

Littering



FLY TIPPING

It seems that this year, people have been dumping bicycles and washing machines in the beachfront. Others are dumping unwanted items over garden fences where there is waste land. In one week alone, I collected two van loads of rubbish and had to call out the Council to collect a double mattress.

With summer on its way, we should all ensure that we keep Bracklesham clean and rubbish free so that residents and holidaymakers alike can enjoy the area.

What should you do if you see someone fly tipping?

If you see someone fly tipping or would like to report an area where fly tipping has taken place, you should make a note of the following:

- the date, time and place of the occurrence
- what the waste looks like and how much there is
- a description of any vehicles involved, including the vehicles registration numbers
- a description of any persons involved in the offence.

You should then report the fly tipping to me on **07825 681547 or 01243 672693**.

Remember:

- Fly tipping is illegal and costs the taxpayer and

landowners £100 million a year.

- Do not fly tip, take your rubbish to your local amenity tip.
- Take details and report any fly tipping you see.
- Make sure that anyone you employ to dispose of your waste is a licensed carrier.
- Even if your rubbish is fly tipped by someone else, you could still be prosecuted for the offence.
- The West Sussex County Council collection takes place on a Thursday in Marine Drive car park.

DOG FOULING

Local dog owners and dog walkers, if not policed, are letting their dogs foul our streets and children's green play areas, particularly in the evening. Dog poo can carry and transmit disease to children particularly toxocarasis which can cause blindness.

We have a particular problem in Bracklesham Park. When I was helping Sarah Hughes, clear away an overgrown area of the park, we discovered just how bad the problem is. Many of you will have noticed the little bags of dog excrement hang from the trees and hedges. What's incredible is that instead of putting the bags in the bins, sited at the exits of the park, dog owners are throwing them into the hedges. This is just as bad as not clearing up

after the dog in the first place. I have made it clear to dog walkers that a minority of people are causing these problems. Residents are welcome to let me know anonymously a description of the offenders and I will report the details to the Dog Wardens.

What can I do about a dog fouling offence?

- Take details

If you wish to take action against a dog owner who has not cleaned up after their dog, you should immediately note details of:

- Date, time and place of offence
- The name and address of the person in charge of the dog if possible
- A description of the dog
- Then contact me and I will progress the matter with the Dog Wardens.

GRAFFITI

Whenever I find graffiti I make sure I remove it quickly, usually with the help of Graffiti Solutions, who provide a graffiti removal service on behalf of the District Council. A lot of the graffiti I find is offensive, malicious and a form of bullying. It consists of writing on walls in areas most visible to passers-by.

It's important to remove any graffiti – large or small, to prevent any other incidents of crime occurring. I have

noticed that the areas where there has been prolific graffiti, now no longer gets targeted.

If you spot graffiti, stop it, by contacting me immediately. If I cannot remove it, I will contact Graffiti Solutions who will respond within 24 hours.

LITTER PICKING

Part of my role is to encourage the community to take responsibility for keeping their environment clean and tidy. To set a good example, I've been carrying out litter picks at times at busy times of the day, so that youngsters can ask what I am doing and I can answer that although I don't live here, I like to make the area look nice.

Last year, I visited East Wittering Primary School to talk about my work in the community and help the pupils understand how important it is to not drop litter and take a pride in their neighbourhood.

CAR SALES

Bracklesham, like any other area, has parking issues. However, unlicensed car traders, who are leaving cars in parking bays for sale, are making this situation worse. It's now happening so frequently that I am working with trading standards to crack down on this problem by passing on details of local cars for sale.



BICYCLE THEFT

Bicycle theft has doubled in the UK since the mid 1990s, with reports showing that over half a million bikes are currently stolen every year. There are, however, many ways in which you can stop your bike from being stolen.



Lock it or lose it

It is essential that you have a good lock for your bicycle, and that you never leave it unlocked in a public place. Leaving your bicycle unattended even for a minute can mean it is gone when you return. According to the British Crime Survey 2005/06, more than half of all bicycle thefts take place from an owner's

property. Simple crime prevention methods can lessen your chances of having your bicycle stolen.

