

## Chairman's message

Well, summer is finally over. The weather has certainly changed with crisp mornings and piles of golden leaves indicating that autumn is well and truly here, with Christmas not far away (I had to say it). I hope you enjoy the lead up to Christmas buying presents and socialising with friends and family. Myself and the

Committee would like to take this early opportunity to extend seasonal greetings to Co-ordinators/Contact Persons, members and their families and our local Neighbourhood Policing Team. May you all enjoy a happy, peaceful and crime free Christmas and a prosperous and successful New Year. Above all .... **stay vigilant !**

## The nights are drawing in

### Walking with confidence

You are more vulnerable to both attack and injury if you've been drinking, especially around other drinkers. Stop drinking when your senses begin to be impaired. Intersperse alcoholic drinks with soft drinks - this will also help to prevent you from becoming dehydrated, a common cause of a hangover.

Look after friends and walk away from confrontations. Keep your eye on your drinks so that you know nothing has been added to them - be wary of accepting drinks from people you do not know unless you have seen the drink poured at the bar and are certain it could not have been spiked. Similarly, avoid leaving your drink unattended. If you need to go to the toilet ask a trusted friend to look after your drink for you.

There are more police patrolling town centres on Friday and Saturday nights to help with safety concerns, and some town centres also have taxi marshalling schemes. Keep valuables out of sight..

Plan your route and try to walk with a friend if possible. At night keep to well-lit busy roads and thoroughfares where you can. Try to avoid short cuts through parks, alleyways or car parks.

- Be aware of what is going on around you.
  - Avoid wearing headphones as they will make it harder to hear people approaching you, and may also indicate that you have something (music player) worth attempting to steal.
  - Carry a torch for dark areas.
  - Walk on the side of the road facing oncoming traffic.
  - If you are walking across a common or parkland keep to the main paths and open spaces where you can see and be seen.
- Avoid wooded areas.  
Consider carrying a personal attack alarm; they are cheap and available from many DIY stores. Carry it in your hand, not your bag or pocket, so that if needed you can use it immediately ■



November  
2014  
Nailsea

WATCH  
THE HIGHER THE VIGILANCE the lower the crime.....  
**WANT TO GET IT**

**REMINDER - there is no subscription to pay this year - we are having a year off!**

## Christmas Social

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, STOCKWAY NORTH

Wednesday 3rd December 2014 at 7:30 pm

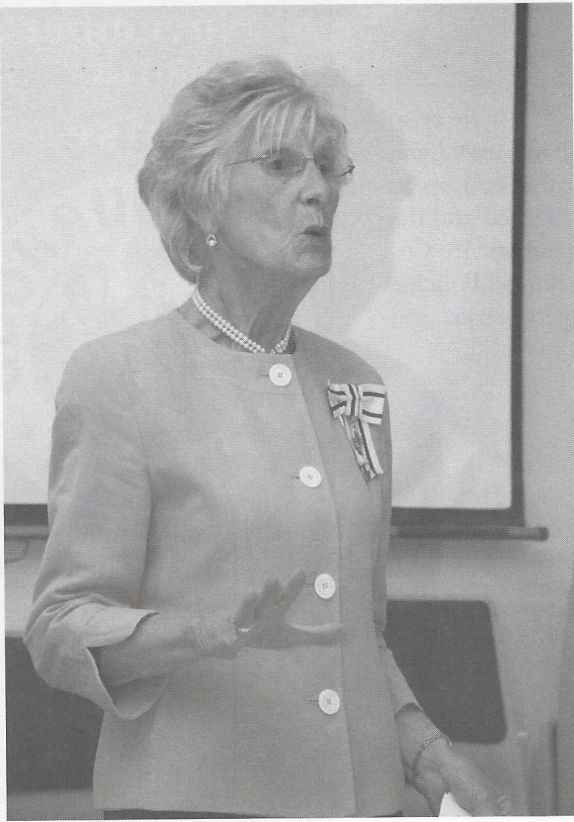
This is the event that all members should not miss. There will be the usual free refreshments, including of course home made mince pies. Everyone attending will enjoy free entry into our prize raffle with many seasonal prizes, bingo and lots more. Our local Police, Clevedon Windows, and the Scouts (xmas post) will all be in attendance. Remember to bring your local letters and cards for posting ■

