



FLEET & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

fleetnhw.co.uk



NEWSLETTER

Volume 29 Number 1

Winter 2022-2023

A quick guide to reporting crime

Police emergency - call 999 if:

There is danger to life

A crime is happening now or has just happened

You have immediate concerns for safety

There is a dangerous incident on the road/motorway

You see something suspicious that needs attention

Not an emergency – call 101

Crimes that are not in progress

Non urgent information

Criminal damage/theft/theft from vehicle (can be reported at

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk>)

General information & advice

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk>

Calls to 101 are now free

Crimestoppers

If you don't want to talk to police you can call 0800 555 111 anonymously

This is NOT an emergency service

<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

Reporting Fraud and Scams

Call Police on 101 quoting:

'Operation Signature'

Keep up to date at Action Fraud

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>

Tel - 0300 123 2040

Citizens Advice Consumer Service

Tel - 0808 223 1133

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Postal and competition scams

www.thinkjessica.com

Doorstep Callers/Rogue Traders

Never employ passing tradesmen

Know your rights e.g. 14 day cooling

off period. Contact Citizens Advice

Consumer Service Tel - 0808 223

1133 or www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Tell Trading Standards if you have

been called on by doorstep callers

with as much information as you can

If intimidated or threatened call 999

From: Neighbourhood Watch Network, Central Support Team

As an exciting start to a brand-new year, we are thrilled to announce that we have refreshed our branding. We have adopted a new logo, termed the 'today' logo as an alternative to our 'traditional' logo, which was refreshed in 2017. This means we support two logos from 2023, and our members and supporters can choose to use either one.

Chairman's Report

It seems like only yesterday that I was commenting on another year gone, and here I am doing it again. However, this last year has at least been without the problems of Covid for most of us, but forgive me if you are one of the unlucky ones who have suffered.

We have seen a trickle of new NHW members from the growth of new developments in our area, and a few from more established properties. However, without the wealth of senior coordinators and coordinators that we had pre-pandemic, it has become increasingly difficult to recruit new members. We have now revised our "welcome to Fleet" flyer and we will circulate this through estate agents, this being the first port of call for those moving to the area.

We will continue with the e-mail newsletters for the time being as we have lost several advertisers who helped support the cost of the hard copies.

The Police reports show that we are still living in a low crime area, but being vigilant is still a critical part of our reason for being. Continue to use Neighbourhood Watch as a community vehicle, helping each other to stay safe.

On behalf of your committee, may I wish you a healthy, happy and crime-free New Year.

David Bunclark - Chairman

E-newsletters - please sign up now

As with all of our recent editions, this Winter 2022-2023 newsletter will only be distributed by email.

How do I receive E-newsletters?

It is easy: you can either sign up as a subscriber free of charge on the NHW website (fleetnhw.co.uk) or send your email address to me, my contact details are on page 4.

You will then receive regular quarterly emails with the NHW E-newsletter attached.

Editor - Alan MacGregor

Police & Crime Report

Report for period 5 September - 29 December 2022

The aim of this report is to allow members of the local community represented by members of NHW to be aware of what crime has occurred recently. Thereby allowing the local community to be on the lookout and to ensure their property is secure and the chances of being a victim of crime reduced.

In terms of crimes per thousand population Hart remains the safest district in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary and one of the safest in the UK. With the communities' support we will continue to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Changes

We have welcomed PCSO Sarah Nicholas who has completed her training and is now a fully independent Officer. She will join PC Will Lewis who has moved over from the Farnborough Neighbourhoods Team to join us here in Fleet.

Burglaries

There were 34 burglaries during this reporting period which was more than double the number reported in the last newsletter. Fourteen of these were burglaries on business premises. Five of these business burglaries are still under investigation. A number of these were to outbuildings with one being attempted where nothing was taken. Of the residential burglaries three were from persons known to the residents, eight of these were attempts where nothing was taken. Two burglaries involved occupants who were away on holiday and upon returning home found that their house had been broken into and a number of items stolen. Another four of the burglaries were bikes which were stolen from garden sheds/garages and one where a garage was burgled while the house was being renovated.

