

# Annual General Meeting

JUNE  
2014

Nailsea

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, 2nd July when we have our A.G.M. to elect the Officers and Committee for 2014/15.

The present committee offering themselves for re-election are:

- Chairman:** Peter Smith
- Vice Chair:** Mike West
- Treasurer:** Vacancy
- Distribution:** Ian Mottram
- Signs:** Terry Thompson
- Members:** Sue Lomax  
Trevor Lyons

### Vacancies

Gill McConachie will not be standing for re-election this year. The Chairman would like to thank Gill for her valuable contribution as Treasurer and an active member of the Committee for over 4 years. We therefore now need a Treasurer as we cannot operate without one. We also need more Committee members. The new Committee will find it very difficult to operate without these vacancies being filled. There are five Committee meetings each year

when we plan all the public meetings including the Christmas Social and work to maintain all the NHW schemes in the Town. The minimum required is just a couple of hours every two months so please complete the nomination form below. The Chairman will be pleased to answer any queries you may have.

**Without more volunteers, Nailsea Neighbourhood Watch will cease to operate in its present form.**

The Committee have already agreed that, given the healthy state of our funds, the £1 subscription will be waived this year.

Please use the form below to make your nomination. Note that whoever you nominate must know that you are doing so. You can nominate members as Officers and/or to the general Committee.

The Chairman would like to express their thanks to Margaret, Audrey and Pauline for providing the refreshments for our meetings and also Jill & Geoff Collard for collating the newsletter.

## Nomination for Committee 2014

I nominate:.....

To serve as:.....

This nomination is with the approval of the nominee

Signed:

Please place in a sealed envelope marked "Nominations" and either pass to your Contact Person or forward for the attention of "The Chairman, Nailsea NHW c/o Nailsea Police Station" by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June.

## DIARY WATCH

All meetings 7:30pm at UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, STOCKWAY NORTH

### WEDNESDAY, 2nd JULY

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be followed by the Police report and a talk given by Nick Churchill of the Portishead and Bristol Lifeboat. You may be aware that there have been a number of changes to the Portishead Lifeboat recently so do come along for a most interesting presentation.

*All members are most welcome at our Open Meetings which are always interesting and arranged for their benefit. It is also an opportunity to meet fellow members in a relaxed social atmosphere. Free refreshments are provided.*

We always welcome suggestions or articles for publication in future editions of this newsletter.

WANT TO  
THE HIGHER THE VIGILANCE the lower the crime....

### USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

999 Emergency  
101 Non-emergency calls

0800 555 111 Crime Stoppers  
Chairman: 01275 857418  
Committee:  
nailseanhw@googlemail.com  
Web site: nailseanhw.org.uk

## Guest speaker - Chief Inspector Alex Cohen, District Commander

Our guest speaker was to be Nick Gargan, Chief Constable, but unfortunately he was called away on important business. In his place Chief Inspector Alex Cohen, District Commander, gave an excellent talk on what has been happening within the Avon and Somerset Constabulary. He explained what keeps Nick Gargan awake at nights:

- 1) Finance
- 2) Performance improvement
- 3) Developing the organisation
- 4) Changing the culture.

Chief Inspector Cohen explained that the constabulary has had a 27% cut in its budget, which has resulted in substantial changes to the way the Constabulary operates. Changes include a) reductions at the top of the organisation, with senior officers taking on more responsibility, b) reductions in the size of the property portfolio, c) provision of modern custody centres to replace outdated facilities spread across the Force area. However, there will be no reductions in our local Police team and it is very likely that current Nailsea Police Station building will remain with the Police sharing occupancy with other organisations. Station opening hours will change although details are not yet available. Across the whole of Avon & Somerset only 1 Police station is closing. The others will either relocate or be co-located with other Agencies. The new Custody Centres will open in Patchway, Keynsham and Bridgwater during the summer. There will be investment in new technology to facilitate better resourcing, intelligence and processing arrests. The new Force Operating Model is currently being piloted in South Gloucestershire and Mendip and will be rolled out during 2015.

