



OLD LANE PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

Autumn 2009

Hi Everyone

We hope you found the Summer edition of the Newsletter informative and useful. If you have any comments on this newsletter or other concerns affecting the Old Lane Park estate please e-mail them to oldlanehw@btinternet.com or contact your Street Coordinator/Rep (see list at the end).

May we also welcome any newcomers to the estate since the Summer edition was circulated.

Annual General Meeting

An annual general meeting of the Old Lane Park Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association will be held on Monday 2 November at the Pear Tree Public House, Leyland Road commencing at 7pm prompt. It is some time since an annual general meeting was held but it is hoped you will find time to come along and discuss issues affecting the Old Lane Park estate and its residents. Beverley Warburton, the Crime Prevention Officer for South Ribble will be attending and it also hoped that Andy Alty, the Community Beat Officer for our area, will also be attending. They will be able to answer any questions you have about Neighbourhood Watch issues. If you have any issues that you want to be discussed at the AGM please E-mail them to John Kidman at oldlanehw@btinternet.com.

Finally we would like to thank Chris, the Manager of the Pear Tree Public House, for allowing us to use the premises for our meeting.

Logo Competition for the younger members of the Old Lane Park Estate

During the school summer holiday we ran a competition to design a logo for the Old Lane Park Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association. Judging the seven entries proved much more difficult than the Committee and Beverley Warburton had envisaged, as they were all of very high standard. The judges pondered over the entries before deciding that the winner in the 10 years old and under category was Rebecca Marshall and that Luke Marshall was the winner in the 11 and 16 years of age category. And the overall winner was Luke Marshall. His winning entry will be used as the logo for the Old Lane Park Neighbourhood Watch and Residents Association. Congratulations to both Rebecca and Luke and also to all the other entrants. The winners received gift vouchers and all the other entrants received a box of sweets as a thank you for participating.

The Committee would like to say a big thank you to Beverley Warburton for supporting the event by arranging funding for the prizes and for sparing the time to help us judge the entries. A big thanks you also to the Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch Association for funding the prizes.

Community Notice Board

Jim Hothersall, the Mayor of Penwortham, formally opened our new community notice board on Monday 19 October. Please make use of the community notice board which provides a means for the town, borough and County councils, the Police and other public bodies to disseminate information as well as including information about such events such as the local carnival, fireworks display and Penwortham Town Gala. Neighbourhood Watch news and information will also be posted on the notice board.

The Mayor also took the opportunity to congratulate the winners of, and all other entrants in, the recent logo competition. A picture of the Mayor with the children will be posted on both the South Ribble and Lancashire Neighbourhood Watch websites. And also watch out for the pictures in the Lancashire Evening Post.

CRIME NEWS

Over past month or so the Crime Prevention Officer for South Ribble has reported a number of incidences of the following criminal activity in neighbouring areas:

Stolen bikes and alike:

In the Penwortham and Bamber Bridge areas the theft of pedal cycles is rife with 49 stolen in the period 1 September to 13 October. A number of those stolen had been left unsecured. In Middleforth a mini moto cross bike was stolen along with bikes when a garden shed was broken into. And nearer home in Leyland Road near the Bee Lane/Cawsey roundabout a lady had her motorbike stolen after thieves cut through the chain securing it. With Christmas approaching criminals will be looking to pick up bikes etc that they can quickly sell at car boot sales and markets. Please don't make it easy picking for them on our estate by leaving bikes, scooter or similar toys (ie tractors) unattended at any time. The Crime Prevention Officer has issued the following advice:

- fit a substantial lock to your shed door and perhaps invest in a shed alarm.
- security mark your property in as many places as you can with your house number and postcode.
- take photographs of valuable property.
- try to secure pedal cycles to the structure of the building they are being stored in (ensure these are property marked).
- always ensure that your garage is kept locked at all times.

Each Street Rep has one of these pens that you can borrow to mark valuable and valued possessions. A number of residents did take the opportunity on Sunday 2 August to have your postcode and house number etched onto your bike(s), lawnmower, etc. If you missed this event but would be interested in getting your bikes, lawnmowers etc marked with your postcode please E-mail John Kidman on oldlanenhw@btinternet.com. If there is sufficient we will try organising a further event.

Doorstep Callers and Cold Calling:

In September some areas in Leyland were targeted with leaflets, offering to tarmac driveways etc. Often these people will target an area and charge residents several hundreds of pounds for a job that is very often sub-standard. Once you have handed over your money, you will be very unlikely to receive a refund if you are not happy with the job carried out. **NEVER** be persuaded to allow someone to drive you to the bank to draw out the cash.

At the end of September there were two incidents in Leyland involving elderly residents where doorstep callers posed as water/plumbing engineers and once inside the house the offender ask the resident to watch the running whilst they stole property.

Also be aware of a company that are Cold Calling on residents in South Ribble offering a free raffle ticket which will be entered into a free prize draw for a car. Having written your details on the back of the raffle ticket, you will then receive an unsolicited telephone call to say that you have won a free carpet cleaning session. Representatives will arrange to call at your home to clean one of your carpets. **BEWARE** – Once these representatives are in your home they **WILL** try and sell you a carpet cleaner, sometimes costing hundreds of pounds and there have been complaints of hard sell techniques being used.