Theft

There was an increase of thefts since the last report totalling 123. Of these, 22 involved individuals driving off without paying for fuel. Once again, the majority of these thefts were from the Tesco Express petrol station on Reading Road South and Morrisons on Elvetham Heath. Twenty-three were shoplifting offences from various shops in Fleet, two of these thefts are under investigation involving named suspects. There were nine thefts of pedal cycles, most of which were from the high street and one from the train station. There were 31 reports of thefts from vehicles, most of which were of tools taken from vans which were parked at the Travel Lodge or the Premier Inn. There were also a few thefts of license plates. There were eight thefts of vehicles, five of which were of high value vehicles and three where vehicles were taken by persons known to the owners. The remaining 30 of these thefts were thefts from a person which is a slight decrease from the last report. I cannot go into detail for each one.

Road Related Incidents

There were 144 road related incidents. There were 52 incidents which resulted in damage only, 14 involved minor injuries and five resulted in serious injuries. The remainder were of various reports which included speeding, no Insurance, driving while using a mobile phone and parking issues. There were 17 reports involving driver impairment where drugs or alcohol were involved and 16 reports of dangerous driving. There were five reports where vehicles were seized as a result of the drivers driving without valid insurance and one where the vehicle was prohibited from further use due to illegal tyre tread.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in the Community including Suspicious Incidents

There were 269 reports of ASB/Suspicious Incidents which is an increase from the last report, although a lot of these are reports of suspicious people, objects and vehicles. Please always remember that these reports do assist us with building a picture of what is going on in the area in order to better distribute our resources and gather intelligence.

(Police & Crime Report continued on Page 3)

(Police & Crime Report continued from Page 2)

If you are concerned about anything or anyone please report it via the proper channels in order for the police or other authorities to deal with it accordingly.

Fleet Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) Representative:
PCSO 18143 Sam Page – Email: sam.page@hampshire.police.uk

Neighbourhood Watch Winter Write-up

We have seen an increase in reports of suspicious activity and thefts of parcels from porches and driveways in recent weeks. Consequently, below is some practical advice to help reduce the risk of being affected by the growing trend of theft of items left unattended by delivery drivers.

- ◆ Track your parcel to ensure you or someone else is at home for the delivery.
- ◆ Install a video doorbell; this can be connected to your mobile so that you are notified immediately of any delivery, and they are easier to install than a full CCTV system.
- ◆ Install a security light.
- ◆ Arrange for your parcel to be delivered to a trusted neighbour or other family members who will be at home. If you live in a flat, is there a concierge who could accept the parcel for you?
- ◆ Use an off-site locker service for frequent deliveries, or for expensive items. These parcel boxes are more likely to be in busy, safer locations - such as supermarkets - rather than secluded areas which may be a target for thieves.

With the cost of living crisis still being on top of everyone's mind, please ensure that the boxes and packages of any presents received over the Christmas period are broken down and disposed of properly rather than leaving them outside by your bin which would simply let criminals know what lovely new valuables you have in your house.

With all these new presents, ensure that you are registering your valuables online with Immobilise. Immobilise (www.immobilise.com) is the world's largest free register of possession ownership details and, together with its sister sites: the National Mobile Property Register (NMPR) and CheckMEND, it is a very effective tool in helping to reduce crime and return recovered personal property to its rightful owners. Immobilise can be used by members of the public and businesses to register their valued possessions or company assets.

If you are going away for the holidays, make sure your home looks occupied by using timer switches on lights, or motion sensors. Help keep your energy bills down by using energy saving bulbs.

Get a friend or neighbour to collect your post as well as draw your curtains to make your home look lived in while you are away.

Thieves are more likely to target homes which appear unoccupied.

