

## Message from Carol Allington, Chairman, Fareham NHW

As promised in our Winter Newsletter, the new Fareham Borough Neighbourhood Watch website along with Facebook and Twitter are now up and running! If you would still like a printed copy, a supply will be available at Libraries and Community Centres across the borough along with Fareham Police Station and Fareham Borough Council offices in Civic Way.

We are looking to develop Fareham Neighbourhood Watch schemes across the whole Borough but to do this we need many more volunteers of all ages, especially from our younger residents. If this appeals to you, then please contact the Fareham NHW Office on telephone number **07919 015 083** or email [info@farehamnhw.co.uk](mailto:info@farehamnhw.co.uk).

We also hope to have an open meeting of all our members and potential volunteers to explain how we are progressing with the NHW Scheme and to listen to your views and comments. This will be advertised through our new website and in partnership with Fareham Borough Council.

Thank you for your continued help and support in this extremely valuable venture which helps to protect us all.

## BE AWARE OF DOORSTEP CRIMINALS

Doorstep criminals are targeting residents in our area



Doorstep crime: What does it mean, exactly? Hampshire Constabulary uses this term to describe distraction burglary and rogue trading.

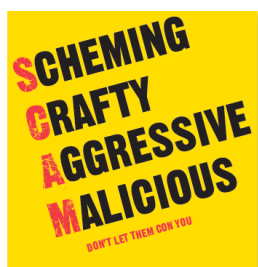
Offenders knock on the door pretending to be someone else. They distract the resident to gain entry and steal items from inside, sometimes with an accomplice. Offenders may pretend to have lost a pet or claim they need to use your home phone. They may claim they are from a council, utility supplier, or even police.

**Our advice is: Not sure? Don't open the door!**

- **Lock:** All doors, even when at home. Use a chain or spy hole.
- **Stop:** Unknown people from entering.
- **Tell:** Police about unwanted or suspicious callers, phone 101.
- If you feel threatened call 999
- Deaf? Mini-com call users call 18001 101 or send a text to 07781 480999
- Want to stay anonymous? Call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

## Scambuster

Your guide to beating the scammers



One thing we can all do is to try and keep up to speed with what Scams are out there.

The Office of Fair Trading have produced a booklet called 'Scambuster' and the Metropolitan Police have produced a great booklet called 'The Little Book of BIG Scams'. You can find these from searching on the internet – or by clicking the pictures on the side of this article if you have received this newsletter electronically.

## BEWARE OF BOGUS CALLERS

**LOCK** ALL doors, even when you are at home. Use a chain if you have one.

**STOP** Are you expecting someone? Do you require a password from them?

**TELL** Police need to know about unwanted or suspicious doorstep callers. Call us on **101**, or phone **999** if you feel threatened.

Not sure? Don't open the door!

Deaf? Mini-com call 18001 101 or send a text 07781 480999



**Operation Signature** is the force campaign to identify and support vulnerable victims of fraud within Hampshire. Increasingly fraud is becoming more complex and deceptive, much of which is targeted at vulnerable and elderly people.

### Did you know?

- 1 in 5 people fall victim to scams every year
  - Nearly 50% of all adults have been targeted by a scam
- Technology is enabling fraudsters to carry out attacks quicker and employ more complex behaviours to remain undetected.

### What kinds of scams are there?

Common fraud types are:

- Mail scams: con artists use fake lotteries and prize draws, get-rich-quick schemes, bogus health cures and pyramid selling to get money from their victims
- Investment scams: the victim is offered investment opportunities in land, fine wines, gems, share sales or carbon credits which have little or no value
- Romance scams: the scammer meets someone on a dating site and gains their trust. They tell their victim they need money for a family emergency or flights over to see them
- Courier Fraud: fraudsters call and trick the victim into handing cards and PIN numbers to a courier on their doorstep or making them think they are helping in a police investigation by getting them to withdraw large amounts of cash
- Fraud recovery scam: when fraudsters approach the victim again under a different guise, such as Trading Standards or Court officials, demanding money up front in order to finance court action to recoup some of the losses from the original crime.

There are many more types of fraud. Please see the [Action Fraud](#) website for more details.



Receive FREE crime and community information about where you live

Register at [www.hampshirealert.co.uk](http://www.hampshirealert.co.uk)



Below are some great links to websites and videos about scams and how to prevent yourselves and others from becoming victims.

- Think Jessica - <http://www.thinkjessica.com/>
- Impact of a Telephone banking Scam, view a Victims Story - <https://vimeo.com/147449406>
- Cyber Aware Website - <https://www.cyberaware.gov.uk/>

## Nominated Neighbour

Hampshire Constabulary has set up a supportive scheme to help tackle bogus callers.

The 'Nominated Neighbour' scheme enables residents to act as a point of contact for vulnerable people within their community.

The scheme is open to all residents across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, although it is particularly aimed at older or vulnerable residents. Participants seek the help of a neighbour, relative or friend to check the identity of any unknown or uninvited callers to the resident's home.

Under the scheme, if a vulnerable or elderly person receives an unknown caller to their home, they will not answer the door but present a card at their window redirecting the visitor to phone or visit their nominated neighbour's house.

The Nominated Neighbour is chosen by the resident and could be a relative or friend.

The scheme is supported by Neighbourhood Watch as a useful tool to prevent incidents of distraction burglary and provide reassurance to the community.

The Nominated Neighbour packs are available online [HERE](#) or by contacting your local Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101 or from the Fareham Neighbourhood Watch Office.

### Fareham Neighbourhood Watch Contact Details

☎ = 07919 015 083 / 💻 = [www.farehamnhw.co.uk](http://www.farehamnhw.co.uk)

Email = [info@farehamnhw.co.uk](mailto:info@farehamnhw.co.uk)