



WATCH WORD

For

Leicester & Leicestershire

Newsletter of CITY & COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – (LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE)

Working in SUPPORT of LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE.

Charity No. 1072275

Issue 16/2017

The City & County Neighbourhood Watch is here to represent the concerns of members and their families. We operate entirely outside the police chain of command, so we can always promise an independent and confidential service

Working in SUPPORT of LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

CITY & COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (LEICESTER & LEICESTERSHIRE)

SAVE THE DATE! - THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2017 - 7.30PM

CITY & COUNTY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

MEMBERS YEARLY MEETING

ST THOMAS MORE CHURCH HALL

Have you visited City and County Neighbourhood Watch (Leicester & Leicestershire) Website recently?

www.neighbourhoodwatchleicester.net

Keep up to date with the latest news: Number of articles (as at 17 April 2017)

LOCAL NEWS – Blaby District: 116 – Charnwood Borough: 245 – Harborough District: 176 -

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough: 204 - Leicester City: 993 – Leicestershire County: 213 –

Melton Borough: 88 – North West Leicestershire District: 262 – Oadby & Wigston Borough:

94 – Rutland County: 10

EAST MIDLANDS NEWS – Derbyshire: 2,183 – Lincolnshire: 802 – Northamptonshire: 1,524 –

Nottinghamshire: 769

NATIONAL CRIME AGENCY - 215

FACEBOOK GROUPS

Why not consider joining a Facebook Group for your Area. You will then be able to comment and discuss issues with others in your area, on topics that are of interest to you.

Blaby District: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BlabyNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/>

Charnwood Borough: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CharnwoodNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/>

Harborough District: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HarboroughNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/>

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HinckleyBosworthNeighbourhoodWatch/>

Leicester City: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeicesterNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/>

Leicestershire: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeicestershireNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/>

Melton Borough: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MeltonNeighbourhoodWatchCCNWA/>

North West Leicestershire District:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthWestLeicsNeighbourhoodWatch/>

Oadby & Wigston Borough:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/OadbyWigstonNeighbourhoodWatch/>

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Wonga Data Breach 13/04/2017

Wonga has confirmed a data breach where up to 250,000 accounts have been compromised. The incident is now being investigated by the police and has been reported to the Financial Conduct Authority.

Wonga has **updated their website with further information** and confirmed that they are contacting all those affected and are taking steps to protect them, but there are also some things you can do to keep your information secure.

Here's what you can do to make yourself safer:

If any of your financial details were compromised, notify your bank or card company as soon as possible.

Review your financial statements regularly for any unusual activity.

Criminals can use personal data obtained from a data breach to commit identity fraud. Consider using credit reference agencies, such as Experian or Equifax, to regularly monitor your credit file for unusual activity.

Be suspicious of any unsolicited calls, emails or texts, even if it appears to be from a company you know of.

Don't open the attachments or click on links within unsolicited emails, and never disclose any personal or financial details during a cold call.

If you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, please report it to us:

http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

New Assistant Chief Constable appointed



ACC Rob Nixon

[Download high resolution image](#)

Issued on 12/4/17 at 4:15 p.m.

The Force has appointed a new Assistant Chief Constable to join the chief officer team.

Following a successful interview process, ACC Rob Nixon was confirmed in post today (Wednesday 12 April) and will take on the new role with immediate effect.

Chief Constable Simon Cole said: “Rob is well known to the Force and has successfully passed the Senior Police National Assessment Centre, as well as the 2017 Strategic Command Course.

“He has shown a real passion and drive to make the communities of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland safer and I am delighted at this appointment. I look forward to working with Rob to protect local communities – he is a real asset to the team.”

ACC Nixon joined Leicestershire Police in 1993 as a Police Constable and has worked across the force in a variety of roles including area commander for the city, lead for Neighbourhood Policing, and most recently as Temporary Assistant Chief Constable with oversight of East Midlands Operational Support Service and East Midlands Criminal Justice Service.

He will take on the portfolio for crime, working alongside the Chief Constable, Deputy Chief Constable Roger Bannister and Assistant Chief Constable Phil Kay.

Police and Crime Commissioner Lord Willy Bach, who was part of the interview panel, said: “I’m absolutely delighted that Rob has been appointed as ACC. He is a widely known and much admired officer across the whole force area and of course he worked in the city for many years.

“He has built up a great reputation for getting things done and I’m looking forward to working with him. I’m sure he will make an outstanding ACC.”

ACC Nixon said: “I am delighted to have been offered the role here in Leicestershire.

“I am immensely proud of the force and have had the privilege of serving communities across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland in a number of different roles since I first joined as a local officer.

