

# BROMLEY HEATH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER SPRING 09 EDITION

*'Working Together, Keeping You Safe.'*



Your Contact Person is .....

At Number.....

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.....And much more!

## Sad News

It is with great regret that we have to report the recent sudden and untimely death of Fouracre Co-ordinator, Dennis Hewson.

Dennis was a great advocate and active participant. He served his part of the community with great vigour, but worked hard for our whole Watch area too.

Thanks Dennis and of course to your family who supported you so well. We'll miss you greatly!

**Happy New Year** from all at the BHNW committee! Here's hoping that this year is a prosperous (and crime free) one! ☺

To get 2009 off to a flying start, we've given our newsletter a fresh new look and with it will be introducing some new articles designed to better share our work with the community. These include:

- **Who's Who** – Each issue will pick on a different member of the team, briefly introducing who they are, what they do, and their up to date priorities
- **Latest Happenings** – A short list of the watch's current objectives and recent actions
- **Known Threats** – A list of any current threats to our community for which to keep an eye out

As always, feedback is essential. If you have any ideas, thoughts, suggestions – we'd love to hear them...

## BHNW AGM / Discussion Evening

It's open to everyone - Can YOU afford to miss it?

The themes this year are:

- **Keeping ourselves safe at home in an emergency**
- **Supporting Our Senior Residents**

We'll be at the Bromley Heath Junior School as usual, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May, getting underway at 7.30 PM.

Look forward to seeing you there!

## Latest Happenings

- BHNW have been working with the Partners to deter disruptive gangs of youths from being anti-social, disturbing neighbouring houses and bringing danger to Badminton Rd.
- BHNW have been working with the South Gloucestershire Council and the Highways Agency to try to improve signage / reduce speeding on Bromley Heath Rd / Quakers junction
- New lamppost signs have been installed across the watch
- The BHNW newsletter has been revamped for 2009

## PACT Meeting

The Partners and Communities Together meeting took place at Bromley Heath Junior School on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Look out for a report in the Summer 09 edition!

## MS-2 is open for business, and it's larger than ever!

Proprietor Raj is so proud he decided to show off his new extended store by throwing a grand party and opening event for his afternoon customers in mid February, with wine-tasting, nibbles and ribbon cutting! And who better for him to ask to say a few words than our very own Treasurer, Ron Coleman.

*"I'm so proud to be enlarging and reopening my third store and I am especially proud to be investing in and supporting such a strong, safe and supportive community"* beamed Raj.

*"BHNW was honoured that Raj, who is one of our great supporters, asked us to open his extended shop. It has given me great pleasure to fulfil this function"* Ron responded.

The new store's open now with even keener prices, amazing special offers and the "It's gone when it's gone" bargain bin – why not take a look?



## Known Threats

- Garages adjacent to the Bromley Heath Playing Field have been broken into. There appears to be a pattern within neighbouring areas. Residents are advised to ensure outbuildings are secured with items concealed from view and serial numbers logged.
- Thefts from cars of electrical items (stereos, speakers and sat navs) are occurring within neighbouring areas. Drivers are advised to remove items from cars or at least conceal from view where possible.
- Distraction burglary is still an issue. Remember, if in doubt, keep them out!

Please Telephone us for a Brochure:  
0117 9560161

## THE MANOR COTTAGE

Residential Care Home for the Elderly



Beckspool Road, Frenchay,  
Bristol, BS16 1NT

## Leave A Light On, Keep the Burglar in the Dark...

Leaving your home when it's dark, without putting a light on or drawing the curtains, is an open invitation to the opportunist burglar that no-one is home.

Automatic time switches are inexpensive, easy to set up (we can help!) and could prevent you from becoming the next victim. Simply set them on an indoor light, either in a room that cannot be peered into from outside, or upstairs. Setting them on a radio can also help give the impression that the home is occupied. Regularly changing the timing on the switch can add to the deterrent, and using energy saving light bulbs can keep your bill low and help the environment too!

The watch has already heard from someone recently who was in her house when it was targeted by burglars who thought it was unoccupied due to lack of lighting. They're in the area - make sure your house isn't next.

## Silhouette Hair and Beauty

Quakers Road For:

**Dermalogica Facials, Manicure and Pedicure,  
Tanning, Colonic Irrigation, Bridal Packages,  
Waxing, Electrolysis, Eye Treatments and Massage.**

**Call in for an  
appointment  
or ring us on:  
0117 956 1414**



## Katrina Sheldrake (PCSO 7585) says:

"We ask YOU our local community to please park legally and considerately in the neighbourhood. Many of the complaints we receive are concerning safety around the local schools.