Following an independent survey, Avon & Somerset was found to be the 6th best in the UK for public confidence. Nevertheless Chief Inspector Cohen admitted that the Police have a mountain to climb in restoring its reputation with the public. Detected crime has improved over the past few years and this has helped to bring down the level of crime. The Chief constable is driving a change in culture with a focus on the Constabulary working for the public, not

Policing the public.

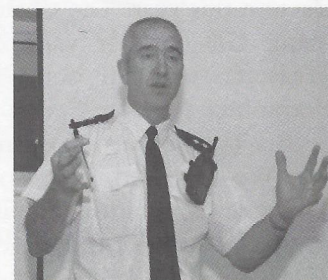
The staffing structure at Nailsea will change. Front line staffing will at least remain the same. There will be Neighbourhood Manager based in Weston Super Mare responsible for managing issues, with no staff responsibility.

The chief Inspector concluded by answering questions from the floor ■

## Inspector Jaz Bartlett

Our local Inspector thanked all Nailsea members of Neighbourhood Watch for their efforts on behalf of the Police. He explained that his role is only temporary until the end of the year when a Neighbourhood Manager will take over, based in Weston Super Mare. Our local Inspector spoke to the latest crime figures (see facing page). Shoplifting has been on the increase and major efforts are being deployed to combat this crime. Also, villains are now targeting garage and sheds, so make sure your outbuildings are made secure. It is a good practice to get your bicycle physically marked on the Bike Register. You can do this by

booking an appointment at Nailsea by calling 101. The charge is £5 per cycle ■



*Inspector Jaz Bartlett*

## PACT

At the April meeting, our local Police team reported that crimes detected has risen to around 35% from what was a disappointing less than 20% a few of years ago. Recently there has been ASB in Millennium Park and the skate park. Three new volunteers and one former volunteer have agreed to join the SpeedWatch team and to be trained.

PACT support was provided for the application for a crossing over Queens Road by a blind resident at a town council meeting recently. At a discussion with the town centre manager it was revealed that Precinct signage will be improved in the Autumn but the detail is not yet clear.

The car park issue remains unresolved and the town council continues to resist North Somerset council's attempts to take over in order to charge for parking. In response to a letter to Elfan Ap Rees, Mr Rees advised the chair that NS Council would continue to resist any transfer of parking enforcement powers from Police to the council as they would not be able to afford resources to cover the whole district.

Anti-Social Behaviour will be the priority due to the impending long evenings and potentially, good weather which may encourage thoughtless behaviour outdoors. PACT will be represented at the Nailsea Showcase event on 19 July 2014 at the Millennium Park, and at the PACT conference at Portishead Police HQ on 7 June.

The next PACT meeting will be on Tuesday 1st July at Nailsea Fire Station. The meeting is open to anyone, so come along and discuss those issues you care about ■