“In addition to everyone in the force, I would like to thank our partners and community leaders for their support over the years. I recognise there is much to do and look forward to building on those positive relationships and working together to keep our communities safe.”

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Report crime at the click of a button



[Download high resolution image](#)

Issued on 12/4/17 at 12:35 p.m.

Online crime reporting has launched in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, giving residents the ability to report incidents online.

[Online reporting](#) went live on 3 April, and aims to increase the number of ways the public can make contact with the force.

It was introduced to give people the chance to report crimes to us at their convenience in a way they felt comfortable.

Inspector Aimee Ramm is one of the officers working behind the scenes to launch online reporting.

She said: “The aim is to increase the number of ways members of the public can contact us to report crimes.

“Many people do a lot of things online now – banking, shopping and booking holidays – which were traditionally done over the phone or in person, and we want to make that shift to offering an online service too.

“We want people to be able to contact us at their own convenience, in the comfort of their own home.”

Reports will be managed by officers working in the Investigation Management Unit (IMU), and actioned as they come in.

Detective Inspector Mark Ringrose heads up the IMU. He said: “As a force – like many forces across the country – we are very phone centred with almost all crimes we deal with called in to the control room.

“With a digital shift to online, being able to report non-emergency crimes by sending an email is an appealing prospect for some members of the public.”

Online reporting is to be used for non-emergency crimes – things that traditionally the 101 number would be used for.

Any emergency, or for the reporting of a crime in action, always dial 999.

PCC Lord Willy Bach welcomed the move, saying: “It’s so important that we give people as many options as possible to contact us, to report crime or simply to ask a question. Online reporting enables people to provide details of a crime at a time and in a way that is convenient to them. I think many people will find this option useful.

“But, it is just one of a number of ways to contact the police. There are other ways to report a crime depending on circumstance and preference, including 101 and, of course, in an emergency it is a call to 999.

“This is a key part of my plan to ensure greater police visibility and easier accessibility for the public, reducing demand on resources internally while improving service delivery externally. It’s a double win.”

For reporting parking issues, noisy neighbours or issues with street lighting or traffic lights, other agencies are responsible and local councils should be contacted.

Concerns over fraud should be directed to [ActionFraud](#), and anyone with information that may help officers build up a picture of intelligence should contact [Crimestoppers](#) – all of this can be done via the links on our website: <https://leics.police.uk/reportcrime>.

Anyone with information that might help officers build up intelligence, should contact Crimestoppers anonymously.

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Insp remains undefeated in swimming championships



[Download high resolution image](#)

Issued on 11/4/17 at 12:17 p.m.

Just as much at home in the swimming pool as she is in uniform, Inspector Aimee Ramm remains undefeated in the police's swimming championships.

The 34-year-old has once again taken a clean-sweep of titles at this year's Police Sport UK event held in Belfast.

She joined the force in 2006 and won titles in her first years' service – and has never had to give them back, continuing to win time after time in the pool.

At the recent two day event she took first overall place in the 50m fly, 50m backstroke and 50m freestyle, as well as winning the 100m freestyle, 100m fly, 100m individual medley and a knock-out race. She was also crowned top overall swimmer.

Unfortunately, Aimee was not able to bring all of the trophies back to headquarters as they were too big to fit in her luggage.

She said: "I love swimming and it's great to be able to represent the force that I'm proud to be part of.

"It's an event I look forward to each year as they are always hosted by a different force, with Leicestershire hosting in 2015.

"I attend each year and fully expect to be beaten, but so far I have managed to hold on to my titles."

Aimee studied sport and exercise science at Loughborough University and completed a Masters degree in management. She swam as part of the university swimming team and was national champion in the 100m freestyle in 2007 and a multiple national medallist.

She joined Leicestershire Police in 2006 and has swam for GB Police ever since. She currently holds seven police national records and multiple individual British and European masters' records.

Aimee continues to swim with the Loughborough Town swimming team and trains with them twice a week, fitting it in around her shifts as an inspector in the control room.

She will be taking part in the World Masters Championships in Hungary in August, before competing in the Police European swimming championships in Germany in September.

Chief Constable Simon Cole said: "I believe it is really important that our officers have hobbies outside of work. Amy has consistently swum at the highest level and I am both pleased for her and proud of her for what she continues to achieve."

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Ben follows in his mum's footsteps



[Download high resolution image](#)

Issued on 11/4/17 at 8:30 a.m.

A new police recruit has taken on his mother's collar number - carrying forward his family history in Leicestershire Police.

Former PCSO Ben Hill started his new role as a police officer yesterday (Monday 10 April), having joined the force in 2012 and working in Northfields and most recently as a digital PCSO.

Ben, who is now PC 4096 Hill, said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as PCSO. It is no secret I have always wanted to be a police officer and I am delighted to finally be able to do so with Leicestershire Police. My mum, dad and stepdad were all officers with the force so I am very pleased to be following in their footsteps."

