

Nutbourne Residents Association Winter 2013/2014 Newsletter

- **Nutbourne Common**
- **Neighbourhood Watch**
- **WW1 Memorial**
- **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Welcome to the Winter 2014 Newsletter from your Residents Association. The NRA has been running now for around 8 years, in various forms, and holds quarterly meetings in The Rising Sun pub. Agenda's and Minutes are posted on the parish Noticeboard and distributed to our email distribution list along with NHW Email Alerts from our NHW Co-Ordinator. If you would like to be on this distribution list please email me, Brian White, Chairman NRA at brianwhite@onetel.net

We hope you enjoy reading this update and if you are moved to make comment or just voice your opinion on a subject you care about please email me at the above address.

- **Nutbourne Common (aka Nutbourne Common Recreation Ground)**

The Common is located towards the end of the track leading from Bramfold Farm on Nutbourne Road. The Common was allotted and awarded to Pulborough Parish Council, in 1855, to be held in trust for the purpose of recreation. Over many years the Common developed into a wooded area, complete with bracken, that was a welcome habitat for wildlife, flora and fauna. Indeed the Village Design Statement produced in 2006 makes specific reference to the Common being an important village amenity, protection of which is paramount to local residents. (The VDS can be read in full and downloaded from the Nutbourne Website at www.nutbourne.org .

Over the last 5 years or so PPC have adopted a more proactive approach to the common and have embraced a project to develop an open area for the cultivation of natural heathers. This project along with on going tree maintenance and bracken removal is not supported by the NRA who are now working with PPC to ameliorate what it sees as the damage done to this woodland area. Access to the Common is via the unmade track, a public footpath also runs over it or via the public footpath starting at Ragman's Castle. If you have been to the Common recently or have yet to do so, please walk up there and take a look, we would be very interested to receive your comments.

- **Neighbourhood Watch**

Nutbourne is fortunate in having its own local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator in Andrew Moffat. Andrew has overseen this role for a number of years, and is well regarded amongst the NHW community at large; indeed he has assumed responsibilities for additional NHW activities across the county.

We welcome PC Algar and PCSO Tina Dunning, who have taken over local policing in the West Chiltington and Pulborough areas, and we look forward to meeting them at a future Nutbourne Residents' meeting.

The NHW's purpose is to encourage residents to become aware of their own security; to advise them of police crime alerts and criminal activity in the area; and to request that they look out for suspicious activity and persons acting suspiciously. Most insurance companies

provide discounts for members of NHW schemes, for which Nutbourne qualifies.

Over this winter there have been a number of break-ins to sheds and outbuildings. Residents should aim to ensure that their outbuildings are secure. There have recently occurred two burglaries, one in East St, West Chiltington and the other in Rectory Lane, Pulborough. There has also been a spate of break-ins to cars at night, on driveways, in the general area. In 2012, there was a widespread incidence of fruit theft, as apple and pear trees were systematically stripped at night time over the course of August and September. This was not repeated in 2013, but we should remain alert as to its possible recurrence this year.

We currently have some 40 or so households on our NHW email alert list. We are keen to increase this number. If you would like to be included in our confidential circulation list, please email Brian White on brianwhite@onetel.net. Clearly, the more people who are aware of criminality in the general area, then the more secure our own locality will become. We also have a stock of NHW window stickers and 6in x 4in gatepost signs. The former are free, the latter £1 each. Marker pens - to mark invisible post codes on property which show up with ultraviolet rays - are also available at £1.50 each. Please email Brian and we shall arrange delivery."

- **WW1 – Memorial**

At our October NRA meeting it was suggested that we should investigate the possibility of erecting a memorial to those residents of Nutbourne who fought in the two World Wars. The Nutbourne Conservation & History Group identified a Mr. Cooper who served in WW1. It was subsequently established that PPC are some way down this path having secured funding for a memorial to be erected at the corner of the public car park behind Lower Street, Pulborough. It is intended to identify the Nutbourne fallen with help from the PPC historian for mention on our website, and then decide whether we shall take action to establish a local memorial stone in Nutbourne or rely on the action the PPC are taking in Pulborough.

- **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

You may be aware that Horsham District Council has launched a programme to work with parish councils to establish a Planning and Development framework for the district. The process is in the setting up phase, and will involve local councillors and volunteers from the community to work on various groups being established by PPC.

The NRA has put itself forward to be involved with the Local Development Plan being prepared for the Pulborough Parish with particular interest and focus on Nutbourne. For the most part, we will remain especially vigilant in opposing sporadic and ribbon development in the immediate locality, so as to maintain the character and rural nature of our hamlet and its surrounds.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact the PPC or pass along your thoughts and concerns to us at the email address supplied.

The next meeting of the NRA is on Monday 28th April at the Rising Sun Pub at 7.15 pm, all are welcome to attend.

Best Regards
Brian White
Chairman - NRA