



CHANGES IN POLICING

NEW 'F' DISTRICT

On 1 April 2007 Cookstown District Command Unit (DCU) along with Dungannon and South Tyrone DCU, Omagh DCU and Fermanagh DCU amalgamated to form the new police district known as 'F' District. Chief Superintendent Michael Skuce is the commander for 'F' District and is based in Enniskillen.

Chief Inspector Brian Williamson

remains as Area Commander for Cookstown

Inspector Eamon Foy Sector Inspector

D/Sergeant Ian Lyle CID

Sergeant Ruth Williamson Rural Sector

Sergeant Florence Ferry MBE

Community Safety

Constable Billy Gallagher Crime Prevention

Constable Martin Allen Schools Liaison

Constable Nicky Graham Youth Diversion

communities their success will be dependent on everyone playing their part by actively supporting their local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

Your co-ordinators...

Burn Brae, Cookstown

Kenneth Kells

Castle Villas & Court

Colin Charles & Ignatius Shaw

Coagh Street & Crescent, Cookstown

Colleen McGinn

Drumnacross

Bobby Hamilton

Dunmore Close, Park & Crescent

Noel Glasgow

Wellbourne Crescent & Place, Coagh

Wanita McCrea & Caroline Whinnery



OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF NHW SCHEMES

Four neighbourhood watch schemes were officially launched in March at an event organised by the District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships and local police bringing the total number of schemes in the area to six. A number of residents from these areas, including Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators attended and received crime prevention advice on making their property secure and on how to protect their homes and themselves when out and about.

Speaking on the setting up of the new Schemes, Chairman of the DPP, Cllr Ian McCrea said, "Neighbourhood Watch Schemes are an important tool for preventing crime and reducing the fear of crime in a way that involves everyone in the local community."

Chief Inspector Brian Williamson said, "The success of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes is dependent on everyone playing their part by actively supporting their local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator and reporting all suspicious activity to the police"

Whilst such Schemes play an important part in preventing crime and the fear of crime in local



About us

Crimestoppers is a charity, which aims to combat crime by enabling members of the public to ANONYMOUSLY provide information to the police.

Northern Ireland has had its own Crimestoppers service since 1996. It has received over 9100 calls during this time, been directly responsible for some 630 arrests and recovered around £750,000 of property. It is supported by a registered national charity, Crimestoppers Trust and a local board of directors, who are volunteers.

Crimestoppers provides a free phone telephone number, which anyone can ring 24/7 to provide information about criminals.

No one is ever asked his or her name and the calls are not recorded and cannot be traced.

If information provided leads to the arrest and charge of an offender a cash reward of up to £500 can be paid. This process is also

completely anonymous.

History

Crimestoppers began in the USA in 1976, following a murder in a town in New Mexico. Members of the local community provided information to the local police department by calling an anonymous hotline. As a direct result of the information received in this way, two suspects were arrested and subsequently convicted of the murder. Today there are over 1200 Crimestoppers programs operating across the globe.

Why are we needed?

Some people feel they can't speak to Police because:

- Fear from reprisal and retribution from criminal elements
- Members of their family are criminals but do not wish to compromise family ties
- They have information about crime but do not want to get involved.

You can contact Crimestoppers about any aspect of their work on **0800 555 111**. For example, if you would like publicity material or information on campaigns for your area or other crime initiatives.



PEACE OF MIND WHILE YOU'RE AWAY

KEEP YOUR HOME SECURE WHILE YOU ARE AWAY

Everyone needs a holiday some time. Summer is the time when most people take that much needed break and there's nothing like a change of surroundings.

But for some holiday-makers the break is often spoiled when they return to discover that their home has been broken into. Four out of five burglaries occur when a house or flat is empty; so don't advertise that you are away on holiday. (Domestic burglaries in the Cookstown area remain very low)

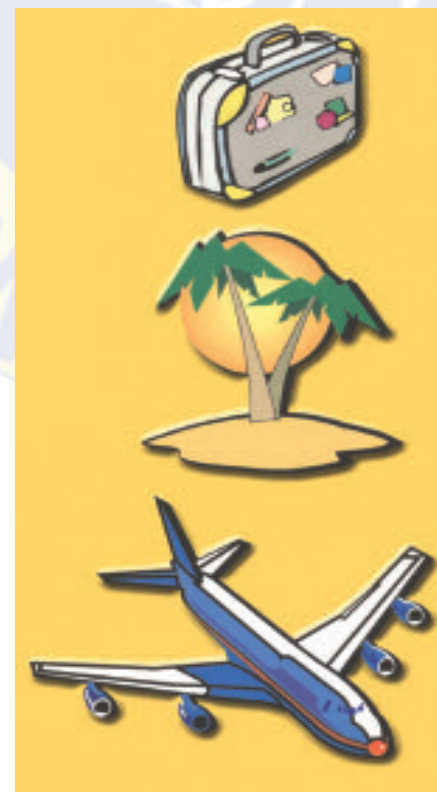
We all want to come home and find everything as we left it. It does not take much to protect your home and belongings when you are gone – just a little bit of planning.

The following checklist is to help keep the home secure. Constable Gallagher, the Crime Prevention Officer at Cookstown PSNI Station, urged people to read it so they can plan ahead and tick off the items just before they leave:

- Close and lock all windows and doors.
- Cancel deliveries of milk, newspapers etc.
- Arrange for a friend or neighbour to pick up your mail and messages.
- Leave your blinds, shades, and curtains in the normal position. Do not close them as this indicates the house is empty during daylight hours.
- Use automatic time switches to turn your lights on when it gets dark.
- Leave small valuable items, like jewellery, on deposit at a bank or leave them with a relative or friend for security. Do not leave money in the house. Consider installing a safe.
- Put all your tools away and lock garage doors and sheds. If you must leave a ladder out, padlock it to a secure fixture.
- Mark all property with an ultra-violet pen by using your postcode and house number. If your property is stolen and subsequently recovered, then the Police will be able to identify it and return it to you.

- Cut the lawn before you leave and, if necessary, arrange to have someone cut it when you are away to give your home a 'lived-in' look.
- Ask a neighbour to watch the house while you are away. It is a good idea to leave your holiday address and contact number with a neighbour or relative so you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- Remember to inform local Police of the dates that your house will be vacant. Patrol Officers may be able to check your home periodically.
- Remember to turn off gas, electricity and water supplies. Arrange to have pets looked after properly.
- Do not put your home address on your luggage when travelling to your holiday destination.
- Finally, and just before you leave, it is worth allowing a quick couple of minutes on the doorstep to check that you have done all you had to do and taken everything with you.

Anyone needing further advice on any aspect of Crime Prevention can contact their nearest Police Station or Crime Prevention Officer at Cookstown (028) **8676 6000**



MISSING! Gerard Conway

Gerard Conway is from Cookstown and was last seen walking past the Ulster Bank in Cookstown on 6 February 2007.

Gerard is 32 years old, 6 feet tall, medium build with dark brown hair and blue eyes. He has a scar above his right brow into his scalp.



- Do you know where Gerard has been staying since leaving his flat on 24 January 2007?
- Have you seen Gerard since that date and not yet spoken to the police?
- Our goal is to find Gerard, can you help?

Any information to CID, Cookstown Police 028 **8676 6000** or Crimestoppers **0800 555 111**

contact us...

Community Safety Team
Cookstown Police Station
19 Molesworth Road
Cookstown
BT80 8NT
Tel: **028 8676 6000**
Non-Emergency: **0845 600 8000**
Crimestoppers: **0800 555 111**