

The NEWSLETTER for Harrogate & District Neighbourhood Watch Association  
Serving Harrogate, Knaresborough, Ripon, Boroughbridge, Pateley Bridge, & surrounding areas

# LOOK OUT

Helping to protect over 18,000 households

January 2010

## From the Chairman, Keith Roberts

Welcome to the first edition of our 2010 NHW Newsletter. We use this opportunity to wish you all a happy, healthy and safe, crime-free year. The past year has seen the further development of NHW Schemes and, in tandem, the expanding involvement with the Safer Neighbourhood Groups. Together with the Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams we can make an effective contribution to ensuring that Harrogate District continues to be one of the safest places to live, work and visit, in the country. There has been a significant reduction in crime in the District but during these financially stringent times we must not become complacent.

## Continuing Problems

2 in 1 burglaries are where the motive is to obtain the keys to steal the car. Remember, don't leave your keys on show - conceal them in a cupboard, fridge etc., or take them to bed with you!

House burglary through uPVC doors is a growing problem. Information on the replacement of Eurolock cylinders has been circulated to Co-ordinators but if you require a reminder please email us at [info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk](mailto:info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk).

In rural areas poaching is prevalent and is often associated with other criminality.

Cold calling and doorstep crime continue to be a problem with mostly older and more vulnerable people being affected. The message to all NHW members is to report all suspicious incidents promptly to the police.

## Success

One of the successes of the year has been the formation of new Schemes in Ripon and Ripon Rural areas. Special mention must be made of Masham where PCSO Sharon Wilson and an established Co-ordinator, Mr. Alan Bailey "blitzed" the whole of Masham, increasing the number of Schemes from 10 to 37. The success was celebrated in the presence of Chief Constable Graeme Maxwell at the

Swinton Park Hotel. This concept of expansion is to be encouraged, especially in rural areas.

## Website

After all the problems we have experienced with our website [www.nwatchharrogate.org.uk](http://www.nwatchharrogate.org.uk) when you receive this newsletter we should be fully back on line again. Any comments and contributions are welcomed.

## Committee

Unfortunately, our new Secretary, appointed at the last AGM, found that he was unable to take up the position. We do therefore urgently need a Secretary to join the Committee. Some IT experience is essential but further training will be given.

Additionally, another two Committee persons prepared to share the load of developing Schemes would be very welcome.

If you are interested and wish to discuss or to join us at our next meeting please contact me directly on 01937 584998.

## Communication

Effective communication between Co-ordinators and NHW and NYP is critical to a successful partnership and it is becoming quite a problem with emails. 10% of these are returned as undeliverable and resources are not available to follow up the tracking of individuals. Can we stress again the need to keep us informed, either via [info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk](mailto:info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk) or your nearest Police Station, with any changes to your details? In future, should the same email address result in two rejections we shall have to withhold further messages. This means you will be missing out on Ringmaster messages and newsletters.

Similarly, we ask that incorrectly received letters from us be returned to Harrogate Police Station.

## Farewell

We are very sorry to hear that our Western Area Police Community Safety Manager has relinquished his post as from January 2010. Martin Milburn has



**HARROGATE & DISTRICT  
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION**

Registered charity number 1076228

EMAIL: [info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk](mailto:info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk)

WEB: [www.nwatchharrogate.org.uk](http://www.nwatchharrogate.org.uk)

## TO PREVENT CRIME IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

been a breath of fresh air in the short time he has been in the job and the Committee would like to put on record our sincere thanks and appreciation for his help and cooperation in our joint efforts. Many thanks, Martin, you'll be greatly missed. Have a long and happy retirement by the sea.

