

WELCOME TO EASTBOURNE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION (ENWA)



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www.enwa.org.uk

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A Message from our new District Commander

I would like to introduce myself to you as the new District Commander for Eastbourne, taking over from Steve Biglands. As I know you may be aware Steve has taken up a post on the Surrey and Sussex firearms unit. I started at Eastbourne recently and I have had the pleasure of meeting a few of you already, but I will be working hard to meet as many of you as possible over the next few weeks.

I am very pleased to have taken over at Eastbourne and have seen already that I have a strong Neighbourhood Policing Team who are committed to providing an excellent service to the people who live and work in the town and also visitors to the town.

I will be helping to deliver the Chief Constable's vision of protecting vulnerable people and catching criminals, and on a more personal level my immediate priority is to get involved in the town and the area as a whole, getting out with my teams to understand what impacts most on the residents and businesses.

I have seen that police at Eastbourne work really well with partners and volunteers around tackling problems that impact on peoples' lives and as the District Commander I look forward to working with you.



Emma Brice
Chief Inspector
Eastbourne District Commander



What is Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch is not just about reducing burglary figures – it's about creating communities who care. It brings local people together and can make a real contribution to improving their lives. The activity of Watch members can foster a new community spirit and a belief in the community's ability to tackle problems. At the same time, you feel secure, knowing your neighbours are keeping an eye on your property.

**Neighbourhood Watch is about –
Looking out for each other –
working for a safer neighbourhood –
keeping your community secure.**



There are other benefits to Neighbourhood Watch schemes too. You will become familiar with crime prevention ideas, which will help keep your home and belongings safe. You will make the elderly and vulnerable residents feel a part of the community again. And the extra security which belonging to a Neighbourhood Watch scheme offers might even mean that you can get a premium discount from your insurance company.



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Reasons for joining/starting a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Neighbourhood Watch is one of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives ever and the largest voluntary organisation in the country.

Our statistics show that:

- You are less likely to be burgled if you are a member of a Watch scheme.
- Neighbourhood Watch brings communities together to tackle problems such as burglary, vandalism, anti-social behaviour and vehicle crime.
- Neighbourhood Watch is a great way to rekindle community spirit.
- Neighbourhood Watch encourages a sense of security amongst you and your neighbours and knowing that you are keeping an eye on each other's property gives reassurance, particularly for those who feel vulnerable.
- Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams work closely with Eastbourne Neighbourhood Watch to ensure that up to date crime prevention advice and initiatives are made available to keep your home safe.
- You may qualify for a discount on your home insurance premiums if you are a member of a registered scheme.



Beware of bogus callers



How do I set up a scheme or join an existing scheme?

How big is a scheme?

The ideal size of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is approximately 20 homes including blocks of flats. If you live in a small close or street with few houses then the scheme could cover all the properties. If you live in a long street, then the ideal would be to set up a scheme covering the properties that you feel comfortable with.

How do I set up a scheme in my street?

In order to set up a scheme, first check if there is a scheme in your street.

Contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team or ENWA direct.

If there is no scheme in your street, we will arrange for a member of ENWA to contact you to discuss how to set up a scheme.



Requirements for setting up a scheme

Find out who in your locality would like to join. A member of ENWA is always happy to come to your home to explain how Neighbourhood Watch Schemes work, along with the support each Scheme can expect from ENWA and the NPT. In Eastbourne we have a great many blocks of flats who are all Neighbourhood Watch members. The initial reaction from many people living in a block of flats is that they are secure and do not need something like Neighbourhood Watch. Our reply is: 'Does anyone in your block ever let someone in who is not known to them?' Their response is always the same... 'er yes sometimes' because the caller has given a plausible reason to be there, although the resident does not know them. Displaying Neighbourhood Watch stickers throughout the ground floor is a great deterrent, both to an opportunist trying to gain entry, and a reminder to the resident that they should never let anyone in who is not known to them.

