



Valleys and Vale Neighbourhood Watch Association

# NEWSLETTER

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

Police non-emergency number 0845 090 1234

**Summer 2010**

**01452 753569**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The AGM was very successful and the required business was completed satisfactorily. The committee members elected are Michael Doyle-Davidson (Chalford) Phil Morris (Cranham), Phil Hughes (Cainscross), Roger Hill (Cashes Green), Mike Phillips (Minchinhampton), Wendy and Tony Bevan (Leonard Stanley), Tim and Pat Healey (Dursley), Dave Timbrell (Cashes Green), Joan Toon (Whiteshill), Graham Wood (Stroud).

The officers were then elected and they are; Chair, Mr Michael Doyle – Davidson. Treasurer, Mr Phil Morris. Secretary, Eddie Whitlock.

PCSO Tracy Wren gave an interesting presentation about the promotion of Neighbourhood Watch in the Stonehouse area, which it is hoped will be expanded throughout our area.

## **PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN – “Co-operate with Neighbourhood Watch”**

PCSO Tracy Wren and the Stonehouse Safer Community Team have been working with the Co-Operative stores to promote the partnership with Neighbourhood Watch. The advertising screens at Stonehouse Co-Op carry information about this and there has just been a photoshoot involving Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators, the police, the Co-Op, Neighbourhood Wardens, college students and Stonehouse Town Council to use on posters, leaflets and promotional items, such as key rings and mugs. This is to spread the word about the success of Neighbourhood Watch and encourage new schemes to join. We thank the Co-Operative Group for their valued sponsorship of this initiative.

## **CONTACTING THE POLICE**

When you ring 999 via a land line phone, the phone number you are using appears to the B.T. emergency operator. B.T. systems work on the STD code displayed and they know which STD codes apply to which police force and can therefore route your call to the correct force. (Sometimes an STD code will cross Force boundaries but this is not very often and can soon be dealt with.) However, if you use a mobile, there are only a small number of call centres spread round the UK that are set up to receive 999 calls via mobile phones. They cannot identify where you are and contrary to popular belief, the police cannot trace the location of a mobile phone call by electronic or satellite means. The mobile phone network you are using, Orange, T-mobile etc. can, but only while the phone is transmitting and only by special request from the police. This service will only be used in really exceptional circumstances, i.e someone on a mobile threatening to commit suicide but refusing to say where they are. So if you use a mobile to call 999 please remember;

- You will be speaking first to an operator in the mobile phone call centre who cannot identify where you are.

- If you say you are in High St. Stonehouse, there are several places called Stonehouse, and the operator may never have heard of any of them
- It will help a great deal if you can give the name of the County you are in because this will help the operator direct your call to the correct police force.
- It will help even more if you can give a street name or road number with the village or town you are in or the nearest village or town or if on a motorway or major road, the correct road number.

Once you are connected to the correct police force control room, they will have a much better knowledge of their area and will soon be able to find out exactly where you are.

I have included some information about how to contact the Gloucestershire Police.

### **CHIEF CONSTABLE**

The new Chief Constable, Mr Tony Melville, has set out his vision for the Gloucestershire Police. It is to keep people free from harm and increase the confidence and trust the community has in the police. Neighbourhood Watch is in a key position to help the police achieve those aims.

### **CRIME UPDATE**

Here are the reported crime figures from 1/2/10 to 31/5/10 compared with the same period a year earlier. It indicates a 12.6% reduction in reported crime for the comparative period

	Total Crimes		* Burglary		*Theft		Damage	
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Stroud INA	1092	900	165	116	331	265	274	228
Stonehouse INA	458	377	64	56	132	130	116	83
Dursley INA	461	481	59	83	127	130	133	129

\*Burglary includes domestic/commercial/sheds etc. Theft includes from cars/ gardens/ shops etc.

### **HOME INSURANCE**

The company that provides our Public Liability Insurance also provides home insurance policies for neighbourhood watch members. They are called Case Insurance and can be found at [www.caseinsurance.co.uk/homeinsurance](http://www.caseinsurance.co.uk/homeinsurance). or 0845 225 2288. They offer up to 20% discount in some circumstances. If any member wishes to make enquiries, that is a personal matter for them. We do not endorse this or any other commercial insurance product and there are other companies that offer discount on home insurance.

### **AND FINALLY**

Just to let you know that there are 372 Watches in our area covering 12057 houses. We also have a Boat Watch on the Gloucester/Sharpness canal with 63 members, a Rural Watch with 35 members, a Shop Watch in Dursley and a Business Watch in Stonehouse.

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