Trading Standards advise consumers never to deal with doorstep or cold callers. However, consumers who do should be aware that they will have a seven-day cooling off period to cancel any work agreed to, or any purchases made over £35. Any contract will not be enforceable against the customer unless information about your right to cancel is given in writing.

Change over to Digital:

The switch over to digital in our region starts on 4th November with the loss of the analogue signal for BBC2. The other analogue signals will disappear on 2nd December. Again this is a time when criminals and rogues will exploit the situation. Again the advice is not to deal with doorstep/cold callers offering to check out your TV aerials, etc. If you require a new aerial you can find a registered installer by logging on to www.rdi-lb.tv or by ringing 08456 505050.

Please make sure our estate remains safe and secure.

BE WISE, BE AWARE AND DON'T PROVIDE CRIMINALS WITH OPPORTUNITIES.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Development of the Penwortham Mill site:

Bovis Homes submitted a planning application in May 2008 to develop the Penwortham Mill and surrounding area (to build 450 houses etc). Discussions have been on going between the developer, South Ribble Borough Council (SRBC) and Lancashire County Council's Highways Department. Latest information is that SRBC Planning Committee will consider the application in December or January. So that residents can have their say SRBC have undertaken to organise a joint meeting of the Penwortham and Central Area Committees sometime in November, subject to the ongoing discussion being concluded. Watch for notices about the Area Committee meeting on the Community notice board.

Help shape our area for the future:

At the next meeting of the SRBC's Penwortham Area Committee to be held at Penwortham Girl's High School on Thursday 10 December you will have the chance to help shape our area. Councillors want to hear what makes our area tick and working together it can be made even better in the future. There will be a special community workshop with representatives from SRBC, the County Council, the Police and NHS.

This is your opportunity to get involved in raising issues important to you in developing our area for the future. Please take this opportunity; don't say after the event that you didn't have an opportunity to air your views.

EVENTS

Free Firework Display

The annual Penwortham Town Firework Display takes place on Thursday 5th November at Pear Tree Park, Middleforth Green starting at 7pm. The event organised by the Town Council is free.

Thai Boxing: World Title Fight

On Sunday 29th November Johnney Roye, a resident of our estate, will be fighting to become World Light Heavyweight Thai boxing champion. The World Title is the main event of 10 top class Muay Thai fights being held at Lava & Ignite (formally Tokyo Joe's), Church Street, Preston. If you would like to support Johnney quest for the World Title tickets are available from Total Fitness (01772 208700 or robmedcalf@totalfitness.co.uk) or Stoxy'e barbers (01772 709801) or Beastmasters (07790833030).

RESIDENTS ISSUES

Cavity Wall Insulation

Did you know that although our estate was only built five years ago the walls are not insulated? If walls aren't properly insulated around 35% of the energy you pay for goes straight through them Thus cavity wall insulation can result in savings on your energy bill. South Ribble Borough Council South Ribble Borough Council have made funding available to **all residents** of the Borough to install cavity wall. SRBC's partner/insulation contractor is A&M Insulations Ltd who have already insulated an number of house on the estate. For further information please ring SRBC on 01772 625365 or 01772 625246 or E-mail ppatel@southribble.gov.uk.

Grazing of Cattle in an adjoining field to the estate

As reported in the last newsletter a field at the end of Claytongate Drive has been rented for a year to a farmer who proposes graze cattle on it. Enquires have been made to South Ribble Borough Council and Redrow Homes to ascertain further information. As the Council has not adopted the estate they were unable to help. Redrow Homes have confirmed that there is access right to the field from the estate and as the estate's roads are public roads the farmer can use them without the need for permission. We are still trying to contact the landowner, agent or farmer to ascertain more information about their intentions.

Street Lighting

There are a number of streetlights on The Cawsey and elsewhere on the estate roads that still have not been functioning for some time (the one in The Cawsey for over a eighteen months). If you know of any lights in your road please let John Kidman know and/or contact the County Council's Highways Department at Bamber Bridge.

Speeding

Please remember that the speed limit on the estate is 20 mph. Also remember it is 30 mph on The Cawsey. With the clocks being turned back at the end of October we are faced with both dark mornings and evenings. Please take extra care and keep to the speed limit whilst driving on the estate. This is especially important at the times children are going to and returning from school. Please make sure the estate remains an accident free area.

AND FINALLY

Remember all residents/householders who live on the Old Lane Park estate are members. There is no cost for membership only that we ask you to act as a good neighbour and report anything suspicious to local police (to the Community Beat Officer) or the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

If you would like to receive news and information by E-mail please E-mail John Kidman at oldlanenhw@btinternet.com. You can be assured that your E-mail address will not be compromised and is it will never be shown on E-mails sent by the Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH COORDINATOR AND STREET REPS

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator:

John Kidman	8 Eavesham Close	oldlanenhw@btinternet.com
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Street Reps

Bellfield Close	Angela Gibbons	1 Bellfield Close
Claytongate Drive	Karen & Daren James	6 Claytongate Drive
1 – 25 Cromwell Way	Donna Wainwright	18 Cromwell Way
26 – 48 Cromwell	Emma Crotty	35 Cromwell Way
Eavesham Close	John Kidman Jane Davidson	8 Eavesham Close 6 Eavesham Close
Handshaw Drive	Vacant - A volunteer is required; please contact John Kidman John Kidman	8 Eavesham Close