



# Neighbourhood Watch Report 2013

We now have 106 households registered and receiving updates by e-mail, but I am always happy to hear from other residents if you would like to sign up to the scheme. If you need to update your email address or just want to join up to the scheme email me at [waldringfieldnw@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:waldringfieldnw@yahoo.co.uk)

## Felixstowe Safer Neighbourhood Team

The contact details for this area are:

Felixstowe Police Station  
32 High Road West  
Felixstowe  
Suffolk  
IP11 9JE

Local non emergency telephone - 101

Email – [Felixstowe.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Felixstowe.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

The Police continue to warn about walk in thefts to unlocked property. But just recently a **locked** garage in Sandy Lane was burgled for the second time since last June. It probably happened during the night and whilst the main house was occupied. A large number of items of small and large electrical equipment were stolen, including a ride on mower. It is thought that they knew what they would find and came equipped to remove the larger items. Theft from mainly unsecured vehicles continues to be an ongoing problem. Earlier in the winter there was a spate of oil burglaries, although that seems thankfully to be dying down now the spring is nearly here. Last year there was again number of marine thefts, mainly boat engines, and Police warn everyone to remain vigilant for this season just getting underway.

The Suffolk Police are continuing to encourage people to join Police Direct for prompt notification of any local problems and started their own Facebook group.

The village website now has a Neighbourhood Watch section and the address is:

<http://waldringfield.onesuffolk.net/about-us/neighbourhood-watch/>

## School Laptops

There has been a large number of break ins to Suffolk Schools with the aim of stealing computers and laptops over the last 4-5 months. Over £100,000 worth of equipment has been stolen. It would appear to be very organised and Police have asked everyone to be extra vigilant around schools and report anything suspicious as soon as possible.

## Caravan Thefts

The Police recently caught two women in London in possession of a caravan stolen from the Bucklesham area. This is because a tracker had been fitted to the vehicle. This would seem to be part of another organised group as all evidence was removed from the site including the cut and removed hitch locks, and wheel locks. Fences and gates were also cut or removed to gain access to these winter storage sites.

## Neighbourhood Return

There is a new service currently being trialled in Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire called Neighbourhood Return.

If you have ever lost a child or vulnerable adult in your care – even briefly, then you know how stressful it can be. Across England Wales about 100 people a day get lost for the first time due to dementia. And this is a growing problem. It is very upsetting for their spouses and family and can

occasionally be life-threatening to the person with dementia. Frequently, it is the trigger point for the family to decide the individual will have to be admitted to a care home.

Neighbourhood Return is an innovative service to help address the problem – and is being set up by the Neighbourhood Home Watch Network as a new initiative funded by a Silver Dreams BIG Lottery grant. Starting in Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire, they are recruiting a large number of volunteers, including Neighbourhood Watch members, who can be available to help look for someone who is missing. It is only expected that an hour or two of help would be required when called, which is expected to average only once every three to six months.

They have developed the Neighbourhood Alert software used by NHWN nationally and an increasing number of police forces, so that volunteers can register to offer this help. The system will also enable carers of people with dementia registering the details of their loved ones in advance which will help if they do need an urgent search. They have partnered with Dudley Telecare Services who will run a national call centre and use a bespoke module of the software to co-ordinate searches with volunteers – and liaise with the police as necessary.

James Maddan, NHWN Chair, comments: “The Neighbourhood and Home Watch Network is all about building community capacity to respond to issues affecting residents safety. I am delighted that the lottery has approved our grant application for this service that was devised by a far-sighted consultant in dementia at the Oxford Health NHS Trust. It should also relieve some pressure on local police forces who may otherwise be called out to look for a missing dementia sufferer.”

The new NR Service Manager is Deborah Ginns and you can find out more about the service and register as a volunteer, a carer or just to receive updates at: [www.ourturn.org.uk](http://www.ourturn.org.uk).

## **Non Emergency Telephone Number**

Last year Suffolk Constabulary introduced the new telephone number 101 for people who want to talk to the police about non-urgent issues. Instead of ringing the current switchboard number of 01473 613500, people should dial 101. It has been up and running for over a year now and seems to work well.

The new number should be used to report issues which don't require an emergency response. For example, people should ring 101 if:

- their vehicle has been stolen;
- their property has been damaged;
- they suspect drug use or dealing;
- if they want to give the police information about crime in their area;
- if they would like to speak to a local police officer.

101 will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. When calling 101, the system determines the caller's location and connects them to the police force covering that area. People who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired can textphone 18001 101.

A recorded message announces which police force the caller is being connected to and gives them a choice if they are on a boundary between two or more forces.

The new 101 service is not for emergencies. In an emergency, people should always ring 999 for immediate police assistance. An emergency is where:  
life is in danger

- a serious offence is in progress
- a suspect is at a scene
- an alleged offender is identified at any location
- there is an imminent likelihood of violence/damage to a person's property
- there is a serious road traffic collision