



Colin's Blog

Friday 6th July 2018

Last Sunday my wife and I, together with other members of our family visited the Ely Aquafest, organised jointly by the Rotary Club of Ely and the Rotary Club of Ely Herewood.

A brilliant day out for all the family albeit unbearably hot, we were proud to watch our eldest granddaughter perform in the blazing heat, with her dance troupe. Well done to her, and of course the combined efforts of the two Rotary clubs. Having not suffered from Hay fever for around twenty years, it returned with a vengeance, and I sneezed my way through the day!

By the time that you read my blog, I will have handed over my Rotary Presidents Chain, as I stepped down from my third term of office as the President of the Rotary Club of Ongar. My first term was 2010 – 2011, followed by 2016 – 2017 and, finally 2017 – 2018. My good friend and fellow Rotarian, Len Moss, has now taken over the helm!

Ding Dong Merrily on High!



For those of my readers who are fed up with the chimes of Ice Cream Vans chiming when you are trying to get little ones to sleep, or trying to sleep yourselves after night work, here is a reminder of the law. If the law is breach you need to report noise nuisance to your local environmental health.

Regulations regarding the use of loudspeakers in streets

2.1 Under section 62 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 (CoPA) it is an offence to operate or permit the operation of any loudspeaker of the 'ice-cream van chimes' type in a street unless all the following conditions are complied with: a. **the loudspeaker is operated only between the hours of noon and 7 pm on the same day;** b. the loudspeaker is fixed to a vehicle which is being used for the conveyance of a perishable commodity for human consumption; c. the loudspeaker is operated solely for informing members of the public (otherwise than by means of words) that the commodity is on sale from the vehicle; d. the loudspeaker is so operated as not to give reasonable cause for annoyance to persons in the vicinity. Some parts of the regulations were relaxed in 2013, but the time constraints remain the same.



MOORLAND FIRES INCREASED BY DELIBERATE ACTS OF ARSON.

What kind of person deliberately goes around setting fire to tinder dry areas, which are already at risk from a raging moorland fire nearby, further endangering the life of those who are desperately trying to bring the original fire under control, and, adding to the loss of moorland, plants, animals and other wildlife?

How would they like to be burned alive, their stupidity has no bounds!

Back down in Essex, we are surrounded by many areas of farmland, common land, parks and forests, all of which are at risk from fire. Please stay alert and vigilant, and, if you see land catch fire, don't leave it to someone else to report, phone 999 straight away.

Many years ago, whilst one of my roles was as a schools' liaison officer, I can remember that around forty hectares of Epping Forest caught fire, apparently, caused by a discarded cigarette.

Subsequently, talking to children about the dangers of fire, and about the incident, they were horrified to hear about the destruction of trees, flora and fauna, and the innocent mammals and other life that was burned to death, possibly through the actions of just one thoughtless person. ***There is no excuse!***

ESSEX CRIME WATCH - WATCHING YOU WATCHING ME!



You may have heard about my fetish for growing and eating wild strawberries. I grow them in a hanging basket, and was pleased to see, that I had a small crop ready to pick later in the day. I dutifully returned to pick the little beauties, to find that they had gone. I checked under, and around, the hanging basket, but, my search was fruitless. Suddenly, my wife called me to look out of the kitchen window, and, low and behold, the thief was caught on camera!

The wood pigeon flew away, seemingly, unrepentant, but I am sure that he will return to the scene of the crime! ***LOOK OUT THERE'S A THIEF ABOUT!***

LATEST FROM ACTIONFRAUD: -

Fake WannaCry emails demanding payment

22nd June 2018

Action Fraud has received almost 300 reports in the past two days about fake WannaCry emails that demand payment from victims in Bitcoins.

The WannaCry emails are designed to cause panic and trick you into believing that your computer is infected with WannaCry **ransomware**.

In reality, the emails, are just a phishing exercise, to try and extort money. The emails claim that all, of your devices were hacked, and your files will be deleted unless you pay a fine to the fraudsters in Bitcoin.