Before we can register your scheme, we must have at least one resident to act as the co-ordinator who will be police checked before delivering the quarterly Newsletters and is the main link between the NPT and ENWA.



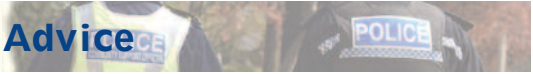
Eastbourne Neighbourhood Watch has its own quarterly newsletter

The quarterly Newsletter in its present format, was revamped from the original in 2010. It comprises six A4 pages in colour. Currently it is delivered to approximately 16,000 homes across Eastbourne. We include information from the local police, along with various aspects of safety advice. We also highlight the work of a local charity or non profit making organization. Our centre page is what we call the 'Pull Out and Keep Sheet' –. On one side is the most recent list of all NPT Officers and their on duty mobile telephone numbers, together with the areas of Eastbourne they cover.

On the reverse there are contact details of our Ward Coordinators, together with a brief comment from each outlining what is happening in their Ward. We also include each quarter details of any current Scams or issues within our Borough, and advice on the best ways to deal with them.



Crime Prevention Advice

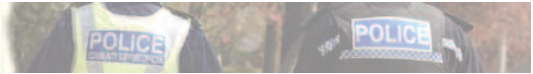


Crime Prevention Unit

This unit is made up of crime prevention officers that have a wide range of booklets, leaflets, and fact sheets available, which cover all aspects of crime prevention. They are able to offer crime prevention advice on home security, personal safety or vehicle security over the telephone, or they are able to conduct a home visit for a free crime prevention survey. They can also provide property marking advice.

They advise the council on crime prevention measures that include things such as improved lighting, making communal areas safer for residents, and making places less accessible to outsiders, and also consulting on placement of CCTV cameras.

Burglary



Don't Become a Victim

When leaving your home, even for a short period, always lock all external doors and windows and set your burglar alarm (if you have one).

It is recommended that you fit a good automatic dead-latch cylinder lock (rim lock) and a good 5-lever mortice deadlock (conforming to British standards) to your front door. You can strengthen the door frame by fitting a 'London bar' to support the locking points and a 'Birmingham bar' to reinforce the hinges.



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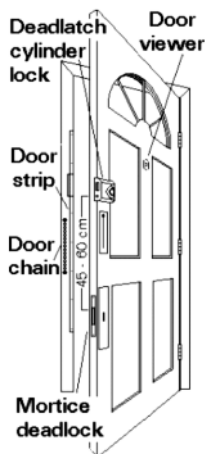
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info@avondalemc.com

Crime Prevention Advice: External Doors

If you see anyone committing a crime or acting suspiciously please ring the police using 999.

If you wish to report any crime anonymously, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



1. Lock all external doors and windows and set your burglar alarm (if you have one).
2. Fit a good automatic dead-latch cylinder lock (rim lock) and a good 5-lever mortice deadlock (conforming to British standards) to your front door.
3. Consider fitting London and Birmingham bars to reinforce your door frame.
4. Do not leave valuables lying around i.e. car keys as burglars are taking your goods away in your car!
5. Consider security marking your property and registering items online at immobilize.com
6. Secure your garage and shed as you would your home.
Secure items in your shed or garage to an anchor point.

It has been found that criminals are targeting houses and flats with UPVC doors because homeowners are not locking them correctly. Some owners may not be aware that their door may be opened if it is not locked with a key from the inside by:

- using the external door handle, or
- accessing the inside door handle via the letterbox.

In both cases, locking the door with a key from the inside could prevent entry.