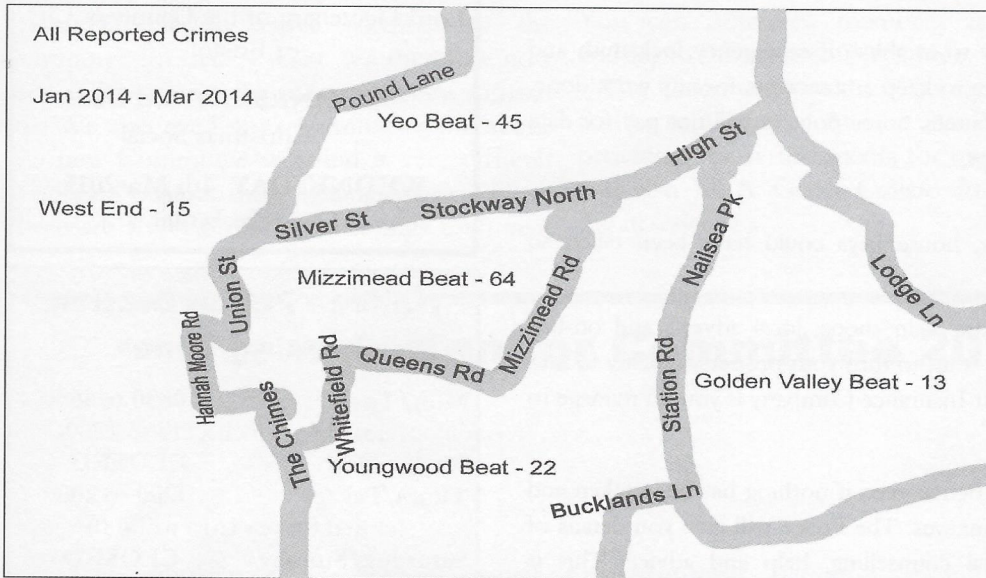
# Police successes

## Burglars caught

At the end of April the Nailsea beat team were assisting colleagues from Clevedon in capturing a burglar. The home owner answered the door to a suspect who was asking for something which had gone into the victim's garden. Whilst distracting the victim and asking them to go to the garden, the front door was left open and unattended. This allowed the suspect to enter the house and steal items from the address.

DC Steve WEBB from the Nailsea crime team began investigating the offence and with local knowledge from beat officers a suspect was identified and has been arrested for the offence.

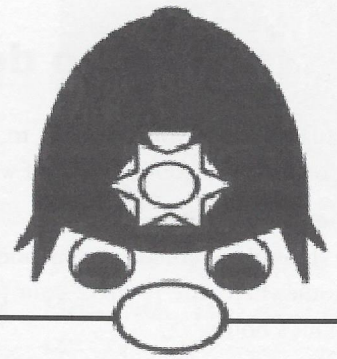
Also as part of a rural crime initiative officers were conducting a stop check along the A38 in Langford. Whilst carrying out the patrols observations were put out for a vehicle which was recently involved in a burglary in Shipham, Somerset. The vehicle was spotted heading on the A38 towards Bristol and stopped. Inside the vehicle were a number of expensive power tools which had been stolen from across North Somerset. The driver of the vehicle was charged with burglary ■



(Source: www.police.uk)

## CRIME FIGURES

March / April	2013	2014
Other	10	1
Criminal Damage	13	11
Assault	10	14
Theft	22	17
Burglary house	4	1
Burglary shed/garage/business	3	4
Theft cycle	2	0
Robbery	0	0
Theft of vehicle	0	0
Theft from vehicle	3	1
Possession of drugs	2	0
Anti Social Behaviour	58	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>96</b>



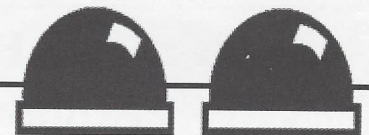
## On the Beat

It won't have escaped your notice of the recent announcement that Nailsea police station in its current form will be changing. It has not been decided what will be happening with the building but be rest assured that the Nailsea beat team will be based and remaining in Nailsea. Any change in the current set up is not for another 18 months. Any new location will be and accessible to the community.

The Nailsea front office times are going to be changed, it has been decided that the current opening times are not consistent enough throughout the organisation so new opening times will be released shortly giving Monday to Friday coverage and be based on 10am to 6pm.

I wish to inform the NHW community that PCSO Charlotte THOMPSON is moving on from the Nailsea beat team and will be moving to work in North Bristol from mid June 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlotte for all the work she has done in the community she is an excellent PCSO and a real credit to the organisation and she will be missed. A replacement for Charlotte is due to start with the Nailsea beat team soon ■

P.C. 1862 Matt Christie



Your good neighbours are my problem. A car in the drive, a flyer-free letterbox and curtains that open and close convince me you're around when you're sunning yourself in Spain ■

## What to do after a burglary

Hopefully none of you will have to read further than the title above but we thought it would be useful to compile a list of what to do.

