

Neighbourhood Watch News – May 2017

Summer is here – or is it?

We had some really good weather at the beginning of April (as I write this!), and the lawn mowers and BBQ's were dragged from their winter storage, dusted off and the spiders chased away, to make the most of it. The evenings are getting lighter even though the temperature has been a bit unpredictable of late. Let's hope that May is a tad more reliable and warmer.

Table Top Event, Christ Church - Tuesday, May 9th, between 10 am and 12 noon

There will be a table-top display of security and safety information and products, at Christ Church during the Coffee Stop and other activities on May 9th. If you have ANY concerns about the safety and security of either yourselves or family members, do come along and have a chat with us. Whilst we may not be able to answer every question, we will do our best to point you in the right direction.

Keep your property safe and secure

Although government statistics suggest that there has been a decline in theft in general, thought to be due to the growth of 'cons and scams', we must not become complacent, and must continue to look after our homes and property. At the risk of repeating myself, ensure that your property looks 'lived in' at all times, especially when you are away on that well-earned holiday. Security marking of garden machinery, expensive furniture and even garden ornaments is worth considering. Should you be unlucky and have things stolen from your garden, the police will have a fighting chance of re-uniting you with your valuables if they can be traced back to you.

Current crime picture

Lighter evenings encourage folk to stay out later into the evening, and there have been reports of some antisocial behaviour in our village, often involving youths from neighbouring areas. Should you witness any such undesirable activity, don't be afraid to report it on the Police **101** number, as it is only with our help that the police will be made aware of a problem, and then perhaps they can do something to prevent it.

Those of you who are registered to receive Thames Valley Alerts, will have been intrigued by the 'Lawful Citizen' scam that was reported during April on behalf of Action Fraud. For the benefit of readers who do not receive TVAlerts, the scam e-mail arrived addressed to the recipient by name and carried details of their home address. The attached document used the recipients name as a title, and there was a file 'password'. The attachment is believed to contain the Banking Trojan Ursniff/Gozi, hidden within an image in the document. The Ursniff Banking Trojan attempts to obtain sensitive data from victims, such as banking credentials and passwords. The data is subsequently used by criminals for monetary gain. Should you ever receive such an e-mail, DELETE it at once and advise Action Fraud.

We continue to see the receipt of phishing e-mails appearing to be from organisations such as PayPal, Amazon, DVLA, ASDA, to name but four! Vishing (telephone phishing) calls claiming to be from Microsoft, BT, TalkTalk, etc. continue to pester many residents, although the introduction of call blocking services or equipment by some providers is helping to reduce their impact.

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For further information about any of these topics or about Neighbourhood Watch, contact:
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Police General & Non-emergency number: 101
Community Safety Team (Anti-social behaviour): 01494 421 087 (asb@wycombe.gov.uk)
Crimestoppers (Anonymous): 0800 555 111
Trading Standards (Consumer Direct): 0345 4 04 05 06 (NEW Prefix)
Cyberaware – <http://cyberaware.gov.uk>
ACTION FRAUD: 0300 123 2040 (<http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>)
The Information Commissioner's Office: 0303 123 1113
NHS: 111