

Bexley Borough Neighbourhood Watch Association



Newsletter Early Winter

Patron- James Brokenshire (MP-for Old Bexley & Sidcup) Chairman-Ray Hudson
Vice Chairman/Communications & Newsletter Editor-Dana Wiffen, Treasurer-Dave Dawson, Secretary-Claire Tack
Telephone Office 0208 284 5537 or Email us: bexwatch-office@btconnect.com



Our Secretary Claire Tack addresses possible new coordinators.

BBNWA-RECRUITMENT DAY SUCCESS

We had a successful recruitment drive day on 16th November at Bexleyheath Civic Offices, although numbers were low during the second half of the event.

Our committee turned out in full as well as a number of our coordinators and we thank them all for their hard work and support.

We also received very enthusiastic support from Diane Kraus-Community Safety & Licensing Manager at Bexley Council and her team including Julie Southcott and Ginny Hyland, and also the girls from Bexley Licensing who came along to help on the day.

We would also like to thank them all for their hard work in preparing and advertising this event.

Voluntary groups such as The Espinosa Scout Troop part of the 4th Barnehurst Scout Group, Bexley Police Cadets, Tomahawks ESU, and 16th Erith Scouts & Howbury Friends also turned out in the evenings to help with the distributions of leaflets around the Boroughs Stations and Major Supermarkets. Their support has been greatly appreciated as well as continued support from our SNT's.

We are still looking for new watches and coordinators throughout the Borough, we will be focusing on lapsed Watches, Schools/Parent & Teachers-Associations, Resident's Associations & Town Forums & Colleges.

The Police and Bexley Borough Council recognise the importance of Neighbourhood Watch and they are working more closely with us to increase our watches throughout the Borough. Plans are being drawn up for the SNT's to assist in visiting roads with lapsed watches.

It is a fact that roads with watches have fewer break-ins and have a better community spirit.

If you know of any streets/roads or even other

Residents Associations that would like to set up their own Watch please ask them to contact BBNWA either by telephone on 0208 284 5537 or email-bexwatch-office@btconnect.com



Cakes and biscuits prepared ready for our visitors on recruitment day were nearly all gone by the end of the evening.



Committee members Stuart Bartle and Tony Alcorn await new recruits to sign up.

BBNWA-BOROUGH

NEWSLETTER-We have printed 10,000 to be distributed borough wide Coordinators are asked if possible to distribute to their area/road, please contact the office letting us know how many copies you need?



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OLDER PEOPLES DAY- Friday 18th November 2011 @ The Marriott Hotel-Bexleyheath



Dana chats to an interested party

This superb event was organised by Bexley Care Trust (following a very similar event in 2010).

In total there were just fewer than 120 local residents who not only had a fantastic time reminiscing about the war but were also able to visit a range of help and support services present on the day to gain information, which included BBNWA (see photos)



Claire answers questions on the day

There was also a small presentation, with the help of Age UK, which focussed on the switch over to digital TV. (See [additional article on this in newsletter](#))

The Clinical Commissioning Group Chair – Dr Howard Stoate – also came along to say a few words.

A questionnaire and some table discussions on the day helped to gather some experiences of accessing local health services and asked people for their views of what could be improved. Sophie, Claire and Dana manned the NW stall and we received lots of interest as the photos show, especially for The Nominated Neighbour Scheme



Dana & Sophie show our superb display stand

Annie Gardner from NHS SE informed that she tries organise

the event around the time of the National Older People's day – so the next event will be around late autumn early winter next year-2012

DIGITAL TELEVISION CONVERSION-2012

In April 2012 all transmissions will become digital only, therefore anyone who still receives an analogue signal will have to have their TV's retuned, and we have been informed that you should not have to purchase a new TV for this conversion.

If you need help, leaflets will be sent out to all residents soon and for a small fee you can arrange for a vetted engineer to come to your property and retune your television(s). The fee will include either an appropriate aerial or a digi-box.