### News from Tina Oates

Recent extremes of weather brought a halt to most gatherings and fund-raising events since the end of 2009 as people have huddled at home to escape the snow and frost. However a few events were held in November and the run-up to Christmas, and we are most grateful for the monies raised. The Woodlands coffee morning raised funds by selling light refreshments during the event and the Daleside coffee evening provided refreshments and quite an extensive raffle. That event provided an ideal opportunity to introduce members to one of NYP's latest PCSO recruits - Xavi Lopez - who along with PCSO Kelly Pressley explained the work and duties of a PCSO and how they differ from those of a PC. At the end of his training period this month Xavi will become the dedicated PCSO for Pannal and Rossett areas. Another watch scheme held its annual Christmas Dinner at The Hotel Du Vin, where 24 neighbours enjoyed an evening of wining and dining - and generally fostering neighbourly community spirit! We were also delighted to hear that one very enterprising member at Moor Monkton managed to persuade the parish council to make a donation to Neighbourhood Watch. Now, there's a good idea!

The last Co-ordinator Forum held at Ripon Fire Station in November was very well attended and proved a great success. The fact that we are trying to move the meetings around the district seemed to be much appreciated and we aim to continue doing so. The meetings have now been renamed as **Members' Support Meetings** because they are now **open to all members** and their aim is to help and support each other through discussion. The February meeting will have been held by the time this slightly delayed newsletter goes to print but we will keep you informed of the date and place of the subsequent meetings in Look Out's April edition and also in Diary Dates on our website.

Have you ever wondered what happens when the police receive a routine or emergency phone call? Well, NYP are aiming to enlighten you. They are opening their Force Control Rooms at York and Newby Wiske (HQ) to organised groups of NW **Co-ordinators** on some pre-arranged dates during

**NB For information on becoming a member of Neighbourhood Watch:**  
Email us at [info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk](mailto:info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk) or phone 0845 60 60 247 and ask to speak to a police officer from your local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

February, March and April - but other dates can be arranged if there is sufficient interest. All Co-ordinators should have received a flyer by Ringmaster advertising the events. Attendees will have to complete a security check form, to be returned no less than 14 days prior to your visit. Further information I have received says that groups will be of 15-20 people and each session will start with a PowerPoint presentation by an inspector about the role of the Control Rooms, the systems used and plans for future development etc.. This will then be followed by a tour of the Control Room itself where you will sit with the call handlers and dispatchers - and even hear calls received and made. Each tour could take up to 2 hours. If you are a Co-ordinator and are interested in going to one of these events ring 0845 60 60 24 7 and ask for Debbie Allinson on Extn. 8306 or email: [Deborah.allinson@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Deborah.allinson@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk). The current available dates are on the flyer.

The recently formed North Yorkshire County Neighbourhood Watch Association (NY NHWA) is now up and running and proving successful. It meets every quarter, again trying to move the meetings around the county to vary members' journeys. Unfortunately the January meeting in Malton had to be abandoned due to the snow, but we look forward to the April meeting at NYP HQ, Newby Wiske when Assistant Chief Constable Sue Cross will be joining us. There is now an interesting new website and you are invited to view it at [www.nynhwa.co.uk](http://www.nynhwa.co.uk) where you will also find access to other NW associations from right across North Yorkshire.

### From The Treasurer, Katy Piazza

I have had a reasonable flow of donations and would like to thank the following schemes for their generosity: Oakdale Manor, Nidd Orchard, Grewelthorpe Parish Council, Fulwith Mill Lane, Mr Wicham, Masham Close, Fulwith Ave & Gate, Moor Monkton, Rossett Ave, Borrowbydale, St Johns Cres, Mr Payne, Mr Preston, Manor Dr, Knox Rise & Chase, Daleside Ave and Woodlands Close. Our expenses this quarter included the AGM, the audit fee, and the ongoing costs associated with producing and mailing LookOut. We receive no other funding and rely solely on your much needed donations. If your scheme has not donated recently, please send a contribution, however small, to Katy Piazza, 8 Woods Court, Harrogate, HG2 9QP. (Cheques made payable to Harrogate & District Neighbourhood Watch Association, please).