- Keep your bike in a secure garage or shed and keep the door locked.
- Keep it out of public view.
- Secure it to an immovable object or consider installing a floor or wall-mounted anchor lock for extra security.

Security marking for your bicycle

Many insurance companies will ask you to security tag your cycle. Even if you don't insure your cycle this is a good idea, as it means you have full record of your cycle on file somewhere, which could help you to prove it is yours, if it is stolen and then found.

Your questions answered REMEMBER, IF IN DOUBT, CALL YOUR COMMUNITY WARDEN

Q. What do I do if my bike is stolen?

A. Advise the police via the non-emergency number **0845 60 70 999** and then report the theft to your Community Warden. Provide as much information as you can, including the frame number, type of bike, any distinctive details, where and when it was stolen, and if you can, a photo.

Once informed, the Community Wardens will keep a look out for your bike when out on patrol and make enquiries on your behalf.

Q. Where should I park my bike?

A. **On the street**, it's generally best to use cycle parking stands if these are available. Look for secure, immovable cycle parking. It should ideally be possible for you to lock both your frame and your wheels to the stand - parking that only allows your front wheel to be locked should be avoided as thieves can remove your

front wheel and make off with the rest of your bike.

Q. Where shouldn't I park my bike?

A. **Dark alleys** - even if your bike is locked, a thief will have an ideal opportunity to break through your lock.

Butterfly racks - avoid parking which only allows you to secure your front wheel to the stand. Even if you don't have quick release wheels, it's very easy for a thief to detach your wheel and make off with the rest of your bike.

Short posts, or even tall posts - your bike will be lifted over the top. Even if there is a sign at the top that your lock can't fit around, bear in mind that a very determined thief could unscrew the sign and lift your bike over, so it's not a good idea to leave your bike locked to a sign post overnight.

Drainpipes - easily shattered.

Q. What do I do if I find an abandoned bike?

A. Contact your Community Warden immediately with the exact location and description of the bike. Alternatively, contact your local police station. If you are unable to take the item to a police station, contact the police via the non-emergency number **0845 60 70 999** who may advise you to secure the bike, until the police or the owner can collect it.

Q. Where can I get my bike marked and registered?

A. If you would like your bike security marked and registered, then come along to one of the Community Wardens's Cycle Security Events. For further details contact your local Warden. There is a small charge of £3.00 for this service.

COMMUNITY WARDEN news

spring 2008



COMMUNITY WARDENS tackle bike thefts

In response to recent bicycle thefts in the District, the Community Wardens are supporting a bike marking and registration scheme in each of their areas.



“During the past 12 months, there have been 260 cycle thefts in the Chichester District, up from 206 in 2006” explained Sue Long, Community Warden for Tangmere and Oving. **“That’s an average of 20 bikes reported stolen each month. The security marking scheme will act as a deterrent to thieves, as they will not be able to pass the bike off as their own and it also makes it much easier for people who have had their bike stolen to reclaim it.”**

The Wardens were first in line to take advantage of the bike marking session, launched in Chichester City Centre, by the Chichester District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. The scheme

allows cyclists to have a unique registration number stencilled onto their cycle frame and join a national online register of cycle owners.

The Wardens were joined by over 100 other cyclists, including Keiko Iwamoto, a student at Chichester College, who was lucky enough to get her bike marked for free as one of the first 100 cyclists to take up the offer. She was keen to get her bike marked and registered: **“I don’t have any other means of transport so if I lose this one; I would have to buy another, which would be expensive. I’d encourage all bike owners to join the scheme and safeguard your cycle – it makes sense.”**



RECYCLING IN THE COMMUNITY

Find out how the Wardens are recycling milk bottle tops to help the Chestnut Tree Children's Hospice.



During the next few months, the Community Wardens will be promoting bike marking, cycle security and safe cycling in each of their neighbourhoods.

