You will never receive an email from a reliable source requesting login/password details. This is what we call 'Phishing', pronounced "fishing". This is the act of sending an e-mail to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into giving private information that will be used for identity theft.

The correct way to deal with this type of email is to report it. Most email providers have this reporting facility built in but if not, you should forward the email to the company involved in the scam immediately. As an example, if you received a phishing email about Nationwide BS, you should forward it to phishing@nationwide.co.uk.



Just remember, if you believe your details have been compromised, contact your bank/building Society immediately to prevent fraudulent activity.

But what about those other emails you get warning you of potentially PC crippling viruses, poisons on the top of soft drink cans or notices placed on the rear of your car? Some are made to scare you into forwarding to everyone in your email list like a chain letter. Some promise you untold wealth if you forward on. Yea right! Some are obvious or are old and have been around before but if you are unsure, before you forward it to 350 people in your address book, take a look at a website called Snopes at ... <http://www.snopes.com/...as> they say... the definitive Internet reference source for urban legends, folklore, myths, rumors, and misinformation. Then decide whether to send it on. You could be adding to the junk mail problem.

Please let us know of problems you encounter which you feel we could distribute to our readers.
Geoff

NHW LAMP POST SIGNS ARE NOW AVAILABLE.

Dear Coordinators

Good news!

The NHW lamp post signs are now available for distribution to all those that have requested them.

I require the lamp post **number** that each sign will be secured to and if it is a new lamp post - if not we might need to give out different sized brackets.

The signs come with 2 brackets each and need to be fitted by **two** people one person holding the sign another securing the brackets and fitted with a **minimum height of 6 feet 6 inches**.

If there is already a NHW sign on an old lamp post in good condition when the new lamp post is installed the sign will be put back by Skanska.

Please let me know if you are able to come along to the Spelthorne Borough Council offices at Knowle Green, Staines to collect them.

I have 80 signs to give out as soon as possible therefore once I have your responses I will be able to put a time table in place for collection/delivery.

Let me know if you have any queries other wise I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards, Linda
Neighbourhood Watch Administrator
Office days are: Monday & Tuesday

Behind every great man is a woman rolling her eyes.

Just to remind you, our AGM is on **Monday, 27th. June at 7.00pm** at The Shepperton Holiday Inn. All are welcome to attend.
Refreshments will be available this time!

Any further information on any topic raised in this newsletter can be obtained by contacting us as shown below, or looking on our [website](#).

Regards
Geoff Dover (Editor) and
Linda Kempton, NW Administrator.
(Mon+Tue Only)

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