*IF YOU HAVE ENJOYED READING THIS NEWSLETTER AND WOULD LIKE A REGULAR COPY JOIN A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME*

### USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

999      Emergency  
101      Non-emergency  
            calls  
            Nailsea Station  
0800 555 111 Crime Stoppers

Web site: [nailseanhw.org.uk](http://nailseanhw.org.uk)  
Email: [nailseanhw@gmail.com](mailto:nailseanhw@gmail.com)



## Mrs Mary Prior MBE JP

### Lord Lieutenant of the City & County of Bristol

It was a great privilege to have the Lord Lieutenant of Bristol as the guest speaker for our October meeting.

Mrs Prior explained that the Lord Lieutenant for Bristol originally came under Gloucestershire but was introduced when Avon was disbanded. Since Bristol is a county-city a metropolitan Lord Lieutenant was introduced.

Historically when the High Sheriffs were misbehaving the Lord Lieutenants were introduced with responsibilities for defence - they each had to pull together a band of militia from their respective counties. They have since maintained a close relationship with military reservists and cadets. There are a total number of 98 Lord Lieutenants of which 97 are in England. In the past they were recruited from peers, wealthy land owners and military officers. The first female Lord Lieutenant was Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk in 1975.

The Lord Lieutenant is the Queen's representative in the county. She arranges and organises royal visits in the county, for which a lot of preparation is needed. She represents the Queen for reservists and cadets, and presents medals to uniformed services including the police and fire brigade.

She assesses nominations for national awards, and was involved in a recent Queens award for voluntary service in Bristol to Charity 125 - work with sex workers. Nominations are made for Buckingham Palace Garden Parties for all uniformed organisations including the scouts and guides.

She has responsibilities for magistrates advising committees for magistrate recruitment. In Bristol, a citizenship ceremony is held week for new citizens. The ceremony is lead by her vice or deputy. A recent survey found that 92 languages were spoken in Bristol which adds to richness of the city.

She is heavily involved with charity and voluntary organisations and is a patron to 30. Last year she had 400 very pleasurable engagements as well as royal weddings, Ascot and the Queens Diamond Jubilee Pageant on the Thames.

She was appointed 7 years ago by the clerk to the privy council after an interview from a range of people of diverse backgrounds ■

## Scam Corner

### If you receive a cold phone call



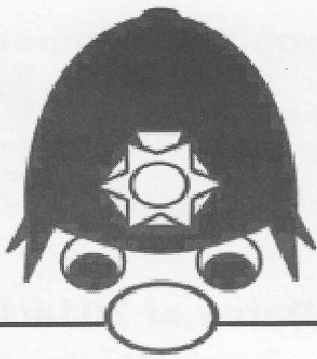
- Never agree to something there and then – ask for a telephone number you can call them back on. Never call back straight away as the caller may still be on the line. Wait 10 minutes then call back from another phone \*\*. If the caller is from your Bank or other financial institution, then good advice is to call them direct.
- Do your research – check online to see if the company exists, read other people's reviews and see if you can get a better quote elsewhere.
- If they say they are working for the police, call 101 to make sure. \*\*

### If you receive a suspicious email



- Do not click on any links within the email.
- Look out for poor spelling and grammar. Check the sender's email address –does it look right (i.e. it is not a free email address such as gmail, yahoo or outlook).
- If the email is from a Bank or similar institution then forward the email to their fraud department (the address can be found on their website). They will usually respond very quickly and thank you for being so vigilant.
- Finally DELETE the email.

