
Compton Dando & Woollard

Neighbourhood Watch

Issue 18

November 2008

VILLAGES AND COMMUNITY

Over the last few months the main problem in the heart of Compton Dando has been a number of **cars parking outside the church** where the driver and passengers seem to be young people smoking, drinking and leaving rubbish around their cars when they leave. Some of the rubbish indicates they have possibly been using illicit substances and so we need to deter them from thinking they have found a quiet place in Compton Dando. Please could you make a point of walking (in pairs, ideally) up to and around the church, looking interested and proprietorial. Take a note of any car numbers, their descriptions, details of time and date and call the police on 0845 456 7000 and ask them to pass on the information to the **EK121 Beat Team** or to Harriette who can get the information to them for you.

We have had two incidents in **Woollard** in October, when there was a **burglary** and then, at a nearby property, an **attempted burglary** when the occupier returned to find someone in her home. The police are continuing to make enquiries into a possible suspect for the second of these.

Much earlier in the year Harriette found a very new looking **number plate from a trailer** in the hedge between Woollard and Compton Dando and on passing it to an officer to return it to its rightful owner it appears that it was from a trailer which had been **stolen from Keynsham** only a day or so earlier.

There has been one reported theft of domestic fuel oil in Compton Dando, but like many of us the cap and vents on the tank were not locked so it was difficult to know when it had actually happened.

General advice is to make it difficult to see your tank, awkward to open it and, ideally, use a banded (double skin) tank which is difficult to drill into. There are locks available and you should first contact your oil supplier or tank supplier for guidance.

Otherwise we are lucky enough to have had very few incidents and to live in a beautiful, peaceful area.

Several people have said that it's been a while since they have seen our local **Police Community Support Officer, Sarah Hewlett**, from Keynsham Police Station. She has been catching up with some holiday and then covering for a colleague in Saltford. She has been spreading herself very thinly but will be back to normal soon! Use the police number shown at the overleaf to contact her.

Seasonal Advice

Next year we will be doing a **"Village Clean Up"** again but the next churchyard cleanup on 10th January 2009 at St Mary's, Compton Dando. Meanwhile please could everyone (with or without their dogs) walking the lanes keep on **picking up and recycling** what they can.

This is the time of year that it is important to **"look in when you are out"** so don't forget to leave a light on or use a timer so that you don't have an unlit house for the early evenings of winter.

With regard to **domestic security** ask a friend or neighbour to help you check how hard it would be to break into your home. How would you get into your house if you locked yourself out? Do you keep

SEASONAL ADVICE

car and shed keys near a door or window? How easy would it be to break in, steal them and then steal valuable tools or vehicles? If you need advice there is lots available on the web, or you may be able to ask your house insurer or arrange for a survey by the local Bobby Van or Crime Reduction Officer

Credit Crunch? Although we all have chip-and-pin cards now it seems that there are increasing numbers of cases where they are copied (without our knowledge) and can be used abroad months later. Harriette recently had a call from her card security to check the validity of the purchase of a train ticket to London. (She had actually booked it!) Apparently transactions are being made in countries, such as America and South Africa, where chip-and-pin is not used. So ideally use your credit card, not debit card, which gives access to your bank account, always check your statements and report any anomalies immediately to the card company.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CALENDARS 2009

Monthly advice, useful contact numbers as well as prize winning pictures from watch members from across Avon and Somerset.

Only £1.00

available from Harriette: 490445.

New NHW website www.mynhw.co.uk

lots of advice, news and an online quiz – see how you do – Harriette only got 69% on her first go!

Printed with thanks to
Keynsham Police Station

Useful Numbers

Police non-urgent calls: 0845 456 7000

to report all incidents. Remember to say that you are in the Keynsham Sector of the Bath District - calls will be transferred as necessary. Ask for a log number and for your call to be tagged "NHW".

For crime in progress or immediate police response 999

0800 555 111

To give anonymous information: calls are free from a landline and you could get a reward. Calls are not recorded.

Compton Dando Neighbourhood Watch

Diary dates

Local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators

Harriette Dottridge, Court Hill
House, Compton Dando,
(490445)

Steve Whitmore, Brook
Cottage, Woollard, (490543)

Clive Howarth, (deputy)
(490644)

New to the area, worried about something unusual or just want to do something to make your community better? Then give one of us a ring and we'll try to help or put you in touch with someone who can.

Keep this page

Council Connect

01225 394041

councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk

B&NES Council customer service: they pass on messages to council departments, advise on things like rubbish collection dates, and you can report pot-holes and fly-tipping.

Consumer Direct

08454 04 05 06

Regionally based advisors are specially trained to give practical advice on all kinds of consumer issues: from problems with cars to faulty household appliances

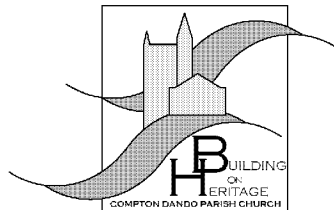
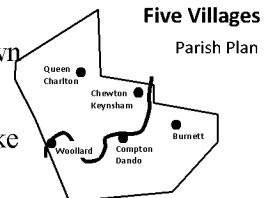
Parish Plan Questionnaire is here!

Look out for your Parish Plan questionnaire which should drop through your letterbox soon!

This is based on matters you have raised over the last few months. There is one for every person in the parish, including a version for youngsters. We ask everyone to fill out their own copy so that we get everyone's views.

We have tried to make it easy to complete because we know everyone is busy, so please take a few minutes to answer the questions. It will make a difference.

If you need more copies or if you would like it emailed to you please contact Pamela Cole on 490488 or pam@pamelacole.co.uk or in Woollard: Colin Taylor: 490672 or colintaylor698@btinternet.com



Next Church Working Party Date:
10th January 2009

All welcome, bring working gloves, secateurs, rake or just energy, spend an hour or so and help keep St Mary's spruce.

Anytime from 9am onwards.

Compton Dando Community Association
01761 490487 or email: liz_stanbury@btinternet.com

Meetings held on the 3rd Thursday of the month in the hall at 7.30pm – everyone welcome:

20th November 2008 - meeting
18th December 2008 - meeting
23rd January 2009 - Burns Night

For more dates and lots of other information check out the village website:

www.compton-dando.org