



# Bristol Neighbourhood Watch Network

Supporting all NHW groups across the City and County of Bristol



## NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2015



### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October  
2.00 - 6.00pm**

Bristol NHW Network is holding a conference for all NW scheme Co-ordinators across Bristol. (plus a guest)

The venue will be in central Bristol allowing easy access for all.

This is your conference, so if you have experience in organising events or would just like to be involved, please do get in touch.

More information to follow on our summer Newsletter.

### CONTACT US / REGISTER WITH US

Web: [www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk](http://www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk)

E-mail: [bristolnhwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:bristolnhwnetwork@gmail.com)

Register your scheme with National NHWN at: [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk)



### **SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!**

Gardening will begin in earnest soon, so please advise members to ensure that when working in the garden all doors and

windows that are not in full view at all times are closed and locked.

Incidents of 'walk in' burglaries tend to increase in the spring, and often people are not aware that they have been burgled until they go to look for something and are unable to find it!

### Neighbourhood Partnerships – what do you know about them?

Bristol Neighbourhood Partnership areas



A Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) generally encompasses two or three Council Wards and brings public sector decision making to a local level, where residents can influence how they would like to see their neighbourhood improved using money devolved to each partnership by the Council. There are grants available for local groups to apply for through the Wellbeing Fund.

Local residents can put themselves forward as NP representatives. If you are Interested in becoming more involved contact your local NP Co-ordinator.

Neighbourhood Forum meetings, in some areas referred to as Community Forums or PACT (Partners and Communities Together,) play an important part in the NP Process. Issues can be raised at Neighbourhood Forum meetings that sit very comfortably alongside the aims and ethos of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, so should a dedicated Neighbourhood Watch Representative be included on every NP committee perhaps? It is at Neighbourhood Forums that the public can raise matters affecting them and their local area. There may be environmental or planning issues, litter, graffiti, criminal activity, open spaces, or a particular project that is needed; all can be raised at these Neighbourhood Forum meetings, and all are issues that Neighbourhood Watch groups can also get involved with.

Forum meeting dates are advertised locally in libraries, shops, community notice boards as well as being posted on Bristol City Council Website, and on your local pages on the Avon and Somerset Constabulary website.



**MY NEIGHBOURHOOD**

Local police, Councillors and NP representatives, attend Forum meetings, thus providing an ideal platform to move local issues forward.

## **STALKING PROJECT**

Stalking is a national problem, and sadly/worryingly some men AND women are drawn to stalk! There is currently a short-term National Project under way, but the guaranteed funding ends in May. Good headway is being made but needs as many people as possible to i) know about the project, ii) to recognise the different kinds of stalking, and iii) (perhaps most importantly) fill in the anonymous questionnaire on the website that they have prepared.

Please feel free to circulate any/all of the below links to help this important project thrive. Perhaps you know someone who has suffered as a victim of stalking, or a professional person who might have access to victims?

Again, the questionnaire is anonymous, no details are requested at all; Interest is growing, but time is short!

The website is: [www.scaredofsomeone.org](http://www.scaredofsomeone.org) and all the below links are accessible from there.

E-mail address: [stalkingUK@yahoo.com](mailto:stalkingUK@yahoo.com) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/scaredofsomeone-sos](http://www.facebook.com/scaredofsomeone-sos)

They have a LinkedIn account [www.linkedin.com/groups/scaredof](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/scaredof) Twitter: @stalkingUK

### **WHAT DO YOUR NW STREET SIGNS TELL BURGLARS?**

Damaged or dirty street signs, or signs covered in algae give the impression that your NW scheme is not operating well, and residents have lost interest in the scheme. The spring is therefore a great time to give signs a wash and brush up, so that your signs are in pristine condition. You may possibly need to buy some new ones if they are damaged or beyond cleaning? Order forms on:

[www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk](http://www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk)

### **NORTH / NORTH WEST BRISTOL NHW SPRING CO-ORDINATORS MEETING**

The six monthly North / North West Bristol NHW Co-ordinators meeting will take place on: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, At: Fairfield School, Allfoxton Road, Eastville, BS7 9AL  
Doors open at: 6.45pm for refreshments,  
Meeting to start at 7.15pm – approx. 9.30pm

### **AGENDA FOR CO-ORDINATORS MEETING**

**If you have any items that you would like on the agenda for the meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April, please e-mail them to:**  
**[bristolnhwnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:bristolnhwnetwork@gmail.com)**

## **Make your street child friendly and a SAFE place to play.**

Many Neighbourhood Watch groups are reporting that 'Playing Out' is a very good way of not only getting the children out to play, but it is also encouraging the adult to get together for a cup of tea and a chat - building stronger communities.

Firstly, neighbours discuss the Playing Out idea with everybody living in the street. Once agreed, they apply to Bristol City Council for permission for a temporary road closure to let children play out safely and freely. Applications can be for a one-off or a more regular playing out session, either after school or on a weekend: the policy in Bristol allows streets to close to through traffic for up to three hours once a week. The application takes six weeks to be processed by the council, which allows time for any objections to be raised and responded to.

'Playing Out' can provide practical help with printing, delivering flyers as well as free support and advice, either at someone's home or at their shop. They provide free kits, including signs, high visibility vests, chalk, skipping ropes, posters and leaflets. On the day, the organisers close the road using 'Road Closed' signs. Residents can still drive in and out, guided by neighbours volunteering as stewards. Through traffic is redirected. Parents and carers are responsible for their children as on any other day.

For more information or for support getting this started in your area, please contact: [www.playingout.net](http://www.playingout.net) or Tel: Ellie Freeman, Tel: 0117 9537167



### **NATIONAL NHW NEWS – PLI Insurance for NW groups**

Public liability Insurance cover for NW street signs and also events run by NW groups has been agreed for 2015/2016. There may be a few changes to the policy which comes into force 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, but basic cover will remain the same. It is important to note that if you use your vehicle for any events, then this will not be covered by the PLI insurance, you need to inform your own car insurance company. You will be able to check the full policy details on [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk) once the policy is issued. A summary of the policy will also be made available on: [www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk](http://www.bristolnhwnetwork.org.uk)