If you would like to get your bike marked and registered, and want to find out how, then turn to the back page of this newsletter for further details.

Declan Moody, Community Warden for Bracklesham, is keen to get every cyclist to join the scheme. **“We often come across stolen bikes on our patrols and spend a great deal of time trying to find the owners. This scheme will make that job easier, as well as reducing thefts. It costs £3.00 to mark and register your bike and it is well the small charge.”**



BRACKLESHAM & EAST WITTERING

Call Declan on: **07825 681547**
www.brackleshamwardens.org.uk

HOME DELIVERY

If you have email access and would like to receive our newsletter electronically just visit one of our websites: **www.brackleshamwardens.org.uk** and click on the newsletter button.

Declan Moody, Community Warden



Many of you will have seen me out on patrol in the Bracklesham or East Wittering area or have met me at various community meetings. With the help of partner agencies, I'm here to make your neighbourhood a safer, cleaner place to live in.

To help those of you who have not met me or understand the role of a Community Warden, here are the answers to few of the questions I've been asked since I started working in the Bracklesham and East Wittering area last summer.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Community Warden here to do?

I'm here to help make your neighbourhood a safer and cleaner place. I want to work with you to deal with the things that matter to you in your community.

How is a Community Warden going to do it?

I will act as a link between you, the Council's services and partner agencies. This means I will be available to get things done efficiently and quickly.

Why here?

Your Parish Council recognise the difference Community Wardens have made in Selsey and decided that Bracklesham and East Wittering is another area where Wardens can make a significant difference. Having seen the results of work I have achieved since last

summer the Parish Council has agreed to fund the role for another year.

What are the priorities?

Working closely with the Police, Fire Brigade, and other services, my immediate priorities are to build links with the community and tackle street cleanliness, dog fouling, fly tipping and graffiti.

A big part of the Community Wardens' role is to help address environmental concerns by identifying and reporting litter, graffiti, fly-tipping and abandoned vehicles to the council's environmental services team.

By improving the appearance of the area it helps to discourage further crime and anti-social behaviour.

How can you help?

Talk to me. No problem is too small and I am happy to listen. Let me know about any problems as soon as they happen, either by stopping me when I'm out on patrol, or calling me on **07825 681547** or my office number: **01243 672693**. You can also call me to find out information about for example, services in the area.

Thank You

Since starting work in the Bracklesham and East Wittering area, at the end of last June, my aim has been to meet as many people as possible and forge links with local community groups. You may have spotted me out on patrol either on foot or on my bike. It's a chance for me to meet people who, once they have started chatting, let me know about the issues in the area.

Each month I report to the Parish Council and have become a member of the Youth Club Management committee. I've also been building up my network of contacts by meeting local organisations including:

- The Witterings Wives Group
- Elm Dean Court residents
- East Bracklesham Drive Owner's Association

I'd like to thank all of you for welcoming me to Bracklesham and East Wittering and supporting my work. I'm looking forward to getting involved in the summer's local community and ensuring that the area is kept cleaner and safer for residents and visitors alike.

Declan Moody, Bracklesham & East Wittering, Community Warden

Bracklesham Bay/East Wittering Taking Pride in our Community

Environmental issues rather than anti-social behaviour take up a large proportion of my time, with fly tipping, litter and dog fouling spoiling our parks, pavements and public areas. Since January, fly tipping has overtaken graffiti with 32 incidents reported in the first six weeks of the year.

The top five incidents listed on the Community Wardens' Database for the Bracklesham and East Wittering area are as follows:

Top Five Incidents 2007/08	
Graffiti	157
Fly Tipping	87
Criminal Damage	54
Litter	50
Car Sales	49



Out on Patrol

Recently, two of our Parish Councillors each accompanied me on a two hour patrol, to find out more about my work in the community.

They were both surprised at how many people knew me and how long it took to cover just a small part of the ward! They were both interested to see how I worked with partner agencies, reporting incidents to the appropriate services and chasing up on problems. I think they now view me as the Bracklesham's caretaker, constantly cleaning up after everyone and attending to those much needed jobs.

