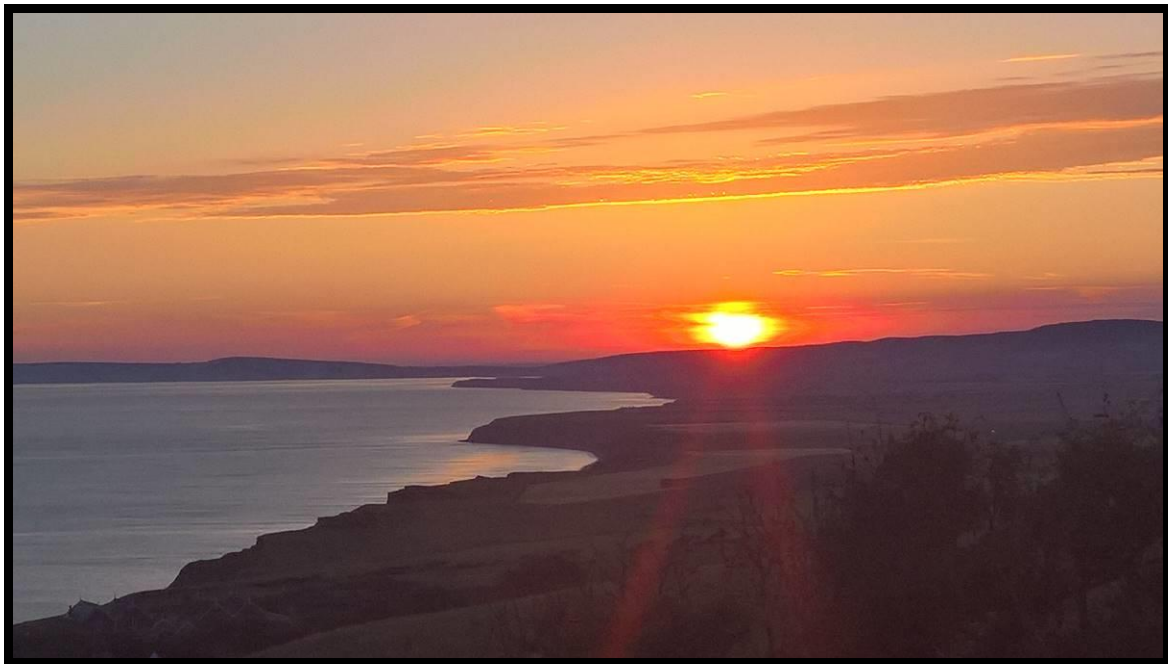




# COUNTRY WATCH

## WELCOME TO THE JULY EDITION



# REPORTED INCIDENTS DURING THE LAST MONTH

16/06/2017 – 14/07/2017

**44170231141 – NUISANCE: 17/06/2017:** Youths were seen setting a small fire in a field where straw bales were. Nothing damaged. Youths spoken to and warned.

**44170230892 – ENVIRONMENTAL: 17/06/2017:** Concerns over a hedge being cut where birds may have been nesting. Country Watch/Wildlife officer attended the incident. No signs of any birds nesting. Enquiries completed.

**44170236754 – THEFT: 21/06/2017:** Out board motor stolen from a boat in the East Cowes area.

**44170244820 – ANIMAL INJURED: 27/06/2017:** Report of a sheep worrying incident whereby informant believes dogs have attacked their sheep. Two sheep were killed and a further 3 were injured. This happened in the Gunville area. A media appeal had been released and no further information at this time.

**44170246641 – THEFT: 28/06/2017:** An outboard motor has been stolen from a fishing boat in the Niton area.

**44170248154 – ANIMAL INJURED: 29/06/2017:** 2 lambs have been attacked by dogs in the Wroxall area. One had to be put down. No idea as to who the dogs belonged to. A media appeal was released in regards to this incident. No further information at this time.

**44170248119 – BURGLARY: 29/06/2017:** Person(s) unknown have attempted to break into a shed in the Blackwater area. They were not successful and nothing was stolen.

**44170250399 – THEFT: 29/06/2017:** The donations stand in Brighstone Church has been damaged and money has been taken.

**44170248511 – THEFT: 29/06/2017:** Church collection box has been broken into in Shorwell.

**44170248517 – THEFT: 29/06/2017:** A male was seen to take money from a charity box from the Church in Mottistone. Male was later located by Police and arrested. The investigation and enquiries are still on going at this time.

**44170265860 – THEFT: 11/07/2017:** Person(s) unknown have stolen 350litres of red diesel from a tank in the Freshwater area.