To avoid becoming a victim of burglary, members of the public who have a UPVC front or back door must lift the handle, turn the key fully and then check the door is securely locked. Most doors have a five-lever dead bolt system which is activated when the inside handle is lifted upwards. If UPVC doors are not locked properly, all but the central bolt can be disarmed and burglars can force the door relatively easily.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



External Doors continued

UPVC doors are perfectly secure provided they are used correctly but all too often we find that residents simply leave their doors on the catch and do not lock them with a key. This is enough to stop the door from coming open but it is not enough to stop the determined burglar who can easily reach in through the letterbox with his arm or an implement. By simply double locking the door with a key you can greatly reduce the likelihood of falling victim to one of these opportunist thieves.



Letterboxes

Letterboxes/plates should be considered as an aperture which can be used by the criminal, either to extract goods from within in close proximity to the door, commonly door keys, or to work vulnerable locking devices from the inside.

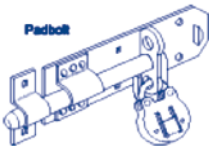
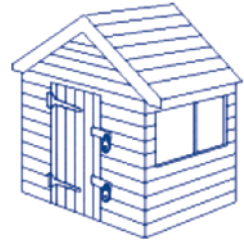


Letterplates should conform to British Standard. They should be positioned not closer than 400 mm from the door lock and under no circumstances should they be fitted to the bottom rail of the door. An internal cover plate offers additional security, as does a letter basket, though you might wish to consider removing the bottom, allowing the mail to fall to the floor and thus preventing theft of the mail.

www.ourwatch.org.uk website will have more information.

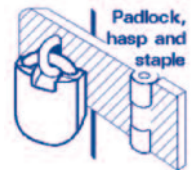
Garden Sheds

Garden sheds are a very popular target with burglars and are often overlooked when security is being considered. The value of the contents, such as garden mowers, strimmers and cycles etc. can often add up to many hundreds of pounds. It is therefore wise to secure the shed door with at least one heavy duty hasp and closed-shackle padlock.



It may not always be appropriate to fit a heavy duty padlock, hasp and staple as the shed door and frame may not be strong enough to support them. There is a range of smaller but sturdy padlocks, padbolts, hasps and staples which would be

suitable. Whether fitting heavy duty devices or otherwise, always use coach-bolt fixings through the door and frame.



All opening windows require good window locks.

In addition to fitting external physical security to your shed, it is worth considering the installation of an alarm. This does not mean a complete burglar alarm system, though, if your house already has such an installation, it may be possible for it to be extended to the shed. There are various stand-alone devices on the market specifically designed for remote use in garages or sheds, which fall into two main categories:

- a passive infra-red detector within the shed to detect movement and body heat.
- a door contact system.

Both systems will operate a sounder if the shed is accessed without the correct de-activation. They are available with battery or mains power supply and can be purchased from your local locksmiths, D-I-Y or discount store.

The major problem with vulnerable garden sheds is that they provide burglars with an arsenal of house breaking implements, e.g. the versatile garden spade: because of the blade size and the leverage that can be exerted, few door or window locks can withstand a prolonged attack from this implement. If the shed is too fragile to secure adequately, the spade should either be bolted or padlocked to a heavy bench or frame, or, better still, kept in a more secure place such as a locked garage. Alternatively, your tools can be secured by chaining them together.

Consider the use of a strong lockable box or cage within the shed in which you can store not only your garden tools but also insecticides, weed killers or other items which may be harmful to health or plants if improperly used.



Property Marking



The main Crime Prevention purpose of marking your property is to make it less attractive to thieves to steal it in the first place as they know that if they are caught in possession of it by the Police and the Police can quickly establish it is stolen property, they are in trouble! In addition, the traceable property may be more difficult for them to “cash in” with another criminal or to a willing purchaser of the item. Of course it also greatly enhances the chances of you being re-united with the item which is important too.

Although etching/punching your Postcode and house number or name/company name on property can be very effective it is often not a practical option so we have other ways of effective Property Marking.

Electronic marking

If you have a Mobile Phone stolen or lose it, the police will be checking www.immobilise.com if they find it in the possession of a criminal or in the street etc to identify it. It is a free service and takes a few minutes on line to register your phones details.

