PCSO Chris Brabrook 6522, PC Mark Ellwood 371 & PCSO 6531 Penny Tomsett

Sgt Guy Westwoood 1604

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111
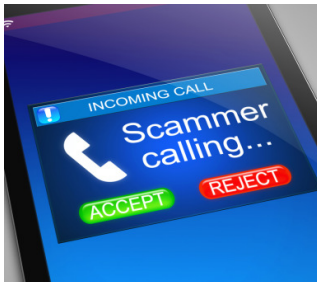Call anonymously with information about crime

Our Non - Emergency Number 101

On the Beat –

Warning after Hertfordshire resident is targeted by phone scammer

Police are once again reminding people to remain vigilant around unexpected phone calls after a Hertfordshire resident was targeted by a suspected phone scammer.

A Stevenage resident was called by someone, on Thursday September 7th, claiming to be from Herts Police. The caller said that the resident must pay a

fine relating to a traffic offence. Detectives are working to trace the person who made the call.

The police would never call and ask for a cash payment, so if you receive a call of this nature please terminate the call and contact 101 immediately.

Anyone who has been called in similar circumstances is asked to contact police on the non-emergency 101.

Hertfordshire Constabulary's advice on unexpected phone calls

The police and banks would:

NEVER ask for your bank account details or PIN number over the phone, so do not disclose these to anyone, no matter who they claim to be.

NEVER ask you to withdraw money and send it to them via a courier, taxi or by any other means.

NEVER ask you to send your bank cards, or any other personal property, to them via courier, taxi or by any other means.

NEVER ask you to transfer money from one account to another over the telephone.

If you are not happy with a phone call and are suspicious of the conversation you have with the caller then please end the call and contact police via the non-emergency number, 101.

Remember, when reporting a suspicious phone call to police, wait at least five minutes before attempting to make the call or use a mobile or neighbour's phone to ensure you're not reconnected to the offender.

Did you know? Phones are now available that automatically block withheld numbers, which are often used by offenders. People's service providers may also be able to assist with blocking unwanted calls.

For further information about phone scams and how to avoid becoming a victim, please visit: www.herts.police.uk/PhoneScams

Want to listen to a mock phone scam call? Visit our YouTube channel here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvWjvsmG1t0

Help Hertfordshire Constabulary fight crime with phone app

A mobile phone or tablet app has been launched in Hertfordshire which gives opportunities for members of the public to help solve crime.

The 'Facewatch ID' app can be downloaded on many portable devices and offers the user the ability to scroll through photographs and identify people that Hertfordshire Constabulary would like to speak to in relation to crimes or as witnesses or victims. 'Facewatch ID' is also available for PC or Mac, with the user simply visiting a website to view the same images.

Facewatch have provided the system for free to Hertfordshire Constabulary and intelligence officers will upload the images themselves, depicting people who are sought in connection with an incident or active investigation.

http://www.facewatchid.info/.

When opening the app, the user either inputs their post code, or the app automatically recognises their current location. They can then select a radius of up to 50 miles to display images of those who the police seek to identify. The user can then easily scroll through a gallery of images and, should they recognise any individual(s), they can simply fill out a form – completely anonymously – which is then submitted as a suggestion to the police.   Should they also know the current address or whereabouts of the individual(s), this can also be included.

 Hertfordshire Constabulary has, for some time, already has its own 'Wanted' section on the website, with numerous success stories of members of the public identifying individuals displayed on the web page. In addition, the Constabulary also posts the photographs on its Facebook page –

www.herts.police.uk/facebook

However, this new app offers a further way for members of the public to engage with police to help solve crime. It is anticipated that the app, which is very simple to use, will be extremely effective.

The 'Facewatch ID' app works on both Apple and Android devices and is completely free to download from:

•	Apple App Store

•	Android Google Play

To download the app to your smart phone or tablet, just search your app store for 'Facewatch ID.' You can also download the app through the Facewatch website at www.facewatchid.info.

Chief Constable Andy Bliss said: "We are committed to making Hertfordshire a safe place for people to live and 'Facewatch ID' provides yet another way for us to achieve that.Facewatch

"We are keen to utilise technology to tackle criminals and the community can now help us to do that with this pioneering app.

"I would urge the people of Hertfordshire to download the app and to help us to continue to maintain Hertfordshire as one of the safest places to live in the country."

Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire, David Lloyd, said: "I welcome the use of this app by the Constabulary and would encourage Hertfordshire residents to download this to their smart phone or other devices.

"I believe policing in the county is everybody's business and as such everyone should play their part in tackling crime and keeping criminals off our streets.

"Innovative use of social media and mobile technology, as seen here by 'Facewatch ID', provides a great new way of helping residents do that."

Richard Thompson OBE, CEO at Facewatch, commented: "We are delighted that Hertfordshire Constabulary is using 'Facewatch ID' to identify people the police want to speak to in the county. The app is an ideal tool to involve members of the public and ask for their valuable knowledge to help the police solve crimes.

"We have seen some impressive results so far and we're really looking forward to the force using the app as part of their investigations." For more information on Facewatch, please visit - http://www.facewatch.co.uk/cms/

Local Crime Information

G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

On Thursday 31st August, during the day a house in Newnham village was burgled. The offenders have approached the rear patio door and have used a rock to smash the glass. On entry the offenders have committed an untidy search and have stolen jewellery. G4/17/836 refers

G4D – Barley, Barkway, Reed, Therfield, Kelshall and Nuthampstead

Overnight on Sunday 20th August a stables was broken into on Buckland Road, Barkway. The offender cut a padlock to the stable door and stole a strimmer from inside. G4/17/799 Refers

Between 11th and 29th August some veluxe windows and tools were stolen from a building site in Reed village. G4/17/809 Refers

At 22.45 on Tuesday 29th August the garage along the A505 from Royston was broken into. The offenders used a sledge hammer to smash the glass front door, once inside the offenders used a sledge hammer and crow bar to force open a tills / security shutters to steal cigarettes. The three offenders got into a Ford Fiesta st and left the four court at 22.48. G4/17/820 Refers

G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston

Overnight on Tuesday 29th August a stables in Luffenhall village was broken into and horse blankets were stolen. G4/17/538 Refers

Your local Neighbourhood Police Teams website

http://snt.herts.police.uk/Teams.aspx?TeamID=G01

Useful Links

http://www.herts.police.uk/

http://www.doglost.co.uk/
http://www.stolenhorseregister.com/

Royston Rural Neighbourhood Team Tel – 01438 757935