If in doubt, report it to ActionFraud on 0300 123 2040. If you have the name of the company, report it to Trading Standards by calling the Citizens Advice consumer helpline 03454 04 05 06 ■



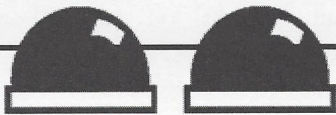
## On the Beat

A Nailsea resident reported that he had had a break-in during the early hours where his boiler was stolen.

Officers attended the location and were suspicious that the theft had taken place as described by the 'victim'. An officer made enquires with the neighbours and it was soon established that the 'victim' had more questions to answer so was taken to the police station. At the station the resident was interviewed and admitted to stealing the boiler and selling it for £80. I'm sure he will have a few chilling nights to look forward to.

Burglaries to dwellings were at their lowest levels for years during August and September 2014 when there were only three reported burglaries to the police. Please however stay vigilant now the clocks have changed. With the longer nights come further opportunities for burglars. Last year there was a spike in burglaries that took place while occupants were out between 5pm and 10pm at either events or shopping. Please leave lights on and if you can, a radio playing in the background is a great deterrent to would be thieves ■

**PC 1862 Matt Christie**  
Nailsea Beat Team



## Need a locksmith ?

AA Lock and Key mobile locksmiths are MLA approved and operate 24.7 within the Bristol post code area. Nailsea NHW members receive a discount (10% of total price) on production of the current Watch IT newsletter ■

## Nailsea Policing team

With Nailsea police station put up for sale in the last few weeks please be assured that the Nailsea Safer Stronger Neighbourhood team are remaining in the town. PC Matt CHRISTIE will be moving on in the New Year but will be replaced with **two** other beat managers who will take up their posts in the New Year.

The Nailsea Beat team will be marking bikes ready for Christmas in Somerset Square, Nailsea during the farmers market between **09.00hrs and 13.00hrs on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014**. Please come along and say hello, we will be next to Waitrose ■

## Community Safety

For the past 11 years community safety matters for residents of Nailsea - outside of the Neighbourhood Watch role - have been represented, first by the Local Action Team (LAT) and more recently by PACT - Partners and Communities Together. PACT brought the wider communities of Wraxall, Failand and Tickenham into its remit. Over time LAT and PACT have made a number of significant achievements for residents, particularly elderly and disabled people.

However, things are likely to change in the district over the next 5 or so years. We are expecting more housing, possibly more industry and commerce and a larger population with more younger families. There is likely to be much more activity, some of which will affect our present way of life. For example, a bigger population means more cars, more traffic, more parking requirements with associated problems. More building means more builders, more lorries, and potential for serious inconvenience.

We need to accept the positive changes the future is bringing to the district but also to preserve values and protect the population from threats. For example, we need to influence input into the design of new estates, alongside the Police, to ensure opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour are minimised. We need, also to understand community safety issues of prime concern to residents and what sort of resident organisation would best serve, in the coming years as liaison with the Police and other responsible authorities to influence their priorities, actions and protection for all residents.

**A public meeting will be held at the Tithe Barn on Wednesday 19 November at 7.30pm.** NHW members will be invited to attend to contribute to the discussions leading to actions ■

## Don't stay in the dark!

Remember to set timers on your lights so your home is not in darkness when you are out. Now the clocks have changed you may not have altered the time when they come on. Also, make sure any outside lights are in good working order ■

