

A Safer Christchurch



Issue No. 3

Dorset Police Younger People and Lighter Evenings

With the evenings becoming longer and lighter we would like to encourage parents to ask “do you know where your children are and what are they doing?”. We encounter seasonal trends of groups of predominantly younger people, gathering in our parks and on our beaches, especially towards the end of the school year and during exam leave. We occasionally encounter young people who have been drinking and act in an anti-social manner, sometimes leading to broken glass, fires being lit, property being damaged and excessive noise. In order to ensure our young people remain safe, these areas will be subject to regular multi-agency patrols by Officers from Police, Fire Service, Borough Council and other agencies.



Whilst we encourage young people to socialise and enjoy their surroundings, they have a responsibility to keep themselves safe and respect those surroundings. We encourage parents to remind their children of their behaviour when out late into the evenings.

HOME WATCH

Home Watch schemes are all about local people working in an active partnership with the Police and other agencies to reduce crime and make the area where they live a safer and nicer place for all. Watch schemes can be of varying size (we recommend 10-15 households), created and run by a Road Contact, who receives information from Home Watch and the Police, and passes this on to his/her members. Thanks to the internet and e-mail, information can be forwarded electronically to many scheme members, reducing the work load of the road contact. Of course not everyone can receive e-mails and the community benefit of personal contact is considerable, so the role of Road Contact remains as crucial as ever.

Home Watch are holding a **Safety & Security Day at Stanpit Village Hall on Saturday 5th May 10.00 to 16.00**. There will be exhibitions to highlight the importance of safety and security in the home. Members of the public are invited to attend anytime between 10.00am - 4.00pm. A number of agencies will be available on the day to give advice including: Dorset Police, Dorset Fire and Rescue, Dorset Maritime Service, Dorset Partnership for Older people and Dorset Ambulance Service.



Dorset Fire & Rescue Service

Location, location, location: Is your smoke alarm placed for protection ?

As statistics show that the biggest reason why smoke alarms don't sound in a fire is because the smoke did not reach the alarm, the Fire Kills campaign and Dorset Fire and Rescue Service are encouraging people in Christchurch and East Dorset to re-think the number of smoke alarms they have in their home and where they are fitted.

With 86% of the country owning a smoke alarm, it's clear that we all know that a working smoke alarm can provide those vital few seconds to enable you to escape a fire in the home. But last year more than 3000 fires in the home didn't activate the smoke alarm because the fire was outside its range.

That's why DFRS are asking people to think about where their smoke alarm is placed and whether they need another in their home to ensure they have the time to get out, stay out and call 999.

We offer these five smoke alarm top tips:

- Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home
- The ideal position is on the ceiling in the middle of a room or on a hallway or landing
- Consider fitting alarms in other rooms where there are electrical appliances
- Don't put alarms in or near kitchens and bathrooms where smoke or steam can set them off by accident
- Replace your smoke alarms every ten years



For more information visit www.dorsetfire.gov.uk or contact us on 01305

252600

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) is reducing in Christchurch, year-end figures for 2011/12 show a decrease in incidents of 30% when compared to the 2007/08 figures, this equates to approximately 842 fewer incidents.

CELEBRATION GOOD NEIGHBOURS

This year we are lucky to be celebrating a number of events around the Queens Jubilee and the Olympics. There will be numerous communities holding events and parties in their local neighbourhoods. These events are encouraged and will be fun and exciting, but we would like to remind people to be respectful and considerate of neighbours who may not want to take part or if your party goes on into the early evening. We all have different life styles and some people may have small children or work shifts and need to sleep at different times.

DORSET COUNTY COUNCIL TRADING STANDARDS

Off-Licence Prosecuted Over Alcohol Sale

As part of Dorset County Council's Trading Standards Service on-going underage enforcement programme, they recently took positive action against a man responsible for alcohol sales at a Christchurch off-licence.

Mr Oktay Kurtoglu, 27, who is the 'designated premises supervisor' of Purewell News Food and Wine, Christchurch, pleaded guilty to selling alcohol to a person under 18 years old at a hearing on 14 March 2012 at Bournemouth Magistrates Court. He was given a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £327 costs. Mr Kurtoglu had previously sold alcohol in September 2009 to an underage volunteer during a similar test purchasing exercise, for which he had accepted a formal caution.

Between April 2011 and end of March 2012, Dorset County Council's Trading Standards Service carried out test purchasing checks on age restricted products at 21 premises in the Christchurch area. Fourteen per cent of premises tested sold age-restricted goods to underage buyers. This case resulted from one such sale.

Dorset Police:

Non emergencies 101
Emergencies 999

Christchurch Borough Council:

Julia Howlett
Community Safety
01202 495111

Gavin Barnes
Anti-Social Behaviour
01202 495044

Sovereign Twynham:
Report ASB 24 hours
0300 500 0599

Report ASB online
www.sovereign.org.uk

Get information about
CRIMESTOPPERS
0800 555111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Dorset Fire & Rescue:
Emergencies 999
Information 01305 252600