Similarly if you have a bicycle you should register your Frame number etc. at www.immobilise.com. Warning stickers are available from the company.

Go to www.securedbydesign.com, click on licensed companies then Property Identification to assess your choices. It may be worth checking with your local police Crime Prevention Officer to see if there are any ongoing initiatives which would enable you to avoid paying or whether the local police are working more with any particular “securedbydesign” property marking product in your area.

UV pen marking

UV pen marking still has a role to play in Crime Prevention however, only after the above methods have been considered.

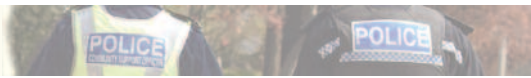
The principle here is that you mark your postcode followed by the house number or name on property with an UV pen which is invisible to the naked eye. Again you display stickers usually supplied with the pen to illustrate that you have done this. Police have access to UV lights which show up postcodes etc when shone on your UV mark of your postcode. Pens cost a pound or so hence their popularity however we are moving towards contemporary methods as above in order to reprofile the Crime Prevention benefit of Property Marking.

Photography

Taking photographs of property as detailed as possible is recommended for reconciliation/prosecution of offender purposes, particularly if it is not property marked.



Personal Safety



- Think ahead and plan your journey, avoiding deserted areas.
- Try to avoid walking alone at night, and keep to well-lit main roads where possible. You should try to avoid short cuts like alleyways, waste ground and wooded, bushy areas.
- Stay alert: be aware of what's going on around you.
- It is always worth letting someone know where you are going, the route you intend to take and when you expect to return.
- Consider investing in a mobile phone. There are various services available for light users.
- Try to avoid wearing headphones - your ability to hear traffic, strangers or potential trouble is severely restricted.

Safeguarding your mobile phone

As many as 10,000 mobile phones are stolen every month. Two thirds of the victims are aged between 13 and 16. Many phones are also stolen from unattended cars. Here are some practical measures you can take to keep your mobile phone safe.

Remember to...

- register your mobile phone at www.immobilise.com.
- keep your phone out of sight in your pocket or handbag when not in use.
- use your phone's security lock code, if it has one.
- record details of your electronic serial number (ESN) and consider separate insurance.
- some phones have an IMEI number which is a unique identifier for the phone; you can obtain this number by typing *#06# (star hash 06 hash) into your mobile phone and it will display a 15 digit number.
- property mark your phone with your postcode and door number to help police identify stolen ones.
- report a lost or stolen phone to the police immediately.
- inform your service provider if your phone is stolen or lost.

Don't...

- attract attention to your phone when you are carrying or using it in the street.
- park in isolated or dark areas.
- leave your phone in an unattended car - if you must, lock it out of sight. It only takes seconds for a thief to smash a window and steal your phone.

***By taking these simple precautions, you can protect your phone.
If you see anything suspicious, call the police - dial 999.***



Vehicle Crime



Did you know that...

- Half a million vehicles are stolen in the UK every year.
- Vehicle crime accounts for more than a quarter of all reported crime.
- 40 percent of stolen vehicles are never returned to their owners.
- Older cars are more likely to be stolen than newer ones.
- Property is stolen from cars every 13 seconds in England and Wales.
- More than 30 percent of vehicle crime happens in car parks.

Common car sense

Please remember to lock your vehicle every time you leave it. Always remove personal property such as handbags, stereos and satellite navigation equipment. Please also remove the cradle and wipe away any suction marks.



If you see anyone committing a crime or acting suspiciously please ring the police using 999.

If you wish to report any crime anonymously, please call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Number plates

As a simple prevention measure, motorists can replace the regular screws used to attach the number plate to their car with clutch screws that cannot be unscrewed once in place. Clutch screws are available from car part and hardware stores. They are relatively inexpensive and easy to fit and using them could save motorists the inconvenience, time and expense of having new number plates fitted.





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