Reasons to be Cheerful

To celebrate 400 issues, **New Start** magazine, a publication highlighting community regeneration in Britain, compiled a list of the top 400 community projects undertaken in the UK during their 10 years of publication. We're delighted to announce that the magazine listed our **Junior Warden** scheme, twelfth out of the 400 projects. The news appeared in a special issue of the magazine entitled 'Reasons to be Cheerful'. The recognition of our success certainly makes us feel a lot happier!

Helping the elderly to recycle



Despite their age difference, Tyler Sandalls (left) and Sheila Bell (centre), pictured above with Community Warden, Greg Ockwell and Martin Cooke, have one thing in common: they both give up their time on a Saturday to help the Community Wardens recycle glass and collect plastic milk bottle tops to raise money for the Chestnut Tree Children's Hospice.

Helping the more vulnerable members of our District is one of the key roles of the Community Wardens. That's why the Chichester based team jumped at the chance to work with St Paul's Church Eco-congregation group, on a project to collect and recycle glass and milk bottle tops from local residential centres and nursing homes.

Martin Cook, St Paul's Recycling Co-ordinator, had visited several residential

homes in Chichester and asked if residents would like to raise money for the Chestnut Children's Hospice, by collecting plastic milk bottle tops. Their answer was a resounding, 'yes'. The question was how to make the collections happen? That's when Chichester District Council's Community Wardens stepped in and volunteered to run the scheme with the help of teenage volunteers.

WORKING TOGETHER

The Wardens realised that many elderly residents at these centres would like to recycle more of their rubbish but were not able to get out to the community recycling centres. As Sheila Bell, a resident of Joys Croft Court explains,

"When we heard about how recycling our milk bottle tops can help the Children's Hospice, we all wanted to join in, as well as do something for the environment. However, it's too far for a lot of the residents here to get to the collection points or bottle banks. Without the Wardens and the youngsters' support, our glass and plastic milk bottle tops would go into the landfill sites with the rest of our rubbish."



Teenagers, Tyler Sandalls and Grant Powell, help the Wardens collect the glass and milk bottle tops and take them to the recycling centres. Community Warden, Greg Ockwell, enjoys working on a project that shows youngsters in a positive light and helps the environment:

"As Community Wardens, we spend so much of our time picking up broken glass from public areas, particularly play areas, we are happy to do anything we can to safely dispose of glass and reduce the amount of rubbish going to landfill sites.

We take the glass to the bottle banks where Tyler and Grant sort out the different coloured glass and putting them in the appropriate containers. The bottle tops we take to St Paul's Church collection point in Chichester."

YOU CAN HELP TOO!

If you would like to recycle milk bottle tops for the Children's Hospice and you live in the Chichester area, then you can take them to St Paul's Church located on the Northgate roundabout, opposite the Fire Station. St Paul's has a collection point in its car park - the only collection point for milk bottle tops to be found in West Sussex.

Please ensure that you remove any card from inside the bottle top and wash it thoroughly before recycling.



WHAT HAPPENS TO THE RECYCLED BOTTLE TOPS?

The plastic tops are sent to GHS Recycling in Portsmouth where they are granulated (chopped into tiny pieces) and then sent to be made into more bottle tops or hard plastic toys for children. GHS Recycling pay for the milk bottle tops and this money is donated to the Children's Hospice.



WHAT A LOT OF BOTTLES!

So far, the Wardens have collected and recycled over a ton of milk bottle tops, nearly 3,500 glass bottles and 1,287 glass jars, and raised £50.00 for the Chestnut Tree Hospice.

Martin Cook, is convinced that the project would not have happened without the support of the Community Wardens: "I've been impressed by how willing they have been to support CRESS and take it to the next level by involving the youngsters. Without their interest the scheme wouldn't have got off the ground."



COMING TO YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

This year, the recycling scheme - nicknamed CRESS (Chichester Recycling Excess Saturday Scheme) is set to expand to each of the Wardens' areas, starting in Selsey.