



WELCOME TO OUR **BROMLEY HEATH**
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2007 EDITION
'Working Together, Keeping You Safe.'

Your Contact Person is
 At Number.....

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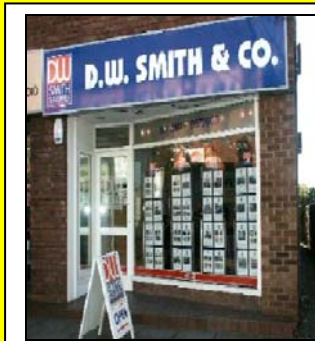
Children can start from as young as 5 months, while our after-school classes cater for reception age children upwards. We also run monthly Saturday classes for children and parents who cannot make regular weekly sessions. Our aim is to make exercise a fun and enjoyable activity for everyone. Why not give us a call and come along and find out?

Man Commended for N. Watch Work

A Bromley Heath man has received an award for his long service to our Neighbourhood Watch. The Award was presented by Superintendent Sue Scott, as part of a 'surprise' visit to our committee meeting on the 2nd July 2007.

Ron Coleman was instrumental in getting the unique circa 2250 home BHNW off the ground, over 20 years ago and chaired it very successfully for many years. When he stood down from the post, he didn't just pack it in, he kindly continues as our very valuable treasurer.

Bill Crocker, chair of BHNW when nominating Ron said: 'We would find it difficult to find anyone more deserving of this recognition and fully recommend that this award be given as a more public accolade of the substantial, behind the scenes work Ron does for the community.'



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OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM.

Introducing PC 2391 WILL GIBBS
Mobile: 0777 8470354

It has now been just over 4 months since I made the transfer from Filton Police Station after 5 years working on the Response Teams and with the Domestic Abuse Investigation Team at Thornbury Police Station. I have been made to feel very welcome by not only my new colleagues, but also the contacts I have made in the community. It is a pleasure and a great encouragement to work with such enthusiastic people.

The addition of PCSO Ross RUGMAN during this time has also helped to strengthen the Neighbourhood Policing Team allowing us to be increasingly proactive in our approach to community issues. The implementation of Neighbourhood Patrol Plans has also ensured that areas which in the past were not routinely covered by Police resources are now being targeted.

I am also specifically trained in interviewing both vulnerable individuals and children. This has given me the added tools to deal with some of the most vulnerable people in our society. It is with those people in mind, together with the wider community, that I am keen to work together with local residents and agencies alike in tackling and reducing the issues which affect the heart of the community.

Neighbourhood Watch, revitalised

The polite man on the doorstep ticked another box on the form on his clipboard. ‘Do you or does any member of your household have an Asbo?’ ‘No,’ I replied. ‘Any mental health problems or instances of eccentric behaviour in the past six months?’ ‘Hardly any.’ Any motorbikes or oily parts thereof, kept on the premises?’ ‘None’ The polite man, who had arrived unexpectedly explained that he was authorised by the Department for Communities and Local Government to compile a Neighbour Information Pack. The property next door is on the market and, apparently, as well as the Home Information Pack and the report on how eco-friendly a house is, an assessment of the neighbours is required to establish what is called the Vicinity Ambiance Rating, or VAR.

‘Any dog on the premises’ the man asked. ‘If so, please specify if it’s more likely to a) howl spasmodically or b) bark incessantly.’ ‘No dog.’ ‘May I remind you that it is an offence under the Local Government (Annoying Household Pets) Act of 2005 not to disclose the presence of a parrot?’ He explained that he was authorised to enter the premises and make what search he deemed to be required to ascertain the presence on the property of a drum kit or saxophone. if there was a recorder on the premises and a child under the age of 10 in the household, he explained, - this could knock several points off the Vicinity Ambiance Rating. ‘I notice from the contents of your cutlery drawer that you are equipped to hold a dinner party for nine people, though not necessarily with matching knives and forks,’ he said. ‘How often would such dinner parties take place, would they be likely to include violent arguments about politics and at what hour would they tend to break up? And please state the approximate duration of noisy goodbyes out on the street’ ‘Oh, nothing like that’ I said. ‘We just have half a dozen or so of the most extrovert and hilarious members of the local Gilbert and Sullivan Society round to supper a couple of times a week’

Continued in the next issue.....