NO ONE WILL COLD CALL FOR THIS PURPOSE, so if someone knocks claiming to be from digital television and that they need to tune your television they will be bogus, **DO NOT LET THEM IN**



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WATCH & SNT OF THE MONTH

Our Nominated Watch is:- HASLEMERE-ROAD, DERWENT CRESCENT & LONSDALE ROAD/NW-

They cover 115 homes and were established in 2008. Sandra Johnson runs the watch with 3 deputy coordinators;- Carol, Terry & Kelly. They have their own newsletter and have organised several street parties with great response from their residents. Sandra also attends quarterly Panel Meetings and BCPEG meetings to keep up to date with issues.

Our Nominated SNT is:-
BRAMPTON WARD Team NW-Liaison is PCSO **Veronica (Ronnie) Little** she has been a PCSO for 3.5 years. The rest of BramptonSaferNeighbourhood Team are PCSO-**John Cunningham**, PCSO-**Claire Dunmall**, PC-**Scott Sinden** & PC-**Shaun Kelly**, not forgetting the man in charge **Sgt Geoff Lamb**- (He recently moved from running the Barnehurst Team to Brampton).

WELL DONE & A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

Home Insurance Discount

Most contents insurers will give you a small discount of between 5-10% if you confirm your road is part of an active Neighbourhood Watch.



Towergate's representatives on our recruitment day

Towergate Insurance
Agreed a special deal with NW-Nationwide, they are offering 15% discount to anyone in BBNWA Watch Areas, therefore all active watches in the Borough will qualify for this discount for further details telephone. **Towergate- on 0844 346 3253.**



The Metropolitan Police Service is here for London - on the streets and in your community, working with you to make our city safer. **There have been problems with the new 101 non-emergency number which will have hopefully been sorted by the time you receive this newsletter.**



VISIT TO LAMBETH CCC-

Twenty-five Bexley Safer Neighbourhoods Panel members visited Lambeth 999 call centre in September. They found the evening informative and enjoyable and a real eye-opener, especially during the interactive session.

Speaking to the operators and taking instruction from them in a mock up of a real 999 event helped those attending realise just how hard it is to do the job well. Thanks to Damian Southall and Dan Baker for looking after all of the attending panel members so well. Chief Superintendent BJ Harrington said, "CCC is part of policing London and involving the community is important. The work of colleagues across the OCU is outstanding and praise from the people we serve is vitally important to let colleagues know they are valued."



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RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Bexley CPEG investigated the provisions for Restorative Justice in Bexley and asked Charlotte Shrimpton from the Bexley Youth Offending Team (YOT) to give a presentation at our last public meeting 21st November.

Young offenders in the borough are offered the chance to acknowledge their crime, make good the harm done to a victim and hopefully will not offend again. This has to be victim led and it gives the victim a voice. This can be a face to face meeting or writing a letter. If the victim does not wish to meet the offender there are ways of helping the offender make amends. The courts recognise the need for offenders to make amends on a statutory basis through reparation. The probation service call it *Community Payback*.

Restorative justice conferences are carried out with trained practitioners and the YOT will train community panels, teachers in schools and police to ensure the facility is used as widely as possible although take up is low by victims at present.

Gary Redding from the Youth Action Diversity Trust (YADT)

explained the trust organise many clubs with preventative ideas. They take on 14-17 year olds at the North Cray Community Centre and Parkside Community Centre. They engage with the young offenders and provide suitable work for them to carry out for their Community Payback order.

The young offender is expected to attend on time, at times laid down by the YADT with educational needs being the only concession. Work could consist maintaining gardens, repair work or cleaning, is always supervised and must be of a satisfactory standard. Chief Inspector Tony Gowen spoke of the good work achieved by the YOT working closely with the police. The YOT report to the London Criminal Justice Board and figures prove that young people have not reoffended once they have been dealt with by Charlotte's team. There is little provision for restorative justice for adults in the borough but there are pilot projects ongoing in other boroughs in London which may come to Bexley in due course.

The Probation Service are also planning for the future, a service to work with prisoners prior to release back into the

borough, with a view to meeting the needs of the victim.
BCPEG's NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 26TH 2012 with a presentation by the Sentencing Council.

BEXLEY TINITUS SUPPORT

GROUP-If you know anyone that suffers from TININITUS and would like more information about this superb support group please contact them on 01322 528737

NOTICE TO ALL NW-COORDINATORS-

Please notify the office if you have resigned or are moving away from the area, many thanks.....

WISHING YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Consider our environment - please do not print this email unless absolutely necessary.



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