

Safer Neighbourhoods Newsletter

Date: June 2009



Safer Neighbourhood
Team:

Dacorum



SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

Working together for a safer Hertfordshire



HERTFORDSHIRE
CONSTABULARY

‘Watchlink’

The newsletter for Neighbourhood Watch members in Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted, Tring, Chipperfield, Bovington, Kings Langley, Markyate and Flamstead.

- *OWL'S A WINNER!
- *SUMMER SECURITY TIPS
- *USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

DACORUM'S NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CONTINUES TO GROW! WE NOW HAVE 814 WATCH SCHEMES REPRESENTING 20,937 HOUSEHOLDS.



OWL WINS NATIONAL AWARD

OWL was named the best 'Innovation in local strategy' at the prestigious e-Government National Awards, following 588 nationwide nominations.

Chief Constable Frank Whiteley said:

"I would like to thank Gary Fenton (developer of the system) for all his hard work, our own Watch Liaison Officers, and the dedicated Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators who have helped make OWL such a thriving success.

OWL has revolutionised Neighbourhood Watch, allowing us to send out key messages to the communities in Hertfordshire, helping the county to remain a safe place to live and work."

Online Watch Link (OWL) has enabled your Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer, Andy Reynolds, to contact Co-ordinators with details of incidents or warnings regarding local problems more efficiently.

With OWL your Co-ordinator can also contact their Watch members more quickly, provided they have their up to date contact details!

IF ANY WATCH MEMBERS ON E-MAIL HAVE NOT GIVEN THEIR CONTACT DETAILS TO THEIR CO-ORDINATOR WOULD THEY PLEASE DO SO NOW OR THEY WILL MISS OUT ON RECEIVING VITAL OWL MESSAGES! ALSO PLEASE ADVISE ANY CHANGE OF E-MAIL ADDRESS.

www.owl.co.uk



Protect your home this summer

Don't give burglars an open invitation this summer!

In warmer weather when windows, doors and garages are often left open - valuables, tools, gardening equipment, bikes, etc. may be left lying in full view of potential thieves.

HOME SECURITY

- Lock all doors and keep windows closed, preferably locked, when you are out, in the back garden or in bed.
- UPVC doors are not fully secure unless deadlocked by key.
- Install an approved alarm system and security lighting.
- Don't leave ladders and tools outside - burglars could use them to break into your home.

GARDEN SECURITY

- Lock garden gates - 70% of burglaries result from a break-in at the side or rear of the house.
- Secure your shed with a strong padlock (and shed-bar if possible).
- Repair any damaged fences and consider fitting trellising on the top to discourage intruders climbing over.
- Thorny hedges and spiky plants can also deter intruders - climbing roses, berberis, holly and hawthorn are ideal.
- Keep front garden hedges, trees and shrubs below window-sill height to stop the burglar having a screen to work behind.

HOLIDAY SECURITY

- Make sure your home looks occupied. Ask a neighbour or friend to look after it - collecting post from inside the front door, watering plants, drawing your curtains at night, etc.
- Set automatic timer-switches to turn on lights, radios, etc.
- Cancel deliveries of milk, papers, etc.
- Secure important documents/valuables/keys etc.- ideally in a safe.
- Don't put your home address on your luggage when travelling to your holiday destination.

DON'T GIVE THE BURGLAR A BREAK THIS SUMMER!

FREE ADVICE
AND
QUOTATIONS
DOMESTIC &
COMMERCIAL

CROXLEY ALARM SYSTEMS
FOR ALL YOUR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS
ALARMS*24HR MONITORING*CCTV*DOOR ACCESS
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Tel 01923 771920 Fax 01923 772901 www.croxleyalarmsystems.co.uk



Useful contact numbers

POLICE

In an emergency, where Police attendance is required immediately, where there is risk to life or property phone: **999**

Non-emergency, direct to the Contact Centre at Police HQ, reporting crimes, incidents, or providing information phone: **0845 33 00 222**

DACORUM WATCH LIAISON OFFICER: 01442 271020

Andy Reynolds: andy.reynolds@herts.pnn.police.uk

CRIMESTOPPERS: 0800 555 111

Call anonymously with information about crime

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE: 08 088 088 088

WEST HERTS AGAINST CRIME (WHAC): 01923 801138

Free home security service for aged 60 or over, single parents, vulnerable or housebound

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK: 13 - 20 JUNE 2009

The mobile Police Station will be visiting locations around Dacorum promoting Neighbourhood Watch with support from local Crime Prevention Panels.

See local press and Herts. Police website www.herts.police.uk for details.

N-W CO-ORDINATOR

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