



SOUTH ABERDEENSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH / CRIME REDUCTION BULLETIN NOVEMBER, 2007 ISSUE

Welcome to the November, 2007 issue of the South Aberdeenshire Neighbourhood Watch / Crime Reduction Bulletin.

Thank you for those who emailed to comment on the new style bulletin. I received 6 emails commenting upon the new format. As a result the format has changed to make the document easier to print and distribute to those who are not on email.

Crime Reduction Officer - update

In October and November, 2007 I was seconded two days per week to work on a proposed Safety Centre Project in Aberdeen working with Aberdeen Safer Community Trust. As a result I was rather busier than normal and some work commitments including Neighbourhood Watch did not receive the attention it deserves. I am now back at Inverurie 5 days a week.

If you wish to speak to me about Neighbourhood Watch or Crime Reduction issues then you can contact me via the Service Centre on **0845 600 5 700** or by emailing me at robert.smith@grampian.pnn.police.uk

Grampian Neighbourhood Watch Booklet

The Grampian Neighbourhood Watch booklet mentioned in the October bulletin is one of the commitments which suffered. I will be posting these out to coordinators in the week beginning Monday 3 December, 2007. If you do not receive them within a 2 week period can you contact me and I will endeavour to get a copy to you.

Neighbourhood Watch Signs – new procedure for ordering them.



There is a new procedure for ordering NHW signs.

The signs now cost £5.76 each (They come with 2 plastic ties). You have to write a letter to

Pearl Skene
The Community Safety Partnership Coordinator
Woodhill House
Westburn Road
ABERDEEN
AB16 5AB

Please enclose a cheque / made payable to Grampian Police.

The signs will then be delivered to your nearest Police office for onward delivery to you.

****** Please keep a note of this number for future reference *******

The new procedure should be speedier, easier to use and be less frustrating for Watch Members.

New Watches – Update

In relation to last months update the proposed new watch at Upper Heathfield, in the Ythanwells area is progressing. A meeting took place on 29 November, 2007. It will be a combined Neighbourhood Watch and Farm Watch scheme. Also work continues in progressing the Watch at Boswell Wynd, Portlethen.

It is refreshing to see that the Farm Watch concept is still in vogue. Farmers are suffering from the theft of scrap metals, the theft of gates and now off-road motor cycles and Quad Bikes. In other parts of the country there are active Farm and Country Watches. Another variant of this concept is Country Watch where isolated house holders can band together over a wider area. Anyone interested in hearing more about Farm Watch, Country Watch or Horse Watch should contact PC Bob Smith.

Crime in and around South Aberdeenshire

The Wilful Fire Raising to the Skate Park in Ellon mentioned in last months bulletin has now been detected. Three youths have been reported to the Childrens Reporter.

Another serious fire-raising has occurred to a factory in the Inverurie area where damage to the sum of £100,000 has occurred.

The theft of metals continues to be of concern across Aberdeenshire. I again urge Watch Members to be vigilant if they live near business premises, building sites, schools, churches, farms etc. If there is a such a premises near your watch be extra vigilant out with normal hours of business. Report any suspicious sightings to 0845 600 5 700. Again I reiterate that this is a national crime trend and is not specific to South Aberdeenshire.

A serious theft occurred in the Huntly area where over £30,000 of Quad bikes, off-road motorcycles and a speed boat were stolen. Some of the items have been recovered ion Aberdeen and enquiries are still continuing.

Three youths have been reported for a number of vandalisms in Westhill during the Halloween period. The crimes include vandalism to police cars and throwing stones at houses breaking windows.

Also 3 persons have been reported for drug dealing (E's) in Aboyne. The information which led to the detection of the crime came about as a result of an off duty officer witnessing suspicious activity in the vicinity of his house.

In total officers in South Aberdeenshire dealt with 575 reported crimes / offence during November, 2007. Of these 205 were detected. After investigation many 17 of these were found to be 'No Crime'. Enquiries into other crimes are ongoing and some may be detected in the coming weeks. It should be borne in mind that many of the reported crimes are detected because of the proactive work carried out by response officers, the proactive team, and the Traffic Department.

Westhill Crime Reduction Day

On Saturday 3 November, 2007 Clare Taylor and Ian Robison who are Community Beat Officers in Westhill arranged a Crime Reduction Day. I went along to help. Clare had arranged the use of an empty shop unit at the Westhill Shopping Centre. Crime reduction advice was dispensed along with 504 property marking kits (booklet / stickers / UV pen). It was a busy afternoon and over 400 leaflets were handed out. GNWA had a presence there too. There are plans to hold other similar events in South Aberdeenshire in 2008. It would be an excellent opportunity to spread the word about Neighbourhood Watch. If anyone has any ideas for similar venues please get in touch.

Have Your Say

In the previous bulletin I expressed a view that I hoped that the monthly bulletin would develop into a meaningful exchange of views between individual watches and the police. It was nice to get the feedback mentioned above. Interestingly, only two Coordinators replied saying they thought that arranging a Coordinators Meeting would be worthwhile. No items for inclusion in this bulletin were received. If you have any items for inclusion, or news stories for future editions then please forward them to me on robert.smith@grampian.pnn.police.uk for inclusion.

Contact Us

If you wish to discuss any security matter, please contact South Aberdeenshire Crime Reduction Unit on (01224) 304035 or via e-mail at CrimeReductionSouth@grampian.pnn.police.uk .

DO NOT report crimes to this Crime Reduction Unit – instead telephone 0845 600 5 700, or only in case of emergency call 999 .

If you have information regarding any of the crimes detailed in the bulletin, or you wish to report a crime/suspicious incident, contact Grampian Police on 0845 600 5 700 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.