



CHELMSFORD CITY



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ESSEX POLICE

www.chelmsfordneighbourhoodwatch.org.uk

WINTER EDITION

2012

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

EMERGENCY SERVICES: FIRE, AMBULANCE AND POLICE: 999

ESSEX POLICE SWITCHBOARD, For all Non-Emergencies 101

Chelmsford Crime Reduction Officer

Advice & Guidance on crime prevention.....0300 333 4444, ext 485951

Crimestoppers.....0800 555 111

Victim Support (Essex) local rate.....0845 456.5995

Essex & Suffolk Water Company

To confirm door callers identity, ring.....08457 820 999

(Minicom) for customers with hearing and speech difficulties..... 01245 212 239

To Register a password.....08457 850 999

Anglian Water Company

To confirm any Anglian Water employees identity.....0845 145 145

{Minicom} for customers with hearing and speech difficulties.....0800 917 5901

Electricity (UK Power Network) emergencies.....0800 783 8838

Gas (Transco) Emergency Service.....0800 111 999

Chelmsford Borough Council.....01245 606 606

Streetscene (litter, graffiti).....0845 245 1234

Abandoned vehicles, Dog Warden, Fly-tipping.....01245 606 894

Litter & noise complaints01245 606 800

Essex County Council.....08457 430 430

Street Lighting.....08456 037 631

Trading Standards (Consumer Direct).....08454 04 05 06

Road Safety.....01245 437 781

Swan Care and Repair(Handy person service).....01277 844 235

Age UK (HandyVan) home safety check.....0845 026 1055

Locksmiths (1st Safe & Sound).....NEW01245 490 550

Mail Preference Service (stop junk mail).....0845 703 4599

Telephone Preference Service (stop unwanted calls).....0845 070 0707

Silent (stop computer generated calls).....0844 372 2325

These numbers are compiled with good intention and accurate at time of publishing, but are subject to change, not always with our knowledge.

Is Your Bicycle Marked? (Could you describe your bike in detail?)

To deter would be cycle thieves, Neighbourhood Watch in Chelmsford is giving away free **bicycle frame wrap-around labels** and registration cards. The owner of the bike enters their postcode on the label then the label which is self-adhesive, is stuck to the bike frame and covered with another clear transparent label. The label is then very difficult to remove and may deter the criminal. The owner fills in the registration card with the bike details, colour, make size, frame number etc. To complete the process it's recommended that a photograph of the bike is taken using a mobile phone camera or normal camera, keep this for your records. In the event of the bike becoming lost or stolen the owner can give an accurate description of the bicycle to the police. Doing all this may help get your bike back.

Many bicycles are recovered but sadly very few are returned to their owners due to the lack of marking and the failure to report any loss. After a period of time they go for scrap or auction.

Don't give the bike thief an easy ride. "Get a D Lock for Christmas".

Part Night Lighting Chelmsford.

To save money, reduce carbon emissions and light pollution, the Essex County Council will be turning off some of our street lights at night – this will be called part night street lighting. Some street lights will be switched off for five hours, between 12am and 5am. For maps and more information go to: <http://www.essexhighways.org/Street-Lighting/Part-Night-Lighting/Chelmsford.aspx> Highways bosses say that following a two-year pilot scheme held in Maldon and Uttlesford: they are sure that there will be no rise in crime. One contrary blip during the pilot scheme was in King Street, Maldon, which had its lights switched back on after a considerable amount of antisocial behaviour and criminal damage. All Essex Street lighting will be managed by a new Management Control System destined to become operational in the Autumn of 2012.

Domestic Violence:

Did You Know that? : Essex Police receives 85 calls a day to incidents of domestic abuse: around 2,500 a month. DCI Denise Morrissey, head of Vulnerable Adults, said: "Domestic abuse comes in many forms and is a crime which often takes place behind closed doors. Children, family members, friends and work colleagues all have a part to play in recognising the first indicators of any hidden domestic abuse or domestic violence problems.

- Did you know over **two women per week** are killed by current or ex-partners, and that **one in four women** in the UK will experience domestic violence in their lifetime?
- If you are concerned for your own or some else's immediate safety ring the Police on 999, if in danger go to a place of safety, like a friends house, to make any telephone calls.

Alternatively for advice and help call:- **0808 2000 247 – A Freephone 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline**, this is a partnership run between Refuge and The Women's Aid Federation of England. Or you can contact a Chelmsford 24hr helpline:-01245 493114, email refuge@chelmsfordwa.co.uk or outreach@chelmsford.co.uk

Policing in Action, for the month of September 2012:-

371 fixed penalty notices were issued to drivers for using a mobile phone while driving. **Police solved 103** dwelling burglaries and **43 other burglaries**. Police solved **139** cases of criminal damage. Police also solved **20** cases of theft of motor vehicles.

Operation Nash: part of Essex County Councils three year **"No Excuse" Road Safety Campaign**. Surround a Town Basildon, October 2012. :- Over **320 vehicles** stopped, **103 vehicles** had an expired MoT, **102 drivers** were not wearing seat belts, **40 drivers** were seen using mobile phones and more than **30 other** motoring offences were discovered. **14 vehicles** were seized for not being insured. County Council Officers gave advice to more than **170 offending drivers** and **70 motorists** later took part in a road safety training course instead of paying a £60 fixed penalty fine.

CHRISTMAS

Burglary Prevention Advice:

Did you know that homes with no security measures in place are five times more likely to be burgled than those with simple security measures? Good window locks and strong deadlocks can make a big difference. Close your curtains and blinds in the Autumn/Winter months. "LIGHTS ON" Help prevent an opportunist burglary. This is particularly important if you are at work all day.

Taking just a few steps can make a big difference in keeping your home safe from burglary. Here are a few tips:

- Lock your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even when you're just out in the garden
- Hide all keys, including car keys, out of sight
- Install a visual burglar alarm
- Install good outside lighting
- Leave radios or lights in your house on a timer
- Make sure the fences around your garden are in good condition
- Store valuable items (including passports, driving licences and bank statements) out of view
- Hide cash and wallets away
- Secure bikes at home by locking them to an immoveable object inside a locked shed or garage
- Keep ladders and tools stored away; don't leave them outside where they could be used to break into your home

In most burglaries, the criminals broke into the house or flat through the door, either by forcing the lock or kicking it in. So make sure your doors are strong and secure. Consider fitting a bar for extra strength; a locksmith can advise you on how best to do it.

Doors and Windows:

Glass panels on doors are particularly vulnerable. If you have one on your door you could replace it with laminated glass, which is stronger. You can also buy a film in a DIY store that you can stick over the glass to make it harder to break. Home security and DIY shops sell inexpensive, key-operated locks to fit most kinds of windows. Fit window locks with keys to all downstairs windows and those upstairs that are easy to reach.

DON'T WISH THE BURGLAR "A HAPPY CHRISTMAS"