Taking advantage

In May last year, WannaCry **ransomware hit headlines** after the NHS and other organisations globally were infected with the virus.

This isn't the first time fraudsters have used WannaCry as a way to trick people. Last year we also saw reports from victims who **received pop-ups on their computers** that claimed they had been infected with WannaCry. The pop-ups asked people to call a phone number that led to **Tech-Support scammers**.

In the same month, fraudsters also used the global WannaCry ransomware attack as a hook to try and get people to click on the links within this **clever BT branded phishing email**.

How to protect yourself

- If you receive one of these emails, delete it and **report it to us**.
- Do not email the fraudsters or make the payment in Bitcoin.
- Additionally you should always update your Anti-Virus software and operating systems regularly and follow our advice on how to **deal with ransomware**.

RansomAware

Global cyber incidents which have taken place have highlighted the significant and growing threat posed by ransomware.

Action Fraud with **Cyber Protect UK**, partners in law enforcement and the private sector are warning you about ransomware and the dangers associated with it. Be **#RansomAware**.

What is ransomware?

Ransomware is a form of malicious software (malware) that enables cyber criminals to remotely lock down or encrypt the files on your device. Criminals use ransomware to extort money from you (a ransom), and, will claim to restore access to your files or device once you have paid. Ransomware can be delivered in various ways; for example, via attachments in authentic looking emails purporting to be from genuine companies.

How to protect yourself:

- **Anti-virus:** Use anti-virus software on, all your devices, and configure it to automatically update. Run a complete scan of your system to check for any malware infections.
- **Updates:** Install the latest software and app updates on all, of your devices. These updates will often contain important security upgrades which help protect your device from viruses and hackers.
- **Backups:** Backup, all your important data, to a storage device that won't be left connected to your computer or network, such as an external hard drive, or an online storage service.
- **Emails:** Don't open attachments or click on the links within any unsolicited emails you receive. Spoofed emails purporting to be from a person or company you know of can be used to deliver ransomware.

What happens if you have already been infected with ransomware?

Don't pay

Don't pay extortion demands, as this only feeds into criminals' hands, and there's no guarantee that access to your files or device will be restored if you do pay. Criminals have been known to re-target victims that have already paid a ransom once; paying a ransom only highlights to criminals that you're vulnerable to a ransomware attack. Even after you've paid the ransom, and access to your files is restored, it's possible for criminals to leave a "backdoor" installed on your device which can later be used to re-infect

Ransomware removal

Sometimes it's possible to remove a ransomware infection without paying the criminals. **No More Ransom** has been set up with the goal to help victims of ransomware retrieve their encrypted data without having to pay the criminals. If you are still unable to remove the ransomware, seek professional technical help from a trustworthy source. If you have been a victim, please **report it to us-**

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report-a-fraud-including-online-crime>

Every report you make helps us build a clearer picture of the threat from ransomware and allows the police to direct the focus of their investigations.

24/7 Reporting for Businesses

If you are a business, charity or other organisation that is currently experiencing a live cyber-attack (an attack in progress), please call us on **0300 123 2040** to speak with one of our specialist advisors. You should keep a timeline of events and save any information that is relevant to the attack

<https://twitter.com/search?q=%23RansomAware&src=tyah>

A lost passport could lead to identity crime 27th June 2018

Her Majesty's Passport Office has teamed up with Action Fraud to raise awareness of the need to report lost and stolen passports.

Her Majesty's Passport Office and Action Fraud have teamed up to urge people to report their lost and stolen passports to prevent unrecovered and unreported documents from being abused and used to **commit identity crime** or facilitate illegal travel across borders.

Almost 50 million people hold a UK passport of which just under 400,000 are reported lost or stolen each year. This represents less than 1% of all passports in circulation, yet despite the risks associated with lost or stolen passports, people are waiting on average 73 days before making a report.

Once a passport is reported as lost or stolen, HM Passport Office cancel it, and share the information within 24 hours with the National Crime Agency to record the loss or theft on Interpol's Stolen and Lost Travel Document database.