Ben's mum, Sally Gibson, joined Leicestershire Constabulary as a cadet in September 1980. Sally served at Welford Road, Wigston and Beaumont Leys before moving to the Operations Room at force headquarters in Enderby.

During her time with Leicestershire Police, Sally became an authorised firearms officer and worked on the armed response vans. She spent time as a firearms controller and football control operator before completing her 30 year service working in a small project team supporting the Operations Room.

Sally said: "I joined the force in August 1982 as WPC 96 Kirkham. With the introduction of force wide IT systems, it was decided that every officer needed a unique collar number so all female officers numbers were prefaced with 40 and I became WPC 4096 Kirkham. Upon my marriage I became WPC 4096 Hill and then the W was finally dropped and I became PC 4096 Hill.

"To find that Ben will have my collar number and will also be PC 4096 Hill makes me even prouder of his achievement. I may even cry a little at his attestation. I was very proud to serve with Leicestershire Police and know that Ben will be a great credit to the force so it is fantastic that he will do so with my old collar number."

Ben, who started his training along with 22 other new recruits, added: "This week sees two milestones for myself and my family. My mum has recently been very ill and we are pleased to be in a position to celebrate her completing a successful course of chemotherapy and me following my dream of joining the force."

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

Specials join forces to tackle illegal driving



One team - specials from Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire at the morning brief

[Download high resolution image](#)

Issued on 10/4/17 at 4:37 p.m.

Special officers from Leicestershire Police joined forces with colleagues from Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire this weekend in a cross-border operation to combat illegal road users in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

By 4pm on Saturday (8 April) the specials had spoken to more than 150 drivers across three sites, and issued 26 traffic reports, seized nine vehicles for various offences, issued five vehicle defect forms, and dealt with a fail to stop incident.

Special Inspector Matt Ablewhite, from Coalville, played a major role in organising the operation and said:

"Taking part in a cross-border operation was a brilliant experience for our specials. This was the first time that specials from the four East Midlands police forces have worked as one to target illegal road users. Not only did it enable us to cover a much larger area, but it introduced the special officers to collaborative working and building stronger relationships between the forces."

The sites, at known red routes in Market Harborough, Oakham and Castle Donington, were chosen because they are close to the borders of Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, enabling specials from the respective forces to work together on the operation.

Special officers based at Castle Donington were also joined by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and the Environment Agency, due to the sites close proximity to East Midlands Airport (EMA). They were checking vehicles for the safe carriage of goods, waste licensing and offences such as illegal red diesel. Trading Standards supported the operation at Market Harborough, on the hunt for rogue traders.

Acting Special Inspector Lee Bennett helped organise the operation with Special Inspector Ablewhite, and said:

"The planning and execution of this event was a joy. It was fantastic to work with colleagues from across the region and build relationships which will stand well into the future. I have taken great pride in organising this operation with Matt, demonstrating the positive impact that a dedicated group of volunteers can have in the local community. I would like to thank everyone involved and can honestly say this was the start of great things to come."

The operation was held as part of the force's 'FATAL4' campaign, designed to reinforce concerns about using mobile phones while driving, speeding, not wearing seatbelts and drinking and driving.

Jonathan Clarkson, spokesperson for the Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Road Safety Partnership, said: "Between January 2014 and December 2016, Leicestershire Police recorded 126,030 speed, 2952 seatbelt and 2399 mobile phone offences. Also 2680 people were arrested for drink /drug driving.

“Worryingly, in the same three year period, 300 road users, aged between 16 and 24, have been killed or seriously injured across the Leicestershire Police force area. We also saw over 1890 collisions involving this age group. All too often FATAL4 offences are a contributory factor.”

On Wednesday 1 March 2017, the [tough new penalties for driving while using a mobile phone](#) came into effect, and speeding fines are also set to rise later this month (Monday 24 April) following a review of sentencing guidelines.

If you have any questions about FATAL4 or the new regulations, please visit [Ask The Police](#).

Leicestershire Police is currently recruiting specials, so if you're interested in joining us please [visit our webpage](#) for more information on the role and how to apply.

