



Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch Association



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Neighbourhood Watch Association AGM is on Thursday 24th September at 7.30pm at Alresford Golf Club. The speaker will be Inspector Jon Turton, who is currently standing in as Chief Inspector, following Darius Hemmatpour's reassignment. All are welcome.

MAIL WATCH - EXTRA EYES AND EARS

Postmen and women are joining forces with Neighbourhood Watch and Hampshire Constabulary to tackle crime. Posties in the Winchester area will play a vital role as extra eyes and ears of their community, through the launch of a new pilot initiative – Mail Watch.

Thefts and trespassing have already been spotted and the scheme may be widened if the pilot is successful. Staff have been encouraged to act if they see anything unusual and to keep their eyes peeled following burglaries or other incidents on their rounds.

The Mail Watch initiative is currently being trialled from Winnall sorting office and will give more than 130 postmen and women in the area the opportunity to report any suspicious incidents or low-level crime by calling 101 and then quoting a dedicated incident number. Alternatively, they can report incidents to Neighbourhood Watch volunteers, who will then liaise with police if necessary.

Tony Marsh, Director of Security, Royal Mail said: "Royal Mail postmen and women collect and deliver mail six days a week and have almost unrivalled knowledge of the communities they serve. We are proud to be formalising our working relationship with Hampshire Constabulary and Neighbourhood Watch through the launch of this important initiative and look forward to playing our part in creating a safer community."

Tony Crouch, a local postman with a rural round in the Winchester area said, 'We take intelligence from the police and have a phone number to call if we see anything suspicious. Since the pilot started trialling, the team has reported crimes of stealing and trespassing. It's an extension of the service we already provide to the community that doesn't affect the time it takes us to do our job.'

Steve Brine MP for Winchester and Chandler's Ford said; "This just makes perfect sense and is an initiative you just know will add value. I think Royal Mail customers will be really pleased to see such a positive idea taking shape from their trusted postmen and women."

Chief Inspector **Darius Hemmatpour**, District Commander for Winchester said: "Mail Watch is an innovative and exciting opportunity where the Police, Neighbourhood Watch and Royal Mail are working together to ensure our communities continue to feel safe, valued and supported. By sharing information across all three organisations it will allow postmen and women to report any suspicious activity they may come across during their daily rounds, whilst at the same time receiving information from the Police and Neighbourhood Watch. For many years the Police have enjoyed a great working partnership with Neighbourhood Watch so it makes perfect sense to join this up with Royal Mail where often the local Postie has the ear of the community. By working together we can improve the flow of information across rural communities that will enhance our local intelligence picture, enabling the police to have a greater insight into local issues whilst reducing crime and targeting those who prey on the vulnerable."

Margaret Filley, President of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Neighbourhood Watch Association said: "To be able to enlist and formalise the help of our local postal delivery teams, who play such an important part in our local communities, in being an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch principal of providing rapid intelligence to our Neighbourhood Policing teams will be a tremendous boost to ensuring safer communities. Working together we can all help reduce crime and opportunities for crime."

Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch
Association website-
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CRIME IN PROGRESS – RING 999
NON URGENT – RING 101