Shut and lock all doors and windows. If you have an alarm, make sure it is set and someone you trust has a spare key. Only tell people whom you trust if your home will be empty for a period of time and refrain from posting on social media to let people know you are away and that your house is empty.

(Police & Crime Report continued on Page 4)



mind · body · sole
I am open for business and fully compliant with Covid-19 regulations
Julie Hilton-Reece
BSc(Hons)pod MChS
Podiatry | Reflexology

🌐 www.mindbodysole.co.uk
✉ hello@mindbodysole.co.uk
☎ 07518 222779 | 01252 810409
📍 2 Aldershot Rd, Fleet, GU51 3NG

hpcp
registered

We currently have advertising space available in this E-newsletter which is published and distributed to households in the local area four times a year. If you are interested in advertising with us either in the Fleet & District NHW E-newsletter, on the NHW website or both, please contact our editor whose details are shown on page 4.

(Police & Crime Report continued from Page 3)

With the longer nights and extended hours of darkness, we would also like to highlight the need to keep your vehicles safe. This is especially important if you have a high value keyless entry vehicle which are frequently targeted such as BMW or Mercedes. Cars with keyless entry unlock automatically when the key comes within a short distance of the car. This can be from inside a pocket or bag. If you have to push a button on your car key to open your car, you don't have keyless entry. Keyless car theft or 'relay theft' is when a device is used to fool the car into thinking the key is close by. This unlocks the car and starts the ignition. Thieves only need to be within a few metres of your car key to capture the signal, even if it is inside your home. This means that even if your car and home are secure, thieves can still unlock, start and steal your car.

How to protect your keyless entry car:

- ◆ Put the keys in a screened or signal-blocking pouch, such as a Faraday Bag, don't forget about the spare keys.
- ◆ Re-programme your keys if you buy a second hand car.
- ◆ Turn off wireless signals on your fob when it is not being used.

Crime Prevention Advice is given free without the intention of creating a contract. Neither does the Home Office nor Hampshire Constabulary take any other responsibility for the advice given. HART remains and still is a safe place to live and work; however, to remain proactive and by informing you of some basic advice I hope that, with your help, we can reduce crime in your area even further.

If, you would like to discuss ANY matters pertaining to the above, or if you have any questions, then please feel free to contact the Fleet Beat 'NPT' at hart.south.police@hampshire.police.uk

- ◆ Please do not report crimes via email as these are not monitored 24/7
- ◆ For non-emergency reports call 101 or visit Hampshire Constabulary online
- ◆ For emergencies call 999

To visit the Hampshire Police website:

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk>

Electronic Crime Information Pack:

https://www.hampshire.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/foi-media/hampshire-constabulary/other_information/crime-information-pack.pdf

Victim Helpline:

victim.helpline@noms.gsi.gov.uk

Victim Support for Children & Young People:

<http://www.youandco.org.uk/>

To read the Victims Code in full visit: www.gov.uk and search "Victims Code".

The Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch does not accept liability for any of the statements, actions or default on the part of any of the articles or advertisers in this or other editions of the Newsletter

Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch Committee Members

Chairman: David Bunclark Tel: 01252621684 email: chairman.fleetnhw@gmail.com

Secretary: John Guerin Tel: 01252811165 email: secretary.fleetnhw@gmail.com

Treasurer: Kenneth Hammond Tel: 01252694310 email: treasurer.fleetnhw@gmail.com

Editor and Advertising: Alan MacGregor Tel: 01252626524 email: editor.fleetnhw@gmail.com

Webmaster: Brian Rose Tel: 01252871329 email: hinwa.alert@gmail.com

Community Representative: Jenny Radley email: jenny@jradley.com

Police: Sgt Philip Mayne Tel: 101 email: fleet.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch website: www.fleetnhw.co.uk

Police (Fleet) website: <https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/hampshire-constabulary/fleet/>

Police Twitter: @FleetPolice **Police Facebook:** @HartSouthPolice

Please send inputs to the Editor. Deadline for the next edition: **31 March 2023**