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**If anybody has any knowledge or information in regards to the above incidents please call 101, and quote the reference number beside the incident. Many thanks.**

## **Trading standards is warning Island consumers and businesses of cold calling by rogue traders.**

The conmen have been offering to carry out home improvement work, including gardening, cleaning roofs and driveways, tarmacking drives and jet washing patios and paths. This latest warning comes after cold callers offering to tarmac drives were on the Island this week and used the tactic they were working with Island Roads, which was not the case. The conmen often call on vulnerable and elderly residents but the council is warning businesses to be vigilant as well, due to some work being offered at business premises. Commonly, cold callers are unqualified conmen who charge extortionate amounts of money for little or no work. The prices are often very misleading and immediate payment is demanded. Trading standards manager Julie Woodhouse said: "Island residents should always be very wary of rogue traders who will cold call as, in our experience, they are often unqualified conmen, who will overcharge for unnecessary repairs/services, which will be of poor quality. Legislation protecting consumers requires cold callers to give consumers a 'cancellation notice', giving them 14 days to cancel the contract made for over £42. Failure to issue a cancellation notice in the correct format is a criminal offence."

Island Roads business manager, Steve Ambrose, said: "Island Roads does not 'doorstep sell'. Any materials used on the Island's roads is carefully accounted for and used solely across the scope of our work. If you are in any doubt about the legitimacy of anyone claiming to work for or with us, contact our call centre immediately on 822440 or, alternatively, contact trading standards."

# **Warning to Hampshire residents** **following new telephone scam**

We are warning residents to be aware after a woman was targeted by what is believed to be a new telephone scam in Farnborough.

At around 11am on Tuesday 27 June, the 90-year-old received a phone call from a stranger who told her that he and his company were working alongside the police and fire service because the emergency services were struggling to answer 999 calls. The caller then suggested he would attend the woman's address to discuss her safety and home security with her. Fortunately the woman found the call to be suspicious and contacted us.

We urge members of the public who have received similar calls, or know of family members who have, to report it to police immediately. Officers are concerned this could be a new tactic used by scam artists to gain entry to the homes of vulnerable people with a view to defrauding them.

## **People are reminded to protect themselves using the following advice:**

- Never give out any personal information about your bank account to anybody over the phone. The police and any other professional organisation will never ask you for these types of details.
- If the caller asks you to ring them back so you can be sure of their identification, hang up and call the company they are claiming to be from using a different phone. If you can't use a different phone, wait at least five minutes before calling back.
- If you have given out information which could compromise your bank account security in any way, call your bank up to cancel your cards as soon as possible.
- Never hand over money to someone at the door to be sent off elsewhere.
- If someone comes to your door claiming to be from a company or organisation, always ask for identification and make a note of their identification number. Ask them to wait while you verify their identity. Close the door, find the number of the company they claim to be from, from a phone book or your own directory, and call the company to verify their ID.

Anyone who is concerned about similar incidents should contact police by calling 101. If a crime is in progress, please call 999.

For further information on types of fraud and advice on how to protect yourself, visit our advice pages on [fraud and identity theft](#).



# **Shed and barn theft crime prevention advice:**

- Place all tools and garden equipment in locked sheds, barns and garages.
- Secure more expensive items to an anchor point within the shed, barn or garage.
  - Record serial numbers and mark all items with a postcode, e.g. UV pens or forensic marking kits. Register the details for free on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com).
- Take photographs of items if they are unusual or unique for easy identification at a later date.
  - Fit an alarm.
  - Keep the structure in good repair.
- Consider covering windows with curtains to obscure the view of contents.
  - Consider external lighting.
- Ensure fences and boundaries are in good repair to prevent unlawful access.



# UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2017:

CHALE SHOW  
5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST

IOW GARLIC FESTIVAL  
19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST



# **CRIME PREVENTION**

As a result from the national Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Rural Crime Seminar held last year we now have purchased a variety of security products from Solon Security. Solon Security are a Secured by Design Award Company specialising in security products such as alarms, padlocks, deterrent signs, door locks etc. These products are ready to be sold to our Country Watch members at cost price (i.e. at the price we have paid) and all money raised will then go back into purchasing more equipment for use by the rural community.

If anyone is looking for a specific type of security product please get in touch and we will try and point you in the right direction.

## **Here are the products we have available at this time:**



**CREMARK KIT: £15.00**

CREMARK KITS - A system which permanently marks property, such as, farm equipment, garden tools, hand tools, power tools, lawn mowers and many other items.



**PERMANENT UV PEN: £1.00**

4MM PERMANENT UV PEN - Permanently marks property with a clear UV ink making valuables easy to identify under a UV light if stolen.





### **WARNING STICKERS: £1**

WARNING SIGNS - Stickers are a great way to support crime prevention, simple warning signs can, and on their own be enough to deter opportunist thieves.



### **PADLOCK ALARM: £ 15.00**

PADLOCK ALARM - A burglary deterrent padlock that is alarmed with a powerful 110dBs siren. Features include shock and movement sensor, keyed operation, battery powered (batteries included) and weather resistant body.

We will have the items available to purchase at the shows we attend or please feel free to contact us and we can arrange to bring the items to you. Please email us to discuss the items available at [countrywatch@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:countrywatch@hampshire.pnn.police.uk), and mark in the subject line IOW, or contact any of the team members on the below numbers.

## TEAM CONTACT DETAILS:



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