

May 2011

Wrea Green and Westby Community Update



PC Dawn
Conolly-
Perch

Your Top Priorities

You've told us your top problems for us to tackle are:

- Sportsmen and youths using The Green are not using the rest room facilities at The Grapes Public House but using the green
- Crime spate at the industrial estates to be looked into with a view to setting up a Business Watch Scheme
- Tractors are causing a problem on Balam Road and West Moss Lane with overlarge loads and incorrect display of reg plate lights etc.



PCSO Trevor
Sterling

Over 4,800 fewer victims of crime in Lancashire

CRIME is continuing to fall in Lancashire, with the latest statistics showing there were 4,849 fewer victims of crime in the county last year.

The final end of year statistics for April 2010 – March 2011 show that Lancashire Constabulary saw reductions in a number of different areas, despite crime already being at unprecedented low levels.

Overall, reports of crime fell by 4.5 per cent from 107,345 to 102,496. Detections of crime rose from 35.4 per cent to 37 per cent, meaning more criminals are being put before the courts.

716 fewer people fell victim to serious acquisitive crime, with reports falling 5.1 per cent, from 13,904 incidents to 13,188.

Burglary figures have been at a 30 year low – and now they have dropped again. 69 fewer people reported burglaries in their homes last year; a further reduction of 1.6 per cent.

Vehicle crime is also at its lowest for 30 years and continues to fall. Police dealt with 664 fewer victims last year; a decrease of 7.6 per cent from 8,778 incidents to 8,114. Detection rates for this area of crime also rose, from 25.6 per cent to 28.9 per cent.

Criminal damage reports are also down – the reduction from 25,135 incidents to 20,761 means there were 4,374 fewer victims.



Sergeant
Niamh
O'donoghue

Last month you requested bike coding for the spring as a crime prevention issue...

The team have set up numerous bike coding sessions throughout the month and continuing into May

Public consultation — all welcome

Date	Time	Location
6th June PACT	19.30hrs	Wrea Green Institute on Station Road

Communities are continuing to work closely with their neighbourhood police teams to deal with local issues and as a result incidents of anti-social behaviour have reduced by 10.1 per cent. 14,193 fewer residents made reports of anti-social behaviour – down from 140,542 reports to 126,349.

However, some areas have seen an increase in some crime categories. Incidents of serious violent crime rose by 10.3 per cent, up from 1,199 incidents to 1,323.

Chief Constable Steve Finnigan, Lancashire Constabulary, said: "These figures clearly demonstrate that, even in these challenging times, our commitment to providing a first-class service to the communities of Lancashire is unwavering.

"Crime figures for Lancashire were already low, so to continue with this trend highlights the dedication of our officers and staff to keeping the county safe; and our increasing detection rates show our determination to bring criminals to justice."

Chief Constable Finnigan added: "Reducing crime even further over the coming year will be a challenge, particularly as the impact of the cuts start to bite, but this will remain our focus. We recognise that there are some areas where we can improve, for example around violent crime, and we will work with our partners to reduce these figures and ensure that victims get the help and support that they need."

Volunteers needed for coastal clean up

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help carry out a coastal clean up from Blackpool to St Annes.

The 'coastal beat sweep' will take place on Wednesday May 25 and will cover the shore area from Squires Gate to Fairhaven.

Community spirited residents are being asked to join members of St Annes neighbourhood police team, local councillors, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators, staff from the Environmental Agency, Beach Patrol staff and those carrying out community payback to join in the clean up from 10am – 4pm.

St Annes community beat manager PC Kirsty Bargh, who is organising the event, said: "The day will involve litter picking, conservation and environmental work, crime prevention and graffiti removal. It will be a general blitz, which will hopefully help to address the fires and anti-social behaviour which goes on in the sand-dunes."

Volunteers are asked to gather in the car park at the junction of Highbury Road. Anybody willing to help can contact PC Bargh on 01253 604697 or 293933.

Neighbours urged to keep an eye on empty properties

NEIGHBOURS are being urged to keep a watchful eye on empty properties on their street to prevent thieves targeting them for scrap metal.

The rise in scrap metal prices has lead to an increase in items such as boilers and copper piping being stolen from houses and flats undergoing renovations in Blackpool and Fylde.

Police are now urging those who live near empty or derelict properties to contact them if they see any suspicious activity in their area.

Detective Inspector Becky Smith, Blackpool police, said: "A watchful eye can help prevent crime, both in a neighbour's property and your own.

"Thieves have been targeting properties where they think they will be undisturbed. In some cases they are not only stealing valuable fixtures and fittings but are also causing hundreds, if not thousands, of pounds worth of damage by sawing through cables and pipes, often leading to extensive flooding.

"Not only can this be costly to the owner but it can also put lives at risk – we have seen cases where burglars have cut through gas pipes to get at what they are after.

"We are making a large number of arrests for this type of offences and both the offenders and the retail outlets which are accepting the stolen goods will be investigated by ourselves and through our partner agencies."

Detective Inspector Smith added: "We are asking residents to stay vigilant and alert police if they see anyone or anything suspicious at a neighbouring property. At the same time, take some simple crime prevention measures yourself – lock doors and windows, leave a light on when you go out and put garden equipment and bikes away in a secure shed to avoid providing temptation to thieves."

Contact police with information on 0845 1 25 35 45. If a crime is in the process of taking place dial 999. Information can also be given anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Court Round Up

A 46 year old male has pleaded guilty to driving when above the alcohol limit after being stopped on Station Road in Kirkham. He has been disqualified for 20 months with costs and fines of £400.00.

A 27 year old male has pleaded guilty to driving when above the alcohol limit after being stopped on Blackpool Road in Kirkham. He has been disqualified for 12 months with costs and fines of £365.00.

A 24 year old male has pleaded guilty to being in charge of a vehicle whilst unfit to drive through drink namely Blackpool Road at the junction of Freckleton Street. He has been disqualified for 6 months with costs and fines of £200.00.

A 34 year old male has pleaded guilty to driving when above the alcohol limit after being stopped on Preston New Road, Westby. He has been disqualified for 38 months with costs and fines of £595.00.

A 51 year old male has been sentenced to 6 months imprisonment due to prolific breaches of an anti social behaviour order in the Fylde area.

Local Crime Figures

Figures for Ribby with Wrea Ward	April 2010	April 2011	%+ or -
All criminal damage	0	0	No change
Domestic Burglaries	0	0	No change
Vehicle crime (theft of and from)	0	0	No change
All violent crime	0	0	No change