

Adur NHW Newsletter



Lancing & Sompting Issue

June 2023

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Local Crime

Between 2nd & 5th of May a Land Rover was entered and items stolen.

9th May Tools were stolen from a building site in Lancing.

If you witness any suspicious activity, please contact Sussex Police on 101, report it online or call us on 999 if it's happening now.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/vehicle-safe-and-sound/>

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/protect-home-crime/secure-shed-garage/>

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/protect-home-crime/keep-burglars-out-property/>

Lancing & Sompting Burglaries & Vehicle Crime

Specific details of Burglaries & Vehicle crime are no longer provided by Sussex Police.



Lancing Community Hub - Thursday 6th July - 14:00 Hrs to 16:00 Hrs - Lancing Parish Hall

Thursday 3rd August - 14: 00 Hrs to 16:Hrs

Keep Lancing Lovely - Beach Clean - Sunday 25th June from 10 am.

See the latest Alerts at : [https:// worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/](https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/)

www.lancingnhw.org.uk

Fire safety warning for parents with young children

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is urging parents to keep matches and lighters out the reach of young children to help keep them safe from fire.

Firefighters have attended two fires caused by matches and lighters in the hands of young people so far this month.

West Sussex Fire & Rescue's Head of Prevention, Nicki Peddle, said: "It's understandable for children to be curious about fire, so it's vital that as parents and carers we can spot fire risks in our home and take action to reduce them, this will keep our families and homes safe from harm.

"The sole purpose of matches and lighters is to start fires, and when started, they can burn rapidly and become out of control. In the wrong hands, these items can be extremely dangerous and therefore must be kept locked away and stored out of reach of children.

"We also have an online home fire safety check tool available which will assist you in looking at the fire risks in your home, and will give advice on how to reduce them."

Matches and lighters fire safety tips:

- Never allow a child or young person to play with lighters or matches

- Keep all matches and lighters out of reach in a high cabinet, preferably a locked one

- Teach young children to tell a grown-up when they see matches or lighters

- Encourage children to tell an adult if someone suggests that they should play with matches or lighters

If you have concerns about a young person's behaviour and believe they could be at risk of deliberately starting a fire, you can contact our FireWise team on 0330 2222 515 or email firewise@westsussex.gov.uk.

Immobilise (<https://www.immobilise.com>)

The UK's national property register is celebrating its twentieth anniversary this year and is now the world's largest free register of possession ownership details. Over 25 million users worldwide have registered over 35 million items of property since its creation.

The Immobilise register is also linked with CheckMEND (<https://www.checkmend.com>), the second-hand stolen property database, which can help detect stolen items and prevent them from being traded.

Les Gray, one of the founders of Immobilise, commented: "When we first launched Immobilise, we knew its potential. To watch it flourish over the years and become the critical tool against crime that we knew it could be, has been really quite special."

Any item with a unique identifier can be registered on Immobilise – from mobile phones and laptops to bikes, jewellery and musical instruments. If your item doesn't have a serial number, or anything else that might help to identify it, using a marking product like a UV pen or asset label could prove useful as adding a touch of uniqueness will help to identify you as the owner. A number of marking products are sold through the Immobilise online shop, but the system will accept any identifiers, from any third party.

Items labelled as having been being registered with Immobilise reduces the likelihood of their being stolen, and households displaying Immobilise stickers are less likely to be targeted by burglars.

Newsletter

If you received this Newsletter by email it means you are registered correctly on the Alert System, but please let us know if you change your address or phone numbers.

If you did not receive the Newsletter by email you need to register at :

<http://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk> - it's free .

Neighbourhood Watch Week begins on Saturday 3rd June and is part of the Month of Community movement, which is aimed at creating a focal point in the year for bringing people together, celebrating good work in our communities and helping bolster their resilience in these difficult times.

Neighbourhood Watch Week's theme this year is "making this a better place to live" and focuses on:

- being active in your community
- inviting more people to join your scheme and
- celebrating our volunteers by nominating a Coordinator for a Volunteer Recognition Award – nominations open on 3rd June

A "better place to live" is, of course, what we would all like to achieve – whether it be making new friendships, looking after our environment, supporting our neighbours, reducing isolation and loneliness, or working together to reduce fear of crime and the likelihood of its occurrence in the first place.

Being more active also means that you can hear additional concerns within your community, and that members of your group can support each other more. This could, among other things, take the form of organising litter picks and conducting visual street audits, which would include identifying instances of vandalism and graffiti and reporting them to the appropriate authorities – thus reducing the likelihood of your neighbourhood falling into neglect and decay, thereby attracting the likes of drug dealers who are on the lookout for areas where their activities will go unnoticed.

Neighbourhood Watch has a tested brand recognition of 93% but it is clear that not everyone knows what we do, and we need your help with this. By being more active and vocal within your community, the profile of Neighbourhood Watch is raised and, more importantly, we will prove more effective in preventing crime, reducing loneliness and isolation, and strengthening our communities.

From ideas and tips on how to be more active, to conversation starters and membership flyers, Neighbourhood Watch has everything you need to celebrate the week. For more information, visit ourwatch.org.uk/nwwweek; and, to help us build momentum, please follow and share our posts on our social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram).
Tim Drew

Neighbourhood Watch has recently highlighted "PayPal" scams whereby scammers trick users into clicking fake PayPal links and entering their credit card details. In general, PayPal is a safe online payment system, because end-to-end encryption and two-factor authentication secure transactions, but scammers have many different methods of defrauding unsuspecting users.

As with many scams, crooks use social engineering tactics to trick you into thinking the order or payment is real. The most common PayPal scams include phishing scams, overpayment scams, shipping address scams, advance-payment scams, fake or hacked account scams and fake payment scams.

Please note that primary email address for PayPal is paypal@mail.paypal.com, and this is the address most commonly used to send account statements and notifications of changes. PayPal sends receipts using service@paypal.com. The email address paypal.me is also a legitimate domain.

If you think you've fallen victim to a PayPal scam, secure your account immediately by changing your account password to something strong and secure and notify PayPal at their Resolution Centre if you have lost money as a result of the scam (you may get a refund); additionally, report the scam to the police, as this may at least deter the scammer from striking again later on.

You can mitigate this threat, first by verifying the authenticity of each email and transaction before sharing personal or financial information, or before sending goods to a buyer; and, secondly, by following these basic steps:

- Check for spelling errors or an unusual domain in the email address, such as .vip, .gdn, .win
- Remember that, if something seems too good to be true, it probably is.
- Don't click links in emails appearing to be from PayPal, but log in to PayPal directly and go from there.
- Don't use unfamiliar delivery services
- Never share personal information such as passwords or other login data.
- Sign up for PayPal's Seller Protection Program for additional fraud protection if you sell online.

Finally, remember to keep your own device protected – Avast One, Neighbourhood Watch's partner, has a package that should go far towards nullifying any online threat (<https://www.avast.com/en-gb/avast-one#pc>).