

LOOK OUT



Helping to protect over 18,000 households

October 2014

From Keith Roberts, Chairman



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

H&D NHW have announced the date of the 2014 AGM to be held at the Sixth Form College Lecture Theatre of Harrogate Grammar School on Wednesday, 19th November 2014, commencing at 7.15 pm. For those who have not attended previously, the location of the college is on Arthurs Avenue, HG2 0DZ. There is ample parking if you take the last entrance on the left from Otley Road - there will be a NHW 'A' Board showing the appropriate entrance and directions to the lecture theatre.

The committee hopes that there will be a good attendance of Coordinators and members to what should be a very interesting programme. It has just been announced that our NY Police Area Commander, Supt. Aubrey Smith, who had hoped to join us, will be leaving post before the meeting and therefore is unable to attend. His successor, Supt. Mike Walker, will join us to say a few words and then introduce Insp. Ed Noble who will outline the result of an extensive review and restructuring of NY Police, 'The Operational Policing Model', which has already been introduced and is scheduled for completion by the end of 2016.

Co-incidentally, the week commencing 17th November is the beginning of the ACPO Week of Action for Cyber Crime and we have been able to attract the Yorkshire Lead, Carl Lovett, to address us. Carl works with all of the Yorkshire Police Services and advises police, business and others in combatting the growth in such criminality, identifying the risks of fraud and giving us all useful advice.

There will be time for Q & A's arising from the presentations but we would also suggest that if you have any issues you personally would wish to be addressed, that you submit them via: info@nwatchharrogate.org.uk before 12th November and we'll endeavour to respond on the night. Your contributions are very welcome and there will be an opportunity for informal discussion.

Besides the sessions with our guest speakers, we, as usual on these occasions, have the formal part of the evening as specified in our constitution and required by all charitable organisations. As per the attached notice, besides the Chairman and Treasurer's reports, there will follow an election of Officers and Committee members. Following our pleas for candidates to fill the vacancies we are very pleased to report that we had a good response from members and hopefully we shall be able to fill the slots. With a full complement of members on the committee it should be possible to further the development of H&D NHW,

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incorporate some 'fresh thinking' and also refresh some of the existing NHW schemes which for various reasons are no longer proactive.

As your Chairman I shall be standing down at the AGM, as will the Treasurer and other committee members not seeking re-election. I have thoroughly enjoyed my involvement with H&D NHW and, notwithstanding some frustrations, I feel satisfied with the contributions made to both our local activities and to the formation of the North Yorkshire NHWA.

From Katy Piazza, Treasurer

Our accounts are currently in the hands of our Auditor who is preparing a statement for our AGM on Wednesday 19th November. A full appraisal will be given at the meeting and we shall invite any questions at that time. In the meantime we report that the contributions from our schemes have been minimal for understandable reasons. Fortunately our expenditure has also been low.

However, this is an opportunity to inform you of an update to the Easyfundraising scheme to which H&D NHW has been registered as a beneficiary. From your on-line purchases (from many sources) by anyone registered with Easyfundraising.co.uk who wish to donate to us, we benefit. We have previously informed all Coordinators and members about the scheme which costs nothing to the individual when purchasing any items from participating companies. However, previously many of us have placed orders from Amazon, John Lewis and many others and then realised after the event that we should have logged on to the Easyfundraising website first. The good news is that as of now, if you are registered and select Harrogate & District Neighbourhood Watch as your charity it will be automatically flagged as a purchase from a supporter. This new 'Donation Reminder Scheme' will ensure that you will never miss a free donation to H&D NHW. Experience from Easyfundraising.co.uk indicated that charitable organisations are benefitting with the new system by five times more contributions on average. I repeat that it costs you nothing, there are no personal details recorded and the donation comes to us directly from the retailers who contribute to the charitable organisations. Come on – please give it a try!

Ripon Rural Watch Report

There have been several incidents reported of livestock theft in the Pateley Bridge rural area; this is due to grazing animals being an easy target for thieves. It is advised that you regularly check fields where animals are grazing and keep your hedges, fences and gates in good repair. Ditches can form a natural barrier and you could also consider fitting field gates with capping hinges to prevent them from being removed easily. Please report any livestock theft to your local Police on 101.

With the winter weather coming upon us your heating oil may become an attractive target to thieves, if you haven't already done so please have a look at the security of your oil tanks. Good quality locks, security lighting, fencing and also moving your tank from easy access are all preventative measures. Be extra vigilant and report any suspicious large vehicles or tankers close to your home.

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We are keen to recruit more members to Rural Watch in the Masham and Pateley Bridge areas, so if you are interested in joining the scheme we will be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact either:

PCSO 5548 Stephanie Jones stephanie.jones@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk
or PCSO 5559 Sharon Wilson sharon.wilson@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Knareborough Rural Watch Report

There have been a few incidences of sheep thefts in the Fewston area and an increase in bogus callers and distraction burglaries. There have also a few incidences of agricultural machinery being stolen. Metal theft seems to have dropped off and been replaced with poaching and lamping.

Following the retirement of PC Mark Ayre (collar number 2 – yes 2!) who was the beat manager for the Little Ribston, Spofforth and Washburn parish wards can I take the opportunity to introduce his replacement, PC 187 Marie Scott who is new to the area but did serve as the local rural officer in the Boroughbridge area for quite a long time and has a good understanding of the issues which are faced by residents and farmers in rural locations. PC Scott and I are out and about in the area and are happy to meet NHW Coordinators and Parish Councillors and other residents for a chance to introduce ourselves and also to discuss any issues. We wish Mark a long and happy retirement (as do H&D NHW)

May I stress the need to please immediately contact the police on 101 if you see anything suspicious? A word of caution - if you disturb any person committing a crime please consider your own safety and do NOT approach unless it is to prevent loss of life or limb. If a car is being stolen for example, just obtain as much detail as possible and call 999.

For everyone's information: 3rd to 7th November is a week of action being promoted by Trading Standards to highlight distraction burglaries and bogus callers.

PCSO 3537 Alastair Graham-Merrett
Alastair.Graham-Merrett@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk
NYP Safer Neighbourhood Team, Knareborough

From Peter Dallas, Editor

On behalf of the current committee I would like to thank our outgoing chairman, Keith Roberts, for his dedicated service and his unstinting hard work.

Our thanks also go to Katy Piazza, our Treasurer, for the work that she has done looking after our finances and also the rest of the committee for their valuable support.

PLEASE SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR THE NOTICE OF THE AGM.

ANYONE WISHING TO JOIN THE COMMITTEE SHOULD PRINT OUT A COPY OF THE 'NOMINATION FORM' FROM THE WEBSITE UNDER 'FORMS TO DOWNLOAD', COMPLETE THE TOP PART AND SEND IT TO THE CHAIRMAN, KEITH ROBERTS, AT: APT 3, NO. 4 THE OVAL, HARROGATE, HG2 9BA

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

Will be held at 7.15 pm on Wednesday, 19th November 2014

At 6th Form Lecture Theatre of Harrogate Grammar School,
Arthur's Avenue, Harrogate, HG2 0DZ

Guest Speakers:

Carl Lovett on Cyber Crime

Ed Noble on the 2014-16 NYP Operational Policing Model

The Following Executive Committee will be elected:

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Treasurer

Secretary

Up to eight committee members

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 30th October 2013**
3. **Matters Arising**
4. **Chairman's Report**
5. **Treasurer's Report and election of Inspector of Accounts, 2013/2014**
6. **Election of Committee 2014/2015**
7. **Any Other Business**