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TERESA ANDERSON, PROPRIETOR.



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DS 101 Sector Crime Details – May 2007 – Badminton Road – Methodist Church. Rear window smashed to gain entry. DJ equipment stolen. **Bromley Heath Avenue –** Male seen to smash side window to gain entry to Peugeot 106, lean in and steal car radio fascia. Male then seen to get into small white van being driven by a second person and then make off. **Bromley Heath Avenue –** 2 males seen tampering with locks on a Peugeot 106. Made off in dark coloured car, possibly Corsa. 2 other males stayed in offending vehicle.

DS 101 Sector Crime Details – June 2007 – Badminton Road- On 07/06 1230 hours- Male seen to gain entry into property. Male arrested at property. **Cleeve Lawns-**On 23/06 at 2230 hours Attempt made to gain entry to property via first floor toilet window.

DS 101 Sector Crime Details – July 2007 None, August 2007 – Heath Road-On 14/08 between 1300-1721 hours, Theft of a Honda moped. **Bromley Heath Road-**18/08 at 0720 hours, 13 yr old boy threatened and bike stolen. **Queensholme Crescent-**31/08-01/09 Theft of Saab 93 Aero, vehicle recovered at Bromley Heath Road with extensive damage.

Why not come to a PACT (Partners And Community Together) meeting arranged for 7.00pm on Thursday 25th October at Emerson's Green village hall? This is all part of the drive for Safer Stronger Communities.

You can also **Post your policing suggestions** as people living and working in Downend, will soon be able to have their say on policing just by dropping a card into a suggestion box. PC Jim Rochford, of the Downend and Siston Neighbourhood Team, said: "These boxes will enable residents to communicate directly with the police, making suggestions for improvements to their area, raise concerns or ask for a security survey of their home."

The Neighbourhood Team will follow up the suggestion, or pass it on to a partner agency such as S. Gloucs. Council or the health authority as appropriate. PC Rochford added: "This is part of a drive to get the community more involved with local policing and encourage people to get involved in the new Stronger Safer Community groups. Our focus is working together with the community to make sure this is a safe and pleasant place to live. It is residents themselves who are best placed to say exactly what kind of improvements would make their neighbourhood better.

The idea behind the suggestion boxes is to get replies, views and information from the community to us and our partner agencies about anything that concerns local people – be it information about crime, housing issues, anti-social behaviour or highway matters. We've tried to put the boxes in locations that people visit regularly. Some people don't want to call into the police station, so they can now use the suggestion boxes, and can remain anonymous if they wish."

The boxes are to be installed at: Somerfield, Downend, Downend Library and Emerson's Green Library. Of course people can still contact the Downend and Siston Neighbourhood Team by calling 0845 456 7000 or via the local pages of the police website, www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

'Downend & Bromley Heath Parish Council is organising an event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Britannia air crash in Downend. It was on a test flight from Filton when it crashed in 'Britannia Wood', with the loss of life of all on board.

The commemoration will take place at the Wood, Overndale Road, Downend, Bristol on Saturday 3 November 2007. Proposed starting time is 10.30am with the unveiling of a plaque by Mrs Beryl Statham (the pilot's wife) and Roger Berry MP.

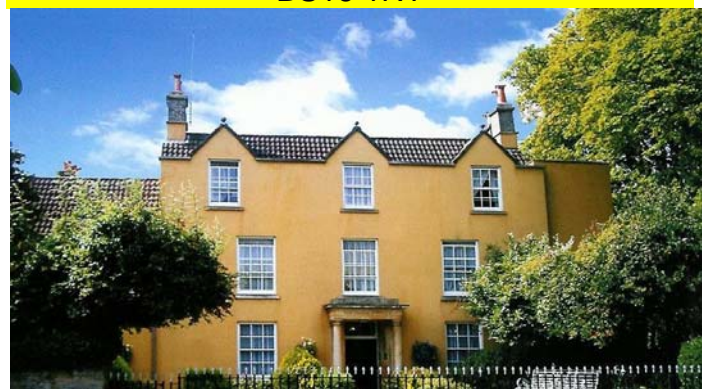
An exhibition to mark the subsequent success of the Bristol Britannia aircraft will be held at the Downend Folk House Association, Lincombe Barn, Overndale Road, throughout the day.