## Burglar bill

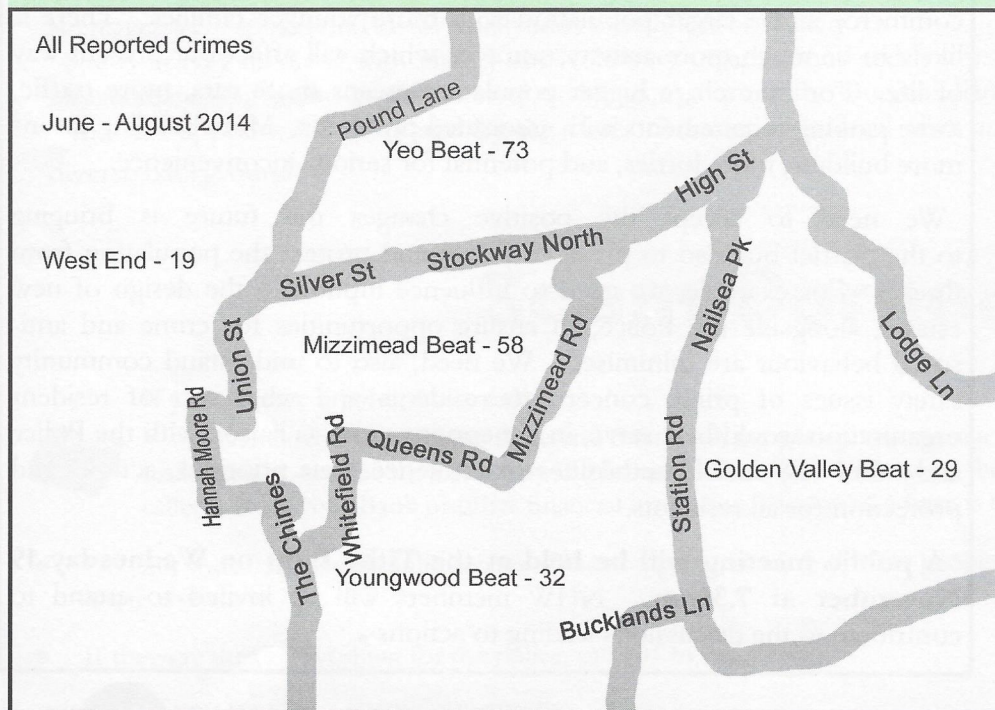
"We've already met. I was here last week, offering to patch your roof or clear your gutters. It didn't take long to see where you keep your keys ■"



## CRIME FIGURES

August / Sept	2014	2013
Other	2	4
Criminal Damage	19	8
Assault	22	9
Theft	11	24
Burglary House	3	2
Burglary Shed/Garage/Business	4	2
Theft cycle	0	0
Robbery	0	0
Theft of Vehicle	0	1
Theft from Vehicle	4	5
Possession of Drugs	4	3
Anti Social Behaviour	54	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>143</b>

## CRIME MAP



*The map shows the area covered by each beat and their respective number of crimes reported.  
The figures were taken from [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) .*

## Around the schemes

North Street (west) is now without a Contact Person, so a volunteer is needed to deliver the newsletter etc. if this scheme is to continue. Please contact the chairman urgently on Nailsea 857418 for more information .

## Dates of 2014/15 meetings

**WEDNESDAY, 3rd Dec 2014**  
Christmas Social

**WEDNESDAY 4th March 2015**  
Sue Mountstevens (tbc),  
Police & Crime Commissioner

**WEDNESDAY 6th May 2015**  
Linda Strong  
Clevedon Pier Trust

**WEDNESDAY 1st July 2015 (AGM)**  
Sheila Round  
Backwell & Nailsea  
Macular Support Group

**WEDNESDAY 7th Oct 2015**  
Police Firearms Unit (tbc)

## Nailsea Police Station New Opening Times

**Mon-Fri** 10:00am to 06:00pm  
(closed for lunch 1:30pm to 2:15pm)

**Weekends** CLOSED

**Bank Holidays** CLOSED

## WEB SITE

Visits to our website are continuing to increase - now averaging 300 visits each week. Peak times are afternoons and evenings, with the most popular pages being Ringmaster messages and Police news. The website provides the means to keep in touch with Neighbourhood Watch news 24/7. So if you haven't seen it yet, take a look. Comments and suggestions to our email address on page 1 always gratefully received .

## Street Signs

To all Co-ordinators/Contact Persons: Are any of your NHW signs missing or damaged? If so, then contact Terry Thompson on 852617 and he will supply you with new ones. Don't forget, as previously notified, the Police will no longer erect the signs for us, so you will have to make your own arrangements. All Neighbourhood Watch members are covered by Public Liability insurance (see [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk) for full details) .