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE

CRIME PREVENTION

PERSONAL SAFETY

. Out and About



When out and about it is important to protect yourself from thieves stealing your personal belongings:

- keep valuables out of sight including mobile phones, tablets and laptops
- keep handbags closed. Wear over the shoulder bags, having clasps facing inwards works best
- cover up jewellery with a scarf or clothing
- be aware of your surroundings if you feel unsafe change your direction
- use well lit, busy streets and a route you are familiar with
- register your belongings with immobilise.com

**ARE YOU
AN EASY
TARGET?**

Things you can do to protect yourself:

- if you regularly walk home in the dark, get a personal attack alarm - they are widely available and inexpensive
- defending yourself if you are attacked carries its own risks - be aware that your attacker may be stronger than you are, or if you are using something in self-defence, they could use that against you. It is often better just to shout loudly and run away
- if you regularly jog or cycle, consider varying your route and times you go out, particularly if you go alone. Try to avoid wooded areas and stick to well-lit roads, or main paths and open spaces. To ensure you stay fully alert to your surroundings, you should not listen to a personal stereo through headphones

Cover up campaign

In August 2015, two officers from the Belgrave area of the city came up with the idea of the 'Cover Up' campaign, as part of the work to reduce seasonal increases in gold chain snatches during the warmer months. They have been working with people on probation to sew scarves made from fabric donated by businesses in the Belgrave area to encourage Asian women to cover up their jewellery.

Neighbourhood officers have been talking with local people in community centres and temples to urge them to cover up their jewellery when they are out and about or not to wear it at all. Officers have also been giving out crime prevention leaflets in different languages and working with jewellery shops who have been giving leaflets to customers when they buy jewellery.

LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE
POLICE
SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM
NORTH WEST LEICESTER NPA

Ashby

The Ashby neighbourhood beat covers the town of Ashby and villages Packington and Ravenstone. Ashby town centre has a mix of pubs and nightclubs which means there is an extra influx of people at weekends.

The Ashby neighbourhood area has a number residential and business areas, schools and tourists attractions scattered across the area.

Each dedicated neighbourhood team is supported by the [Special Constabulary](#).

Your dedicated neighbourhood team



Sgt Colin Gardner

Collar number: 2040

I have worked in a number of roles throughout Leicestershire during my career in the Police, including a specialised anti-social behaviour team and neighbourhood policing roles which has been invaluable experience for my current post. I took up this post in September 2016 and prior to that I worked as part of the patrol and resolution team so I have a real grasp of how to get the best results from our resources in order to match the public demand. I am passionate about being out in the community with my team so I can better understand what the local priorities are and how to tackle them.

I have also taken over responsibility for the Active Choice program focusing on youth diversionary activity aimed at reducing the amount of young people who are likely commit crime and anti-social behaviour which is key to ensuring long term reductions in crime and anti-social behaviour.

- [Send an email to your neighbourhood team](#)
- Leave a voicemail for Sgt Colin Gardner by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 2040.



PC Mark Arjoo

Collar number: 1667

PC Mark Arjoo has primary responsibility for Ashby Town Centre and has worked for Leicestershire Police since 1992 and has spent all of his time in uniform roles, working on the North area and at Force Headquarters as part of the Tactical Support Group.

He came to Ashby local in 1994 and began as Local Beat Officer for Ashby town centre in 2004. During his time at Ashby he has made many contacts throughout the town and community.

Spending as much time as he can on foot patrol, PC Arjoo is always willing to listen to the community's concerns or problems. He has forged good links with the business community, pub licensees, schools, residents associations, Neighbourhood Watch and the Town Council, and works alongside them, in order to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

PC Arjoo attends as many residents association, shop-watch, pub-watch, Crime and Disorder meetings, as possible and is keen to see Ashby continue to be a safe and pleasant place for people to live and work. Please contact him with any concerns or local problems affecting the neighbourhood.

- [Send an email to your neighbourhood team](#)
- Leave a voicemail for PC Mark Arjoo by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 1667.



PCSO Dale Winson

Collar number: 6568

"I have been in the role as a PCSO since September 2009, I am based at Ashby Local Policing Unit and cover the Ashby beat which incorporates Ashby de la Zouch, Ravenstone, Packington and Normanton le Heath. I intend to help the community and be easily approachable and will take the time to listen to issues, queries and questions that the community may have. I also intend to show a high presence on the area to make myself easily accessible and known amongst the community. My aim is to work closely in the community to reduce anti-social behaviour, criminal activity and offer reassurance."

- [Send an email to your neighbourhood team](#)
- Leave a voicemail for PCSO Dale Winson by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 6568.



PCSO Jason Harriman

Collar number: 6679

I cover the Ashby neighbourhood which incorporates Ashby de la Zouch, Ravenstone, Packington and Normanton le Heath. I intend to help the community and be easily approachable and will take the time to listen to issues, queries and questions that the community may have. I also intend to show a high presence on the area to make myself easily accessible and known amongst the community. My aim is to work closely in the community to reduce anti-social behaviour, criminal activity and offer reassurance.

- [Send an email to your neighbourhood team](#)
- Leave a voicemail for PCSO Jason Harriman by calling 101 and follow the instructions to leave a message for an officer. When prompted, key in the identification number 6679.