

Hughenden NAG Newsletter

NUMBER 14

Welcome to the newsletter from the
GREATER HUGHENDEN PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP.
The 2020 Neighbourhood priorities are :-

- 1) SPEEDING/ROAD SAFETY.
- 2) LITTER/DOG FOULING.
- 3) ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR/CRIMINAL DAMAGE.
- 4) PARKING.
- 5) BURGLARY/THEFT.

Greater Hughenden Neighbourhood.



Drug Dealing

Unfortunately, drug dealing and drug use are becoming more prevalent and widespread. There are a number of sites in Hughenden Parish that are used by drug dealers to carry out their business and it is up to us residents to help the police reduce this activity and hopefully cause the criminal dealers to leave our area.

As an example, there has recently been a spate of drug dealers operating in the Hughenden Parish Offices car park. The police and the Parish Council are aware of this and steps are being taken to either catch them red handed or at least move them on. The hedge by the side of Missenden Road will be reduced in height to make the criminals easier to spot and other measures are being considered.

Other areas that are used include the car park at St. Michael and All Angels church in Hughenden Valley and the Hughenden and Naphill Village Hall car parks.

If you see two cars parked close together side by side and can discretely take their numbers and send them to the Parish Clerk that would build up intelligence for the police, but do not confront them or put yourself at any risk.

Thoughtless Parking

It is essential that pedestrians have free access on pavements to avoid them having to step out in the road to get past your vehicle. This particularly applies to people in wheelchairs or parents with a double buggy. You must leave enough room for them to get past. Practically every day one walks round the villages in the parish to find pavements obstructed, especially near schools. Accordingly the NAG, police and other bodies have agreed to provide notices to place on vehicles that are obstructing pavements, so if you are guilty do not be surprised to receive one.

Unrequired Phone Numbers

Do you get annoyed when you fill in a form and have to enter your phone number even when you know that the company doesn't really need it?

What are they going to do with it? Who will they give it to? Your privacy is valuable so protect your phone number with trueCall38! You just need to enter their phone number 0333 88 88 88 88 (that's three threes, eight eights,) as your phone number, but if the form won't let you enter the full number then use three threes, seven eights and if, or rather when, they call, those cold callers will hear a short recorded message:- "trueCall38 is handling my calls. I prefer not to be contacted by phone, so please contact me via my email address. Goodbye!" TrueCall38 is a completely free service and has won many awards and in independent trials has been shown to block over 95% of nuisance calls. Remember - some companies actually do need your phone number – maybe they need your mobile number to send you a text as part of their validation process, or it's a flight booking, or a form at a hospital. In these cases, it may be better to give them your real number.

Amazon Prime (FRAUD)

Between 1 October 2019 and 16 January 2020, the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) identified 571 reports of Amazon Prime-related Fraud, with fraudsters stealing over £1M from victims, one victim alone losing over £65,000.

The scam involves victims receiving an automated call, informing them that they have been charged for an Amazon Prime subscription. They are subsequently instructed to 'press 1' to cancel the transaction. When they do this, they are directed to a fraudster posing as an Amazon representative. The fraudster says their subscription was purchased fraudulently and that remote access to their computer is needed to fix the security flaw. The victim is asked to download a remote access application that gives the fraudster access to their computer. This allows the criminal to monitor the victim logging onto their online bank account, allowing the fraudster to see the victim's personal and financial details.

Other variants of the crime involve fraudsters stating that the recipient is eligible for a refund for an unauthorised transaction on their Amazon account.

To avoid this and other scams, always question uninvited approaches by any route, at the door or by e-mail, as they may well be scams. If in doubt, contact the company directly using a known email or phone number, never the one presented. Have the confidence to refuse unusual requests for personal or financial information. It's fine to stop the discussion if you do not feel in control of it. Never install any software or visit a website as a result of a cold call. Unsolicited requests for remote access to your computer should always raise a red flag.

Remember, if you have been a victim of fraud or cyber crime, report it to Action Fraud [online](#) or by calling 0300 123 2040.

If you wish to receive newsletters and crime alerts from Thames Valley Police, then please sign up to the alert system on the following link. www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/

If you need to contact the Neighbourhood Team then please dial Thames Valley Police on the non-emergency number, 101, and ask the police operator to put you through to the Princes Risborough Police Office.