

## Community Heroes

There are many members of the public who give up their time to help us in our work in the community, from picking up litter to helping the Junior Wardens, or simply making us a cup of tea. We would like to recognise their contribution by featuring some of these Community Heroes and Heroines in our newsletter.



Tyler Sandalls, age 14, is a student at Chichester College and a keen supporter of the Community Wardens' work. During the past two years has given up his time to help collect abandoned trolleys, spot graffiti, taken part in litter picks and often works on a Saturday to help the Chichester Wardens with the CRESS collections.

"It's fun helping Drew and Greg and it stops me getting into trouble. Before I met them I was on an ABC (Acceptable Behaviour Contract), I'd been excluded from school and I was just messing about on the estate. Now I'm meeting lots of different people and learning lots of new things. I like helping the community - it's a good feeling.

My friend Grant Powell also helps out. The other week we helped some ladies who had fallen over on wet leaves outside their houses. We collected four sacks of leaves. It was hard work, but it's better than watching the TV. I'm happier when I'm working with the Wardens. When I leave school I'd like to become a Community Warden or do something similar."

Greg and Drew are grateful for the teenagers' support. "It's great to see Tyler and Grant working hard to help others in their neighbourhood. It shows how, with a bit of encouragement, teenagers can make a difference to their own and other people's lives. **If you are interested in supporting the work of the Wardens in your community, please give them a call.**

## Your Views . .

**As Community Wardens, we work in partnership with many different agencies including the Parish Council, Housing Associations and the emergency services. Here are a few of their comments about our role in the community.**

“Chichester City Council is proud to be one of the major sponsors of the Warden's scheme, giving a significant grant towards its running costs. Since the Wardens began their work in the City they have had a remarkable impact. Dealing with all sorts of incidents, they have contributed hugely to the sense of security enjoyed by the people of Chichester. They have become a model for other warden schemes and we look forward to further expansion of this excellent scheme.”

**Rob Campling, Chairman of the City Council's Community Affairs Committee**

“The Community Wardens play a vital role in both addressing and preventing anti-social behaviour locally. They provide an invaluable service to both the community and key local agencies and have been of immense help to our staff when conducting home visits and facilitating meetings.”

One of their key strengths is to be approachable to people who may feel uncomfortable talking to Police Officers or Police Community Support Officers. I thoroughly enjoy working with Greg Ockwell and Drew Allardice in Chichester. Nothing is ever too much trouble for them and they certainly make a huge contribution towards helping our housing staff establish a sense of community for our residents.”

**Sue Cooke, Tenancy Enforcement Officer for Home Havant**

“Operation Fender was a successful joint operation involving police, community wardens and local fire crews working together to keep their communities safe. Together they tackled anti-social behaviour, and gave safety and crime prevention advice to young people on the streets. The opportunity to work closely together gave staff from all three services to gain a much better understanding of what each person's work entails. This is partnership working at its best - working together to tackle local problems for local communities.”

**Inspector Kim Hudson, Chichester Neighbourhood Policing Team**



## 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.”**



### CHICHESTER EAST & WHYKE

Call Jon on: **07768 207868**  
Call Drew on: **07825 681527**  
[www.whykewardens.org.uk](http://www.whykewardens.org.uk)  
[www.chiwardens.org.uk](http://www.chiwardens.org.uk)

### HOME DELIVERY

If you have email access and would like to receive our newsletter electronically just visit one of our websites: [www.whykewardens.org.uk](http://www.whykewardens.org.uk), [www.chiwardens.co.uk](http://www.chiwardens.co.uk) and click on the newsletter button.

## What have we achieved so far?



When we sat down to plan our work for 2008, we took the opportunity to look back over 2007 and think about what we had achieved. Here is our list of what we consider to be our top three success stories - what do you think? Let us know your views.

### 15% DECREASE IN FLY-TIPPING

We are lucky enough to have a strong network of people who are keen to keep our neighbourhood clean and tidy by recording and reporting any dumped rubbish. Because we have our van, we are able to respond to any reported fly-tipping call promptly, although for bigger jobs, we enlist the help of our partner agencies such as Chichester District Council and the Fire and Rescue Service.

Last summer, we recruited 15 young people, between the ages of 12-17, to help us address the problem of fly tipping in our neighbourhood. They all gave up their time and worked hard during the summer holidays to clear large areas of dumped rubbish. They were keen to show that their commitment to their community by making it a cleaner and safer place to live.

It was also an opportunity to educate residents about the damage fly tipping

does to the local environment, and the financial penalties involved - sometimes up to a £5000 fine. Because of all of our hard work, we have achieved a **15% reduction in fly-tipping in our neighbourhood.**

### URBAN SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Young people in Chichester often claim to be 'bored' so that's why we joined forces with the District Council and West Sussex Youth Service, to set up a 5-a-side football tournament during the summer holidays for young people aged 13-18.

The tournament was a huge success. Each week, we managed to achieve attendance rates of between 20 to 25 young people of both sexes and of all abilities. The youth service provided a range of resources, including a set of goals, detached Youth Workers and well deserved refreshments. The eventual winners were the 'Chelsea All-stars' from the Whyke Estate. Many of the young people involved are hungry for

more matches, so we are currently looking at setting up a charity match and further football tournaments in the near future.

### PAPERCHASE

We deal with many different issues during our patrols - from missing drain covers to the welfare of pregnant cats! We did however come across something bizarre last Autumn.

Occasionally, we patrol the city centre - usually towards the end of the day. On this occasion, we spotted a collection of fly posters at the old swimming pool, so we began to take them down. As we did so, we realised that they were still wet with glue. Realising we were hot on the tail of the offender; we made our way into town following the poster trail. Having removed about 20 posters, we returned to the Fire Station with our fingers stuck together!

## 2008 Projects Whyke Junior Wardens

Now that spring is here, the Junior Wardens are leaping into action and carrying out a full range of environmental, personal safety and healthy living activities. From planting trees to picking up litter - Whyke's Junior Wardens will be taking part in a whole range of fun and educational projects this year. Here's a taster of some of their activities:

- **Estate Audit/ Litter pick**  
Keeping the Whyke estate clean and safe
- **Paper making/ Environment challenge**  
Making our own paper & 'taking the 10% challenge'

- **Whyke Master plan/ Mosaic design**  
Helping to put a lasting stamp on the Green
- **Copse planting**  
Tree planting & study

- **Bullying/ Drama workshop**  
Helping to eradicate bullying at school

- **Dog Wardens**  
Dog care, safety and responsibilities

The Junior Wardens are all looking forward to keeping the Whyke estate clean and tidy. Watch out for them carrying out their regular litter picks and patrols.



## 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.