



### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER:** EDITION 19 – SPRING 2021



Police in Causeway Coast and Glens are asking residents to take extra care when leaving their homes or heading to bed.

Crime Prevention Officer Judith Lavery said: "A number of creeper style burglaries in neighbouring Districts are giving us cause for concern therefore this is an opportune time to remind householders to close, lock and check all windows and doors before leaving your property or heading to bed. "In fact we would suggest that keeping your doors locked throughout the day will significantly reduce the chances of being burgled. With more of us spending increased amounts of time at home we can become complacent in terms of basic home security.

"Just nipping to the shop, leaving something out to the bin or spending time in your garden while your front door is unlocked, can make you an easy target for burglars. Now is the time to reinstate these simple steps and remind others in your household to do the same."

If you require further advice on home security or any other aspect of crime prevention please ring us on 101 or check out psni.police.uk. If you are aware of suspicious activity in your neighbourhood please ring us immediately. Your call could prevent a crime.



For further information and guidance about coronavirus go to the Public Health Agency or NI Direct.

## **MESSAGE** from PCSP Chairperson Councillor Oliver McMullan



Welcome to our 19th edition of the Causeway Coast and Glens Neighbourhood Watch newsletter. I like most of you, had hoped that as we entered into 2021 we would see the challenges we faced throughout 2020 lessen. The latest restrictions have been difficult but essential. We must all to play our part in reducing the demand and pressure on our Health system.

The resilience of the Causeway Coast and Glens community has been immense throughout the past year. I continue to see and hear about everyday acts of kindness from both friends and strangers which really foster a positive community spirit helping each other through this difficult time. Schemes such as neighbourhood watch have been instrumental in helping to prevent further isolation whilst also providing support and advice to help prevent crime and for that I am thankful.

Unfortunately, I have heard of many scams this year where unscrupulous individuals have used the COVID crisis as an opportunity to steal money and identities where they can however, I am in no doubt that by sharing crime prevention advice and making others aware of such scams, many criminals have been prevented from prospering.

I would encourage everyone to help reduce crimes like these by familiarising themselves with crime prevention advice via the PCSP facebook page, by talking to our local crime prevention officer and by taking the advice of organisations such as the ScamwiseNI partnership.

As Chairperson of the Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP, I recently appealed for public assistance in reporting crime to the PSNI and I would reiterate that message here within the neighbourhood watch network. In 2021 the PCSP have planned several initiatives to take forward in the next year. These included initiatives to help make young people safer on the roads and online, support for older and vulnerable individuals as well as disability groups to stay and address fear of crime, working with Women's Aid and Criminal Justice staff to help address societal abuse and also to help support vulnerable people through the use of multiagency support hub. These are just a few ways that the Partnership are working to make the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough safer.

This action plan will build on previous good work as well focusing on the development of new projects. One new scheme we aim to develop focuses on supporting those with disabilities to stay safe. I would encourage anyone working with individuals with special needs or disabilities to get involved in shaping our new community safety focused initiative by contacting the PCSP to register their group to be involved in the consultation process.

You will see at the back of this edition a list of useful contacts including how to contact the PCSP. Please do not hestitate to make contact if you wish to find out more about the work of the Partnership or if you have any concerns you wish to raise.

**Best Wishes and Stay Safe!** Oliver



Proactive patrols and vehicle check points continue to be part of the District response to preventing the spread of COVID and supporting our health service colleagues.

District Commander Superintendent lan Magee explains: "Everyone needs to continue to follow public health guidance to help suppress the transmission of the virus to support and protect and support our Health Service. It is vitally important that people take the time to understand what is and is not permitted under the current regulations, what is advised by way of guidance regarding travel, and to take personal responsibility for stopping the spread of this virus.

"It is encouraging that the vast majority of people are complying with the health protection regulations however, we have also seen evidence that some people still are not taking the advice to stay at home and follow the guidance with regard to travel and mixing of households. "We will continue to engage with people and explain what we need them to do and encourage them to follow the restrictions that are in place but for the small numbers of people who are continuing to ignore the restrictions, it is inevitable that penalty notices will be issued."

From March 2020 until January 24th, 2021 police in Causeway Coast and Glens District have issued 217 COVID related notices and 78 Community Resolution Notices.

# BEWARE OF COVID SCAMS



Causeway Coast and Glens Crime Prevention Officer Judith Lavery is working with local medical centres to provide support and information to local residents on a range of issues, including advice on the latest scams and how to protect yourself.

"Scams often target the most vulnerable in our community so this is an opportunity to provide support and information on how to recognise a scam, particularly those linked to COVID and the vaccination roll-out.

"If you receive a phone-call, text or email advising that you are 'eligible' for the vaccination please be cautious. If you are asked to provide information such as your name, address or bank details then it is likely to be a scam. Never give out this information or click on links. Check with a trusted family member or friend. The PSNI Facebook page and the ScamwiseNI Facebook page are also trusted sources of information relating to scams."