By sharing the details of lost or stolen passports, law enforcement agencies including border and immigration control officers are able to keep ahead of the criminals who attempt to get a UK passport illegally. This also ensures action can be taken against anyone identified as having obtained a passport by fraudulent means.

Immigration Minister, Caroline Nokes, said:

"When you lose your bank card, the first thing you do is contact your bank and have it cancelled, yet people don't treat lost or stolen passports with the same urgency.

"But not reporting a lost or stolen passport can have severe consequences, such as people using your identity or attempting to use your documents to try to enter the country illegally.

"That is why it is absolutely vital you report your lost or stolen passport immediately: to help law enforcement agencies prevent people from entering the UK illegally, and to protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity crime."

All passports are inspected at the border, either in person by Border Force officers who are rigorously trained to prevent the holders of fraudulent documents from entering the country or through e-Passport gates which use facial recognition technology to provide identity and security checks in a matter of seconds.

Between 2010 and March 2018, Border Force officers denied entry to over 144,000 people.

Director of Action Fraud, Pauline Smith, said: -

“I know we can all get excited about going on holiday, and it can be easy to forget to take care of your passport, but the consequences of losing your passport can be severe. Not only will you find you have to pay the costs of replacing it, you may also fall victim to identity fraud.

“Passports have all the information that fraudsters need to steal your identity and start setting accounts up in your name.

“This summer, I’m urging people to protect themselves from fraudsters by looking after their passport, so that they don’t have to worry about it falling into the hands of criminals during the holiday season.

“Fraud and cyber-crime is increasing and therefore there hasn’t been a more important time than now, to **protect your identity** from criminals.”

Immigration Enforcement also constantly monitors and identifies emerging threats in relation to the production and supply of false travel documents, including the use of the internet to facilitate the trade in passports and identity cards.

A range of interventions to target the criminals involved are used by Immigration Enforcement, including prosecution of crime groups in the UK and overseas.

All lost and stolen **passports can be reported online**, making the process quick and simple.

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



Well, that’s me on the right, handing over the presidency of the Rotary Club of Ongar, to my good friend and fellow Rotarian Len Moss, yesterday Thursday 5th July 2018. We celebrated the 70th Birthday of the NHS by handing over a cheque for £1000 to Sister Mary Stebbens from Phoenix Ward, Broomfield Hospital.



The money was raised through a Quiz Night organised by Honorary Rotarian June Giles, seen on the left. Sister Mary is pictured holding the cheque, and, yes, it's me, performing my last official duty.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NHS !



There is a story about four people. Their names are **EVERYBODY**, **SOMEBODY**, **ANYBODY**, and **NOBODY**.

The story goes that there was a very important job that needed to be done. **EVERYBODY** was asked to do this job. Now **ANYBODY** could have done this job, but **NOBODY** was willing to do it. Then **SOMEBODY** got angry about this because it was **EVERYBODY'S** job to

do. Well, **EVERYBODY** thought that **ANYBODY** could have done it! But **NOBODY** realised that **EVERYBODY** blamed **SOMEBODY** for not doing the job. Still **NOBODY** did it. The arguing got worse and finally **NOBODY** would talk to **ANYBODY** and **EVERYBODY** blamed **SOMEBODY**. What a shame that **ANYBODY** could have done the job, and **EVERYBODY** could have helped **SOMEBODY** but, yet **NOBODY** did it! If there is something you know must be done, don't wait for **ANYBODY** else to do it, or hope that **SOMEBODY** else will do it, because **NOBODY** else will do it, unless you show **EVERYBODY** else how to do it.

What do you do, to help your local community?



JOIN TODAY

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"if you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward" Dr. Martin Luther King Jnr.,



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Essex Police under existing partnership agreements, and that they are not shared with other organisations or individuals.

To unsubscribe from my blog, or from Neighbourhood Watch, please send an email to: - colin@neighbourhoodmatters.org.uk quoting the area in which you reside, so that, I know from which to list remove your contact details. Thank you.

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You can also read my blog at: <http://www.eppingforestnhw.org.uk/>



HELPING COMMUNITIES TO HELP THEMSELVES