Offences we're observing/dealing with on numerous occasions include:-

- Driving a motor vehicle on a footpath - this includes parking on the pavement.
- Causing an unnecessary obstruction - parking in front of dropped kerbs.
- Or vehicle parked in a dangerous position - parking too close to a junction obscuring visibility.

All the above could make you liable for a fixed penalty - between £30/60.00

**Who's Who:** Bill Crocker

*What is your role within BHNW?*  
I'm the Chair of the watch.

*How long have you been doing this role?*

I've been chair for over 5 years, although involved with the watch for much longer.

*How did you get involved?*

Representatives from Neighbourhood Watch knocked on my door and asked if I would like to help by becoming a local contact point.

*What have you been working on recently?*

We've been working with the Partners to deter disruptive gangs of youths. I've also been around many parts of the watch with each Coordinator and my ladder, putting up the new signs. It was good to meet local people while we were at it!

*What are your current priorities?*

I want to see more young families involved in community issues, and more representation from ethnic minorities locally.

*Anything you'd like to say to the readers?*

The key to success is all of YOU, not us, as it is you who are the eyes and ears of the community – unless you report incidents and your concerns to the police and us we will be none the wiser.

## HMRC Phishing (Email Fraud) Scam

The email supposedly from HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) informs people they are due a tax rebate.

HMRC would not inform customers of a tax rebate via email, or invite them to complete an online form to receive a rebate of tax. Do not visit the website contained within any email or disclose any personal or payment information.

The real website for HMRC is [www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)



**If in doubt, keep them out!**

Burglars won't go to the trouble of breaking in if they can just knock and be invited in. So always be on your guard when anyone you're not expecting - a man, a woman or even a child - turns up at your door.

Bogus 'officials' may be smartly dressed and claim to be from the council, a gas company, health authority or other organisation. Their real purpose is to talk their way into your home to see what they can steal.

Bogus 'workmen' may say that they need to come in to make urgent repairs - they really want to steal from your house. They might also demand money upfront, then can simply disappear or do a poor job very expensively.

Genuine callers will often make an appointment first and will have identification with their photograph on it. Companies can agree a password with you which their callers can quote before entering your property.

Advice is to follow the **DOORSTEP** Code:

- D**on't open the door without using the Doorstep Code
- O**bserve first - always look through a window or door viewer
- O**nly open the door after connecting a chain or limiter
- R**efuse entry if you are not satisfied
- S**witch on outside lights when it's dark to see who's there
- T**hink 'thief' - ask to see an identity card and check it
- E**nsure strangers are not left alone in your home
- P**rotect yourself - if you are worried ring the police.

The watch has heard about an incident within the Downend area only recently where someone pretended to be from the waterboard and made off with cash. Please don't be next!

**Crime in the Bromley Heath Area (Oct 08 – Jan 09)**

BURGLARY	Sandringham Avenue, Bromley Heath Road, Four Acre Rd, Heathfields
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	Baugh Gardens
ROBBERY	Quakers Rd, Bromley Heath Playing Fields
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	Queensholm Crescent, Fouracre Crescent, Queensholm Drive, Scantleberry Close, Oakdale Close, Oakdale Ave

**ICE – In Case of Emergency.**

Imagine you're taken ill or in an accident, and the paramedic finds your mobile full of numbers to call – how would they know which was your loved one? Who would they try?

Store your emergency contact under the name "ICE", then they'll know who to call.

For multiple people, you can even use "ICE1", "ICE2", etc.

**GOOD NEWS NEWSAGENTS**



**BAUGH GARDENS**  
**0117 976 0566**

*Don't forget we can now order your 'flowers by post' too!*

In addition to our normal excellent range of greetings cards, don't forget our special value range of Easter cards.

We deliver newspapers and magazines seven days a week.

Personal, independent and friendly service from your local, traditional newsagent.

Teresa Anderson.

**Avon & Somerset Police Launch New Website**

www.craniumcaviar.com aims to educate 11-18 year olds on relevant issues in a fun and informative way.

The website tackles a variety of topics from drugs and alcohol to bullying and driving. It explains the legislative and social aspects of each topic, and how to seek support if needed.

