

LOOK-OUT

Currie East Neighbourhood Watch

www.cenw.org.uk

Message from the Chair

Neil Dickson

As another successful Edinburgh Festival comes to a close, both the City and residents seek to revert to some sense of normality, we may ask ourselves – when was summer and did the sunshine last more than three consecutive days? You may reflect that it always seems to rain during Wimbledon and during the Tattoo, but probably does not rain as often as we think!

So, while you may have enjoyed a summer holiday, or be thinking of a short break before winter sets in, give some thought to the issue that criminals do not take time off as cyber theft is a 24 x 7 global industry. This is a major problem of unsolicited phone calls selling PPI solutions, e-mails and adverts selling goods at unbelievably low prices, or entries to competitions promising the likelihood of rich rewards if you phone a premium telephone number. To learn more about how to manage such financial risks from scrupulous companies seeking to plunder your savings, please make an effort to attend this year's AGM as it will be worth your while.

AGM & Special Event

Monday 9th October 2017, Gibson Craig Halls

To coincide with the AGM there will be a special presentation by Police Scotland on the following subjects:

- **Safety in the Local Community – latest report**
- **Everyday Fraud – presentation on how to take preventative actions**

Entry from 7:15pm for 7:30pm start, with refreshments provided.

Police Scotland - 101 (or 999 in an emergency)

Proposed Changes to CENW Constitution

At the aforementioned AGM, you the membership will be asked to approve proposed changes to the Currie East Neighbourhood Watch Constitution. The Constitution was last revised in 2014, with the 2017 revision reflecting a greater emphasis and encouragement of members to be *Considerate Neighbours* through everyday actions in the local community. The format of the proposed changes is now based on the official Neighbourhood Watch Scotland template. Copies of the revised Constitution (2017) are available to members attending the AGM and, subject to approval of the proposed changes, the new Constitution will be posted on CENW website www.cenw.org.uk. Should you wish a copy of the Constitution, please request this using our contact details at the bottom of this Look-Out.

Are You a Considerate Neighbour? If So, CENW Needs You!

Are you willing to participate in initiatives in the local community, to reduce the fear of crime, improve police and community liaison, and increase community safety? Are you willing to give about an hour a month, excluding school holidays, to support the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the Watch area?



The Watch would not be able function without the much appreciated help of our committee members. In order that the Watch can continue, if you would be willing to get more involved by joining us on the committee, then please contact the Chair (details on the last page), or alternatively join us at the AGM where you can find out more from our committee members.

Police Incident Report

Local residents should be assured that they live in a safe neighbourhood that has a relatively low level of crime in comparison to some other areas of Edinburgh. Police Scotland latest note of incidents covering June/July 2017 is as follows:

**Housebreaking* - Local pharmacy window smashed and a small quantity of prescription drugs taken. Male identified and arrested

**Theft* - Trials and quad bikes stolen from local farm. Theft of number plates from local educational establishment. Numerous thefts of foods from local convenience stores.

**Damage to Property and Transport* - Sky dish knocked off local pub. Bus damaged by stone being thrown when bus was at a stop. Garden plant pots damaged.

Free Opt-Out of Charity Cold Calling

If you, a family member, or vulnerable neighbour is receiving unsolicited phone calls, texts, e-mails or letters from charities seeking donations, or going as far as to seek to entice you to bequeath monies in your will, then help is now at hand. The Fundraising Preference Service (FPS) was launched in July 2017 as a free service to help you to stop unwanted direct marketing, including fundraising communications, you receive.

To access the service, you will need an e-mail address or a mobile number. If you do not have either of these, then the good news is that you can authorise a friend or neighbour to register on your behalf. Visit www.public.fundraisingpreference.org.uk or call the helpline on 0300 3033517.

Similar free opt-out services to stop unwanted communications are as follows:

**Telephone Preference Service (TPS)* – register to opt-out of unsolicited sales and marketing calls. Visit www.tpsonline.org.uk or call 0345 070 0707.

**Mail Preference Service (MPS)* – register to have your name and home address removed from lists used by direct contact organisations. Visit www.mpsonline.org.uk or call 0207 291 3310.

**Royal Mail's Door-to-Door Opt-Out Service* - a service that will stop unsolicited, unaddressed mail being delivered by the postman. Call 0345 266 0858.

There are also various telephone providers and manufacturers that offer call protect services to combat nuisance calls, refer to your telephone service provider or visit a retailer who sells such equipment.

General Matters

**Disappearing ATM:* when visiting Currie Post Office, you may observe that the ATM has disappeared. Seemingly the cost of converting the machine to dispense the new (plastic) notes was uneconomic. However, the good news is that cash can be obtained over the counter without incurring a fee charge.

**Pub Reopening:* planning has been submitted for a refurbishment and enlargement of the Woodhall pub. Whilst this may not be of interest to many it may be considered better to have the premises back in use rather than the building fall into disrepair.



<https://www.facebook.com/currieeastneighbourhoodwatch/>

Look-Out is produced by a group of volunteers from the CENW Committee.

Articles for inclusion in the Newsletter are welcomed. Please send contributions via email to ***lookout@cenw.org.uk*** or contact the Chair (details below).

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The views expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views held by the Editors or the Currie East Neighbourhood Watch scheme.