



Supporting all NHW groups across the City and County of Bristol

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2014



BRISTOL NHW ADMINISTRATOR

I'm sure you would all like to join the Bristol NHW Network committee in welcoming Charlotte Manning to her new post of Bristol Neighbourhood Watch Administrator.

Bristol NHW Network committee members hope to work closely with Charlotte in helping to provide a much improved service to Co-ordinators.

Have you recently looked at all the information to help Neighbourhood Watchers on both the Bristol NHW Network and the National NHW websites? www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk and www.ourwatch.org.uk

If you've received this and you're no longer the scheme coordinator please notify us at bristolnhwnetwork@gmail.com or phone 07798 600822 and let us know who has taken over from you.



BRISTOL NHW NETWORK 2015 CALENDAR

We are delighted to be able to offer our 2015 NHW Calendar for just £2.00, the same price as last year. With monthly security hints and tips, and a 'Spot the Bristol Landmark' prize competition, this is a really useful, inexpensive little gift for relatives or friends that live overseas or elsewhere in the country. An A4 size envelope can also be included FREE of charge if requested.

Calendars can be ordered by completing an order form on our website: www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk Please support us by promoting the calendar to scheme members, family and friends. Funds raised by calendar sales have enabled us to post this Newsletter together with the new 'Stay Safe' leaflet to you.

LIMITED EDITION WINDOW STICKERS

National NHWN have secured sponsorship from 'Compare the Market.com.' To promote this, a 'limited edition' of NHW window stickers has been produced featuring two Meerkats. Love them or hate them, they're great favourites with the children! When they're gone, they're gone, there won't be any more of this special edition.

If you would like some for your scheme please complete the window sticker application form on our website: www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk / [Information for Co-ordinators](#) / [How to remember to mark your application form 'Special Edition' or 'Meerkats'](#).



BRISTOL NHW NETWORK CONFERENCE 2015

Bristol NHW Network are planning to hold a conference in October /November 2015 for all NHW groups across the city; This will incorporate our AGM. The date will be set shortly when a central city venue has been booked and diaries of the PCC Sue Mountstevens and the Chief Constable have been checked for availability.

Are there any specific topics that you would like to see included? Please let us know.

If you have skills or knowledge in organising events and feel you could join a small working group to help us, please do get in touch by e-mail. You would not be expected to join the Network committee to do this.

COURSES ON PRODUCING NEWSLETTERS

Bristol NHW Network are in the planning stage of organising a course on producing interesting, easy to read NW Newsletters. The course would be for Co-ordinators, or whoever would like to produce a Newsletter for their scheme.

If you already issue Newsletters to your scheme we would very much like to see a sample to help us when designing the course with the tutor.

Please e-mail us a couple of copies of recent Newsletters to bristolnhwnetwork@gmail.com

TELEPHONE SCAM



Many thousands of pounds have been lost recently because of a telephone scam. It is really important that everyone knows how to deal with telephone requests from people purporting to be from their bank. This latest scam is a very sophisticated type of fraud.

A person calls pretending to be either a bank official or the police, and says that the Consumers' card has been compromised or there is a problem with their account. After a while talking and putting the victim at ease, they are then advised to hang up and call their bank using

the number on the reverse of their card. This gives confidence to the victim that the caller is legitimate as they are using a number that their bank has given them. What they don't realise is that when they hang up, the caller does not, so their phone line is still open and when they call the bank, they are still connected to the scammer, who then pretends to be the bank representative, persuading the victim to transfer funds, withdraw money or reveal security information. With the 'courier' version, either a fraudster picks up the card from your home, sometimes providing a fake replacement, or a genuine courier is hired to collect the card.

This is a growing problem. Our advice would be, never hand over your card or your details to anyone – **your bank will never phone and ask for them.** If someone contacts you purporting to be from your bank saying that you have been the victim of fraud, or requesting your card or card details, hang up and call the bank telephone number on your card, **from a mobile or another phone line.**

CHANGES TO THE POLICING MODEL

Severe budget cuts have meant that big changes have had to be made to the way we are to be policed in the future.

A number of local police stations that have historically had a low footfall have already been, or will be closed in the future. Other stations will be relocated over the next couple of years to possibly smaller sites.

There will be three Neighbourhood Managers Insp. Mark Runacres, Insp. Olly Cosgove and Insp. Nigel Colston who will oversee teams of police officers and local community activity.

Beat Managers will still be allocated to local areas, but they will be linked to the response teams, so the main contact point for NW Co-ordinators will still be your Police Community Support Officer (PCSO).

Many of you who recently attended the North Bristol or the Central and East Bristol six monthly Coordinators meetings had the opportunity to hear the briefing on the new policing model. The Network have requested that the briefing be added to the police website for you all to access the information.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

A few tips to help keep you and your belongings safe.



If you know you are going to be returning home after dark, it's a good idea to leave lights on timer switches, so that your home always looks occupied. Don't give burglars any help in deciding if your house would be a good target!

Take care when candles are lit. Don't let an accident spoil your Christmas.

Don't leave presents on display where they can be seen by people just walking past your house.

When delivering presents to friends or relatives, don't leave any on view in your car, even if you are only popping in to someone's house for a few moments. It only takes a few seconds for someone to ruin your Christmas!

When recycling the boxes that presents or new electrical items came in, break them down and turn them inside out, so that it is not obvious what new items are in your home.

Finally, from Bristol NHW Network committee - have a lovely, safe, crime free Christmas and watch out on our website for our Newsletter in the New Year.

STAY SAFE BOOKLET

Bristol NHW Network are pleased to be able to send you a copy of the new 'Stay Safe' booklet. We are looking into printing costs for producing a supply of these leaflets, which are ideal to give to new scheme members as part of a starter pack.

The booklet can be read or downloaded from the NHWN website: www.ourwatch.org.uk

'GOOD NEIGHBOURS PREVENT ROGUE TRADERS'

A considerable amount of money is lost each year, particularly by older and more vulnerable members of the community because of rogue traders. Neighbourhood Watch can help prevent this by encouraging members to look out for and to help any older neighbours.

**CRIME WILL NOT SURVIVE
WHERE COMMUNITY LIFE
THRIVES**