



Lancashire Combined Watch Forum *The
Neighbourhood Watch Association for
Lancashire*

Newsletter

JUNE 2019



Hoax Calls to the Emergency Services

Prank or 'hoax' calls to the emergency services are not only against the law, they cost lives, as they reduce response times of vehicles and staff getting to real emergencies.

Know the facts

- Calls are traced and recorded so that callers can be identified.
- Mobile phone companies can disconnect phones if they have been used to make hoax calls.
- The maximum penalty is £5,000 and six months in prison.
- The Fire and Rescue Service sometimes publishes clips of calls on the internet and invites people to listen and call Crimestoppers if they identify the voice of the

Police Update

Enquiries are continuing into the circumstances surrounding a dog bite incident in Preston.

Sharon Jennings, 55 from Preston, died in hospital after being unwell following a dog bite.

Sharon was walking her own dog on the old railway lines in Brookfield between 6pm and 7.30pm on Friday May 31st when her pet and another dog started to fight. She intervened and was bitten on the hand and neck.

Sharon was found unwell at her home address on Monday (June 3rd) and was taken to Royal Preston Hospital. She sadly died in hospital on Friday night (7 June).

A 49 year old man from Preston was arrested yesterday (9 June) on suspicion of offences under the Dangerous Dogs Act. He was later released under investigation pending further enquiries.

A dog remains seized while our enquiries are ongoing.

Anyone with information should call 101 quoting log number 1134 of 5th June.

This is YOUR Newsletter

Let us know of any LCWF, Neighbourhood Watch or Charity events you want publicising or any relevant dates and information you'd like putting in this newsletter. WE NEED: **your** news, **your** photo's, **your** stories, **your** ideas & input

- Website: <http://www.lcwf.co.uk>
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/lancsNHW>
- Any other enquires please contact: secretary@lcwf.co.uk
- Any information for next edition/ comments/ feedback/ pictures/ news please email: newsletter@lcwf.co.uk

Police Appeals

Police are appealing for witnesses after a woman was seriously injured in a collision in Burnley.

The collision occurred around 17:42 hours on 8th June and involved a red Mini Cooper. The vehicle was travelling Westbound on Centenary Way, when it left the dual carriageway, colliding with a tree on the nearside before coming to rest.

Anyone with information should email

Trivia: The birthstone is Moonstone: loving, happy and friendly. The birth flower is the Rose and the Honeysuckle.

Modern Slavery

Modern slavery involves recruiting and moving people using threats, deception and coercion to exploit them. The most common forms are sexual exploitation, forced labour and domestic servitude and can get confused with 'migrant working' or 'illegal immigration'.

Sexual exploitation

Sexual exploitation can happen to women, men and children of both sexes, it involves any non-consensual or abusive sexual acts. This includes, but isn't limited to, prostitution, escort work and pornography. It's important to bear in mind that victims may have been deceived or coerced into giving consent without realising what they have actually consented to. Many will have been deceived with promises of a better life, romantic relationships, or legitimate jobs and are then controlled through violence and abuse. Sexual exploitation remains the largest form of exploitation across the UK.

Forced labour

Forced labour is when someone is made to work very long hours, often in poor conditions, and hand over the majority or all of their wages. Traffickers often use threats and violence to control their victims. There's been a marked increase in reported numbers in recent years. In Lancashire we're using intelligence led policing techniques to identify 'hotspot' areas where traffickers are most likely to operate.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has identified six elements which individually or collectively can indicate forced labour. These are:

- Threats or actual physical harm.
- Restricting movement and confining people to the workplace or to a limited area.
- Debt bondage.
- Withholding wages or making excessive wage reductions that violate previously made agreements.
- Retaining passports and identity documents (the workers can neither leave nor prove their identity status).
- Threat of reporting to the authorities where the worker is of illegal status.

Domestic servitude

Domestic servitude involves forcing someone to work in private households. They won't be free to go out to places as they'll be confined to the house much of the time. They'll be forced to care for children and house-keep over long hours and for little, if any pay. Victims will lead very isolated lives and have little or no unsupervised freedom. Their own privacy and comfort will be minimal, often sleeping on a mattress on the floor in an open part of the house. When victims do receive a wage it will be heavily reduced, supposedly to pay for food and accommodation.

Spotting the signs

- There are a number of signs that could indicate that someone is a victim of slavery.
- Show signs of physical or psychological abuse, look malnourished, unkempt, or appear withdrawn.
- Rarely be allowed to travel on their own, seem under the control and influence of others, or appear unfamiliar with their neighbourhood or where they work.
- Live in dirty, cramped or overcrowded accommodation, and could be living and working at the same address. Have few personal possessions, often wear the same clothes or are poorly equipped for the job they are carrying out.
- Have little opportunity to move freely and have no identification or travel documents in their possession.
- Be dropped off and collected for work on a regular basis either early or late at night. Avoid eye contact, appear frightened or hesitant to talk to strangers and fearful of law enforcers and authorities.

Need help? Always call [999](tel:999) if you or the person is in immediate danger, if there's no immediate danger, call the non-emergency number [101](tel:101). Lancashire Victims Services are available to offer help and support on [0300 323 0085](tel:03003230085). The national modern slavery helpline offers 24/7 advice on [08000 121 700](tel:0800121700) or Independent Charity Crimestoppers anonymously on [0800 555 111](tel:0800555111) or report it [online](#), your identity will be protected.