

## Update on Neighbourhood Watch

Dear Neighbours,

I hope you are all managing to stay safe in these unprecedented times.

It seems that Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) has come into its own during the last eleven months since the blight of Covid 19 hit us. It has proved to be an ideal way of communicating useful information to our community, in addition to security issues, safely.

The whole of Lower and Upper Weare are covered by our NHW Scheme and there are six NHW Coordinators who cover most of the Parish of Weare, other than the outlying areas. If anyone would like to volunteer be a Coordinator for any of the outlying areas please let me know. Recent changes include; Ailene Brooks who has kindly taken on part of Sparrow Hill Way from her house to the top of the hill and Hilary Hugh who offered to expanded her group to include Pipers Close.

It's a great scheme from which the majority of us benefit and it is important that it continues to be supported by the village and that we regularly use it to pass on information to help protect our community, particularly to the elderly and the vulnerable, some of whom may not have an email address. In that regard I am more than happy to continue to pass on advice or information which you consider may be of help to the community.

Our thanks go to all our Coordinators for giving freely of their time to this worthwhile scheme which helps to keep us safe and helps our community to be informed and 'feel safe'. A Plea - Sheila Hatton who has carried out the role for Notting Hill Way for many years has asked if someone would now like a volunteer to be a Coordinator in her stead. If you live on Notting Hill Way and might consider volunteering do please contact me on 732373. I assure you that it isn't an onerous role. Once you have a group address in your computer it is simply a matter of forwarding the messages on with a couple of clicks! Sheila has offered help in setting you up.

One or two people have asked recently why one person doesn't cover all of the six areas? The answer is that changes in occupation, and there have been quite a few of late, need to be kept track of. Local knowledge of your immediate neighbourhood is needed for that in order to update email addresses.

If anyone requires any further information or are unsure who their local coordinator is, please contact me on the number below and I will be happy to advise. I occasionally receive feedback on our activities and this is always welcome.

Kind regards, stay safe and well,

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January 2021