For further information, please contact Angela Hocking, Clerk to the Council, on tel. 0117 9567001.'

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BROMLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2007 EDITION

'Working Together, Keeping You Safe.'

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25th anniversary 'thank you' from Minister



The work and efforts of
Neighbourhood Watch volunteers
has received a public vote of
thanks from a government
minister.

The thank you came from Home Office Minister, Vernon Coaker MP (pictured), who is responsible for Neighbourhood Watch affairs as part of his ministerial brief. He said: "National Volunteers Week is the opportunity to publicly thank volunteers and highlight their contribution to the community. "It is therefore the perfect opportunity for me to salute the work and commitment of Neighbourhood Watch and the wider Watch movement's many volunteers, and thank them for their efforts to make their communities safer. especially in this their 25th Anniversary year."

INTERESTED IN BECOMING INVOLVED IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH? WANT FURTHER INFORMATION? CONTACT THE WATCH CHAIR, BILL CROCKER ON 956 3325 OR EMAIL BHNWATCH@AOL.COM OR SPEAK TO YOUR CONTACT POINT.

Many thanks to our sponsor for the ongoing, generous and substantial sponsorship of our Newsletters. The sponsor wishes to remain anonymous.

PRO WATCH - TOP TIPS FOR THE AUTUMN!

- Don't forget to 'tag' a call to the Police when using either 999 in emergency or 0845 456 7000 otherwise. Say the call is coming from N. Watch
- It's time clock time - the clocks change in October. Don't leave your home in darkness and advertise you're out from 4.00PM on!
- Those distraction thieves continue their despicable crimes. Keep them out!

- Those Sat Navs are going fast if left on display!

Licensees praised after underage alcohol sales checks (South Gloucestershire)

Under-18s in South Gloucestershire find it hard to buy alcohol – that's the result of an operation to tackle alcohol-related anti-social behaviour by checking if off-licenses will sell to underage drinkers. Police teamed up with South Gloucestershire Trading Standards for the operation between Sunday July 22 and Sunday July 29 2007.

Obviously underage volunteers were used, visiting 24 premises to try to buy alcohol. Only three were prepared to sell to the youngsters. The sales staff responsible were given an £80 fine, while the licensees were told that further breaches could lead to a suspension of their licence.

Neighbourhood PC Will Gibbs co-ordinated the operation in Downend, Siston, Mangotsfield, Emersons Green and Warmley, which had a 75 per cent 'no sale' success rate. He said: "The majority of staff acted responsibly and asked for identification from our test purchasers, then refused to sell them alcohol. However three retailers did sell alcohol without asking for any ID. Clearly this is not only irresponsible but illegal, and enforcement action was taken against the individuals concerned. This type of joint operation is far from rare in South Gloucs as we take our duty to enforce licensing regulations very seriously, particularly where underage drinking is concerned. Underage drinking – especially on the streets – can develop into anti-social behaviour. And of course a young person who is affected by alcohol is also putting themselves at risk as they become less wary of traffic and other potential dangers such as robbery or assault. We hope that other licensees and their staff will play their part in helping to reduce alcohol-fuelled anti-social behaviour. We do run these operations regularly, so they should always comply with their responsibilities and the legislation."

Councillor Heather Goddard, S. Gloucs Council's Executive Councillor for Communities, said: "We would like to congratulate those retailers who refused to sell alcohol to underage youngsters and complied with the law. We will continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding the very small number of retailers that were prepared to sell to youngsters who were underage.

If members of the public have any concerns about the sale of alcohol to underage drinkers, then please contact Consumer Direct on 08454 040506. (NB: Our local shop had a clean bill of health)