### 1. Contact the Police

If you think there could be someone still in your property **do not enter the premises**. Find somewhere safe to make your phone call outside the house, e.g. from your car or a neighbour's house.

2. **Don't touch**, move or clear up any mess either inside and outside the property until the Police arrive.

3. Make sure you receive a crime report number from the Police. You will need this for your Insurance Company.

4. **Make a list** of all stolen or damaged items.

5. **Inform your bank** to cancel debit/credit cards and cheque books. Also check that your driving licence and passport have not been taken.

### 6. Contact your Insurance company

Check if your policy covers Home Emergency to establish if emergency locksmith and other repair costs can be claimed for. Make sure to keep any receipts for any work done. Also check policy details regarding home computers. Some policies will not pay for data loss if no adequate backup copies have been kept.

### 7. Secure your property as soon as possible.

Even if entry wasn't made through the door, house keys could have been taken so changing all locks is needed.

8. **Keep an eye** on local pawn brokers, payday loan shops, local adverts and on-line adverts selling second hand items. Most thieves want to turn your property quickly into cash. Don't forget to inform the Police and your Insurance Company if you do manage to retrieve any of your property.

Burglary is a very traumatic and upsetting experience even if nothing has been taken and children especially can be very distressed and anxious. The Police will give you details of Victim Support which offers free confidential counselling, help and advice. This is available to everyone even if the crime has not been reported to the Police. More information can be found by telephoning 0845 3030900 or at [www.victimsupport.org/contact](http://www.victimsupport.org/contact).

### Victim Compensation

If someone is arrested and convicted for your burglary, the Court can award you compensation from the offender but you need to inform the police in advance if you would want to claim this.

Finally, two points to leave you with: (i) second time robberies are actually very rare, and (ii) 9 out of 10 burglar alarms are bought after a burglary and then half are never turned on!

### Keep Safe

## Visit to the Houses of Parliament

The date of our visit will be Monday 1st September. The visit was vastly over-subscribed, and due to restrictions at the Palace of Westminster we have had to limit numbers. However, it is likely we will run another trip later next year.

Seats have been allocated by draw and all members travelling were notified before June 1st. The coach will be leaving the entrance to Clevedon Road car park at 07:15am prompt, so don't be late!

## Around the Schemes

We are actively seeking a replacement Contact Person for Riverway. Please contact the Chairman on 857428 for more details. If no volunteer comes forward, then unfortunately the scheme will have to close and residents will lose the benefits of being members of Neighbourhood Watch ■

## Future dates for your diary

**WEDNESDAY 1st Oct**

Mrs Mary Prior, MBE JP

Lord Lieutenant of the County & City of Bristol

**WEDNESDAY 3rd Dec**

Christmas Social

**WEDNESDAY 4th Mar2015**

Guest speaker tbc

## Nailsea Police Station Opening Times

<b>Mon/Tues</b>	<b>0830 to 1630</b> (closed for lunch 1115 to 1200)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Thurs/Fri</b>	<b>1200 to 2000</b> (closed for tea 1615 to 1700)
<b>Saturday/Sunday</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>



## Street signs

Please let us know if your NHW street signs are missing, damaged or simply so old they are unrecognisable.

We have been advised that the Bobby Van man will not be able to erect signs for us after the end of this year. So scheme members will have to take on this responsibility. We have public liability insurance provided for us by National Neighbourhood Watch ■

## MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

This is a scheme sponsored by Lions International. The bottle is designed to contain all the resident's particulars including details of any medication being taken. The bottle is kept in the fridge. A label is placed on outside of the fridge and also near to front door of the property to alert any emergency aid provider.

Bottles are available at our public meetings, from Lions members, local pharmacies and surgeries ■