



NEWSLETTER

June 2004

Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer

Direct Telephone Line sponsored by Billericay Lions
01277 633090



Has your Garden Gnome gone Absent Without Leave?

The Police Station yard is filling with all types of garden Gnome, statues, ornaments and flowerpots. All have been removed from Billericay gardens and left in strange places, such as the middle of roundabouts.

The people who take them do not do any damage to them, in fact they are very careful not to damage them or injure any of the plants that some contain!

If you are missing a Gnome or two, please trot along to the Police Station and claim them back. As pretty as they are, the Police will be happy to see them go.

Operation Cold Spell

There has been an increase in the number of bogus callers in the area. In response to this the Police have mounted Operation Cold Spell which provides a dedicated vehicle with a uniformed Sergeant and Constable from 10am to 8pm each day.

Two groups have been particularly active in the area: A building firm from Grays and a security firm selling alarms systems door to door.

Both groups are known to Essex Trading Standards. If you have questions about traders please call **Trading Standards on 01245 341888**

If you see or are approached by what you think are Bogus Callers telephone the Police on **01277 631212** and report it.

Bogus Callers may just be a nuisance to you, but they can cause great grief and hardship to the more vulnerable members of our society.

Change of Staff at the Station

Acting Sergeant Nigel Scott has moved to Laindon and has been replaced by Acting Sergeant Geoff Waddoups, from Pitsea.

Community Liaison Officer WPC Julie Dawes has changed her working hours, she now works early until late on **Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursday**, so that she is able to cover the many evening meetings she attends. You can leave a message on her answer phone (**01268 244028**) or speak to another officer at the station by calling **01277 6731212**

Car Radio Tagging

For £5 you can have a chip inserted into your car radio that will identify it if it is recovered after a theft.

The process takes only minutes and can be performed at **Decibels or Essex Ford.**

Alcohol Ban

The High Street and some surrounding areas have been designated alcohol free zones, which means no drinking in the street. The Police now have the power to confiscate glasses of alcohol and open alcohol containers from people drinking in the street.

Speakers at members Meetings

We have arranged for the following speakers for the rest of our meetings this year:

June: John Barron, MP, talking about Policing Plans. If you have Neighbourhood Watch and Policing related questions, please come along, but please do not ask any party political questions at the meeting

August: Credit Card Fraud Department of a large bank with advice on how to avoid being a victim of Credit Card Fraud.

October: Essex Fire Brigade on home Fire Safety.

December: AGM and Christmas nibbles

Social Events

We had a great response for the **Skid Pan** idea - 45 people wrote to say they are interested. The Police Skid Pan at Chelmsford is no longer in use, but we found a commercial one at **North Weald** and we have made a booking for **Wednesday 28 July**. They run a course and can provide group sessions for 20 in a day. Each session would last one hour and will be two pupils to one instructor. Each session starts with a talk on skids and their avoidance, followed by in-cars sessions. The course covers "Skid avoidance and control: *front-wheel, rear-wheel, four-wheel skids, 180° recovery techniques and 360° spins, cadence braking, braking avoidance techniques and ABS exercises*", which sounds like great fun. The course will cost £45 per head, please use the form on the other side of the newsletter and we will contact you to arrange the time of your session.

We are at the Police Station from 10am to Noon on the first Saturday of each month. Please come along if you have any property you would like marked, especially bicycles now the summer is on the way. **Cycle and property marking is free of charge.** We will also be pleased to see you if you just want to collect information, ask any questions you may have or buy any of our reduced cost security products.

Bowling / Skid Pan Booking Form

Please indicate which event(s) you would like to attend and enclose a cheque made payable to Billericay Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. If the event does not take place for any reason, we will return your un-cashed cheque.

Your Name _____ Contact Phone Number _____

Address _____

Skid Pan Course (Day time event)

Please reserve _____ places (minimum age 18) on the course on Wednesday 28 July 2004.

Cheque enclosed for £_____ (£45 per person)

Bowling Evening

Please reserve _____ places for the bowling evening on Wednesday 21 July 2004.

Cheque enclosed for £_____ (£9 for non-member of the Edwardian Club, £6 for members).

Please send the completed form and cheques to:

Neighbourhood Watch, Billericay Police Station, High Street, Billericay, CM12 9AB

Ladies Safety Evening

We had 15 replies and we are still try to get a local car dealership to sponsor the event. We will keep trying, watch out for future news letters.

Streetwise Trip

There were only 15 interested people, unfortunately not enough to fill a coach. We are contacting other local organisations to see if they could attract some more interest. Ideally we need about 48 people to fill a coach to keep down the cost.

Bowling Evening

We had 11 replies, enough for a **Bowl and Bite** at the **Edwardian club at 8pm on Wednesday 21 July**. For £9 a head (or £6 if you are an Edwardian Club member) you will get two games of bowling and a basket meal. We will put up a prize for the highest and lowest scores. Again, please use the entry form and send a cheque. If we cannot get enough people, we will return your cheque.

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

Who's Who

Police Station	01277 631212
Police Inspector:	Richard Croft - 01268 245822
Community Liaison Officer:	WPC Julie Dawes Direct Line - 01268 244028
N.W. Direct Line	01277 633090

Diary Dates

Members meetings are held on the following dates at 8 pm at the Billericay Football Club, Blunts Wall Road, everyone is welcome at 8 pm on 9 June; 11 August; 13 October and 1 December.
Billericay Fun Day 26 June



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