



# RUSTINGTON AND DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

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## French Door protection



There are over 1000 burglaries in the UK every day. Most forced entry burglaries are committed through the weakest point in the UK at the rear of the property, usually French Doors.

Patlock is a home security product and visual deterrent for French Doors and Conservatories. Designed and developed in the UK to deter and stop would be intruders, it is robust yet weighs less than 1kg.

Patlock is easy to fit and released in seconds, with no key or code numbers required. Therefore it provides extra security and instant peace of mind to the homeowner. In addition, each Patlock comes supplied with a pair of tamper resist spindles to enhance the security that it provides.

As well as being a visual deterrent Patlock works by holding the interior door handles in place, ensuring that the door mechanism cannot be opened even if the door locks are snapped or removed.

With a patent registered design, Patlock is proud to have gained Secured By Design accreditation. Patlock and Neighbourhood Watch have teamed together to offer all members the discounted rate of £42.50 (including delivery) per unit, which can be purchased through the Neighbourhood Watch website [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk). To request a demonstration contact RADNWA

## Stay Safe.



A valuable guide to crime prevention and safety, published by the Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network in England and Wales is now available from RADNWA priced at just 30p. The 37 page booklet covers security in the home, garden and vehicles, plus information on fire safety, doorstep crime, fraud and identity theft, online and telephone safety. This booklet is a must for anyone concerned with their personal security.

**This newsletter is sponsored by:**



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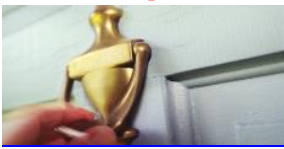
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## Doorstep caller protection



To most people, doorstep callers are just a nuisance but to the elderly, and fragile resident it can be a real danger. In fact, 85% of victims of doorstep scams are aged 65 and over according to National Trading Standards.

The biggest problem is in home maintenance and improvements – things like driveways (block paving and tarmacing) gardening, tree cutting and roofing. The problems are generally to do with people being pressured into contracts, receiving poor quality work and/or being charged excessive amounts of money.

More recently, say Trading Standards, “we have received a lot of complaints about energy sales – for example the sales of solar panels. The most common issue was exaggerating the savings that the consumer would make from having the solar panels.”

Cold calling is not illegal. However, if the caller is told to go away and they ignore it, they are then committing an offence. Door stickers that say things like ‘No Cold Callers’ can be provided to householders. The purpose of these is to empower the householder to simply point at the sticker and say ‘no’ to the cold caller. These stickers are available from RADNWA free of charge.

## Evolved task force



The West Downs NHW Task Force has been evolved from the award-winning West Downs NHW Search Team, the first and longest serving Police-Accredited civilian search team in the UK, established following the Disappearance of Sarah Payne in 2000. They have now turned their knowledge and resources to assist the wider community, from marshaling and leaflet drops to help with local emergencies.

The ‘Task Force’ is a self-contained team comprising over 50 members, equipped with control vehicle, 2 way Radio, Branded High Vis, I.D. Cards and are fully covered by Public Liability Insurance.

The experienced, structured, organisation with Incident Controllers, Team Leaders and Members, some of whom are First-Aid trained, lends itself to a wide range of activities and we can assist in any situation where tasks can be delegated to free up trained professionals for more important work.

The Team has over 15 years' experience working in all weathers and terrains, from urban streets to fields, from beaches to forests and assisting in flood situations

Their services are regularly used at various Charity and Community events from Fireworks displays to Carnivals, Midnight Walks and Wheelchair Challenges and we were pleased to provide some personnel for the Olympic Torch route. During these activities we often have to man road closures.

## 100 new police officers



We are getting used to hearing bad news concerning government cut-backs but the Police Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne, has reported in her newsletter good news in that she approved a budget which enables the Chief Constable to recruit up to 100 new police officers.

Katy said “I have always maintained that protecting neighbourhood policing is a top priority because it matters so much to communities across our county.

The news that the Chancellor would protect police budgets was very welcome but we have had to wait until now to understand exactly what this means for Sussex.

Sussex Police will continue implementing its Local Policing Programme in order to meet existing and future savings requirements, but these new officers will be a welcome addition in helping to keep us all safe”.

To find out more from Katy visit her website [www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk).

## Customised Fraud



Fraudsters are sending out virus infected emails that claim a package has been seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the United Kingdom. The official looking scam emails claiming to be from Royal Mail contain a link to a document which will install malicious software on your computer designed to steal credentials like account names, email addresses and passwords.

An example email entitled: 'Your parcel has been seized' It then reads "Royal Mail is sorry to inform you that a package addressed to you was seized by HM Revenue & Customs upon arrival into the United Kingdom.

"A close inspection deemed your items as counterfeit and the manufacturers have been notified. If your items are declared genuine then they will be returned back to you with the appropriate custom charges. You may have been a victim of counterfeit merchandise and the RM Group UK will notify you on how to get your money back. Please review the attached PDF document for more information.

Document (RM7002137GB).Zip

Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused"

To help the spread of the virus, the email also says: "you will need to have access to a computer to download and open the Zip file".

If you receive one of these emails, do not click on any links or download any attachments and report it to Action Fraud.

## Not trusted goods



Fraudsters have set up a high specification website template advertising various electrical goods and domestic appliances. These goods are below market value and do not exist. The fraudsters will request your card details via the website; however the purchaser will then receive an email stating the payment failed and they must pay via bank transfer.

The fraudsters entice the purchaser and reassure them it is a legitimate purchase by using the widely recognised Trusted Shop Trustmark. The fraudsters are using the Trustmark fraudulently and have not been certified by Trusted Shops and therefore the purchaser is not covered by the Trusted Shop money-back guarantee.