# STOP FIRE

# **OBVIOUS DANGERS**

- Take extra care smoking if you are drowsy, taking prescription drugs or if you have been drinking. It's too easy to fall asleep and not notice that a cigarette is still burning.
- Don't smoke in bed. It's too easy to fall asleep and set bedding on fire.
- Always use proper ashtrays.
- Make sure when you put out a cigarette, it is really out.
- Take responsibility and keep matches and lighters away from children.



## LOOKING AFTER YOUR MENTAL WELLBEING

This year has been unprecedented. We have all had to deal with issues caused by the Covid-19 pandemic that have been new and stressful and our mental health has been challenged like never before.

Recognising that people often feel uncomfortable talking about their emotions and how they feel, the five Health and Social Care Trusts, Public Health Agency (PHA) and the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) came together this year to roll out a regional campaign which linked **World Suicide Prevention Day** in September and **World Mental Health Day** in October.

**'Working Together to Promote Mental Wellbeing'** aimed to promote the positive mental health and wellbeing of everyone living in Northern Ireland. It focused on looking after ourselves and each other using the Take 5 Steps to Wellbeing approach and signposting to the wide range of local support and resources available.

To build further on the campaign, an interactive Action Pack was developed which highlights the campaign's key messages and signposts to services, helplines, training and sources of support for communities, schools, families and workplaces.

A key element of the resource is looking after yourself first. This is a concept which should be no longer a luxury but a necessity in these difficult times, particularly when people may be tempted to turn to risky behaviours such as alcohol and drugs in an attempt to feel better. The pack uses the Take 5 approach - connecting with others, being more active, taking notice of what's around us, learning and giving as a framework to make positive changes to our lives and our mental wellbeing.

Information about the 'Working Together to Promote Mental Wellbeing' campaign is available on the Minding Your Head website along with a host of other useful information to support your mental health and wellbeing at this time on the Covid Wellbeing Hub.

For direct access to Action pack and resources visit

www.pha.site/ActionPack

## **USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS PSNI CONTACT DETAILS**



CONTACT NAME	RANK	ROLE	STATION	MOBILE NO.	EMAIL
lan Magee	Superintendent	District Commander	Coleraine	07801738790	lan.Magee@psni.police.uk
Martin Reid	Chief Inspector	Chief Inspector	Coleraine	07917 176393	Martin.Reid@psni.police.uk
Rory Bradley	Chief Inspector	Chief Inspector	Coleraine	07879693881	Rory.bradley@psni.police.uk
Colin Shaw	Inspector	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Limavady	07795152784	colin.shaw@psni.police.uk
David Burns	Inspector	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Ballycastle	07557 261 940	David.Burns2@psni.police.uk
Paul Patton	T/Inspector	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Coleraine	07540470208	Paul.Patton@psni.police.uk
Diane Roxborough	Inspector	Local Policing team - A	Coleraine/Limavady	07920186765	Diane.roxborough@psni.police.uk
Tony Moore	T/Inspector	Local Policing Team - B	Coleraine/Limavady	07764638360	Tony.Moore@psni.police.uk
Marty Mullan	T/Inspector	Local Policing Team - C	Coleraine/Limavady	07917384635	Marty.mullan@psni.police.uk
Stephen McCafferty	Inspector	Local Policing Team - D	Coleraine/Limavady	07920186765	Stephen.Mccafferty@psni.police.uk
Bjorn O'Brien	Inspector	Local Policing Team - E	Coleraine/Limavady	07920186765	bjorn.obrien@psni.police.uk
Darrell McIvor	Sergeant	Community Planning	Coleraine	07796656962	Darrell.mcivor@psni.police.uk
Luke Moyne	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Limavady	07827925603	Luke.moyne@psni.police.uk
Richard Jack	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Coleraine	07786888384	Richard.Jack@psni.police.uk
Robert Ennis	Sergeant	Neighbourhood Policing Team	Ballycastle	07771357656	Robert.Ennis@psni.police.uk

Causeway Coast and Glens PCSP would like to hear your view on any aspect of Policing and Community Safety; Coleraine: Cloonavin, 66 Portstewart Road, BT52 1EY Ballymoney: Riada House, 14 Charles Street, BT53 6DZ Ballycastle: Sheskburn House 7 Mary Street, BT54 6QH

Further information on the PCSP and its members can be found: www.causewaycoastandglens.gov. uk/live/policing-and-community-safety-partnership

Email: pcsp@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk Call: 028 703 47034

#### **OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS IN AN EMERGENCY CALL - 999** PSNI non emergency number is 101 Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111 24 Hours Domestic & Sexual Violence Helpline - 0808 802 1414 Causeway & Mid Ulster Women's Aid - 028 703 56573 Fovle Women's Aid - 028 714 16800 Crime Prevention Officer - 07764638397 **COVID-19 COMMUNITY HELPLINE 0800 802 0020** Childline - 0800 1111 Action Fraud - 0300 123 2040 Trading Standards - 0300 123 6262 All information stated is correct at time of print and is subject to change.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS SUPPORTED BY THE NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

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