Officers are visiting schools across Avon and Somerset throughout January in a bid to raise awareness of the website,

"We hope that local children will log on, enjoy themselves and learn some invaluable lessons at the same time." Said Sgt Ian Baird from the Citizen Focus team.

Parents and guardians may also find the site useful if concerned their child may become involved in antisocial or criminal activity.



**Freestyle Fitness**

Anthony Crocker,  
CYQ Level 3,  
Personal Trainer  
REPs Registered  
Tel: 07766 83 5574

Email: freestylefitness@ymail.com

**STILL HAVEN'T TAKEN UP YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?**

Training for something or just want to lose a bit of weight? Get your free consultation now!

At home, outdoor, and gym training.  
Weight management and nutritional advice.  
Plus, 'on your own,' exercise programmes.

Please just call me or email for more information.



Fancy getting involved and doing your bit to keep your community safe? It needn't be a big commitment - even if you could spare just half hour every 3 months to deliver newsletters, we'd love to hear from you...

Physical Exercise  
Rhythm  
Concentration  
Flexibility

Music  
Creative Play  
Imagination  
Co-ordination  
Balance  
Friendship  
Confidence

“Come along and join in the fun!”



**More Cases of Credit Card Scam**  
The callers already have your credit card number which makes them sound more convincing when they claim to be your card issuer and call to tell you that there has been an unusual purchase made against your card.  
The caller then explains that to refund the money they need to confirm you are in possession of the card, and ask you to read out the numbers on the **back** of the card (7 digits, but it's the last 3 they're after).  
If in doubt, don't give out any details, and call your credit card issuer directly.

**Star Jumpers Gym Club for 5½ months upward**  
For further details, please call 0117 957 0009

Star jumpers gym club is one of the very few gymnastics clubs in Bristol to specialise in exercise for the under 5's. Designed by British Gymnastics and run by qualified gymnastics coaches, children are guaranteed a good workout! Better still the classes are all held locally in Bromley Heath, (on Thursday afternoons) Emersons Green, Staple Hill and Pucklechurch. 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?

**Top Tips for the Spring**

- 29<sup>th</sup> March - clocks go forward one hour. Don't forget to update automatic timers.
- Be careful with open front windows if you're in the back garden.
- Close curtains if lights on inside – Don't show off what you have to steal.
- Ensure outbuildings are locked up tight and secure at all times.
- Try to avoid leaving money out for collectors (e.g. Avon Rep, window cleaner etc.)

Why not cut these out and put them by your phone?

Useful Numbers	
Neighbourhood beat manager's office	0117 9454193
Police Main Switchboard	0845 456 7000
In Emergencies Only	999
Emergency text for deaf, deafened, hard of hearing and speech impaired people	80999
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Street Care: (If you need assistance with stray Dogs, Litter, Lighting, Pavements, Graffiti, etc.)	01454 868 000
BHNW	0117 9563325
Beat Mobiles	
PC. James Rochford	07919 628312
PC. Jason Lee	07778 470354
PCSO Justin Gay	07795 503242
PCSO Katrina Sheldrake	07795 503243
PCSO Ross Rugman	07825 388935
Remember to tag calls as NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	

**Farewell and Thanks To Will Gibbs**  
“Just a short note to let you know that I have been successful in transferring onto the Crime Enquiry Unit at Staple Hill Police Station and leave the Downend & Siston Beat in Rocky's more than capable hands.”



**Melanie's Kitchen**

"good food, real ingredients"  
Downend Rd.  
Downend, Bristol,  
BS16 5UJ  
0117 957 2662



**Melanie's Kitchen wishes you a lovely Spring**  
Come and have a fantastic cooked breakfast on Saturdays 9.30 - 11.30 AM. We only use local free range sausages, bacon and eggs.  
New – Salar flaky smoked salmon (a Rick Stein food hero) now available. Great range of Easter chocolates from 35p. You won't find these in all the supermarkets!

[www.melanieskitchen.co.uk](http://www.melanieskitchen.co.uk)

PC 838 Jason LEE, the current Beat Manager for Kingswood will be taking over my position and I'm sure you will see him around in due course.  
It has been a pleasure to serve this community and work with you. Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your invaluable help, kindness and at times patience! I hope I leave the area in some ways better than when I arrived and wish you all well in the future”.  
- Will, we wish you all the very best for your future role, and thank you for all your hard work, help and support!

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**Telephone:** 0117 9563325  
**Email:** BHNWATCH@AOL.COM  
**Website:** <http://www.freewebs.com/bhnw/index.htm>  
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