

**BERA E-NEWSLETTER 9th October 2018 – www.bera.co.uk
(printable version of Newsletter is available soon on website if needed)**

Reminders:

BERA – Special Meeting for Members (including a social get together) Tuesday 23rd October at St Augustine's Church from 8pm

We will have a short presentation by Jean Broadbent, the Healthwatch Southend CEO, followed by a question and answer session. Please see link <https://www.healthwatchsouthend.co.uk/> for the health advice and social care they offer.

There will then be a short break for refreshments, after which we will have a short presentation by Southend Fire Station followed by refreshments at the end, and a chance for you to speak to local Independent councillors about any concerns you may have.

If you have elderly neighbours without computer access, who you know are BERA members, could you kindly advise them of this meeting.

The next BERA sponsored coffee morning will be on Thursday 18th October 2018 at The Methodist Church on the corner of Johnstone Road and The Broadway from 10am to 12 midday.

We will be bringing alarms/signs in case any of you want to buy them. The costs are:
PIR sensor alarm £7.38 (the white one)
Defender shock/contact alarm £9.94 (the grey one)
Garage and shed signs £1.19 each

We also have free panic and personal alarms and car key signal blocking pouches available for BERA members.

Which subscription logon details:

Username: [burgeseestate](http://www.bera.co.uk)

Password: [BERAresidents](http://www.bera.co.uk)

1. Southend NHW Crime Data (17th to 30th Sep 2018)

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
Thorpe	42/135108/18	Attempted Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	17/09/2018 18:56	10/09/2018 00:00	Woodgrange Drive	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE ATTEMPTED TO GAIN ACCESS TO THE VICTIMS DWELLING BY USING AN IMPLEMENT LIKE A SCREWDRIVER ON THE FRONT DOOR AND 2 REAR WINDOWS LEAVING GOUGES ON THE FRAME WORK.THE FRONT DOOR HAS GOUGES NEAR THE LOCK.
Thorpe	42/134950/18	Theft if not classified elsewhere	17/09/2018 14:02	16/09/2018 14:30	Eastern Esplanade	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS REMOVED THE VICTIMS PURSE FROM HER INSECURE BAG ON THE BEACH AT LOCATION AND HAS SUBSEQUENTLY REMOVED CASH FROM WITHIN AND MADE CONTACTLESS PURCHASE WITH LLOYD'S DEBIT CARD. THE PURSE HAS BEEN FOUND AND RETURNED TO THE VICTIM MINUS THE CASH

AND CARD.

Thorpe	42/137106/18	Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	21/09/2018 13:24	21/09/2018 13:00	Johnstone Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ENTRY TO LOCATION BY SMASHING THE REAR FRENCH DOORS. ENTRY INTO LOUNGE AND BEDROOMS. MESSY SEARCH CONDUCTED WITHIN. ITEMS REMOVED.
Thorpe	42/139043/18	Theft of a motor vehicle	25/09/2018 07:51	24/09/2018 22:00	Shaftesbury Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS REMOVED VICTIMS VEHICLE BLUE PEUGEOT 207 BY MEANS UNKNOWN.
Thorpe	42/140407/18	Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	27/09/2018 17:23	27/09/2018 15:00	Huntingdon Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ENTRY VIA THE FRONT DOOR TO THE VICTIMS PROPERTY BY MEANS UNKNOWN. TOOL MARKS ON THE DOOR AND LOCK BROKEN. SEARCH CONDUCTED THROUGH UPSTAIRS BEDROOMS.

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
Southchurch	42/134783/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	17/09/2018 09:15	16/09/2018 02:15	Wansfell Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ACCESS TO THE VICTIMS SECURE BLACK AUDI A4 BY MEANS UNKNOWN ONCE INSIDE MESSY SEARCH. LOOSE CHANGE REMOVED FROM CENTRE CONSOLE. EXIT UNKNOWN. NO DAMAGE CAUSED.
Southchurch	42/134799/18	Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Pedal Cycle	17/09/2018 09:44	03/09/2018 00:00	Southchurch Rectory Chase	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN BY MEANS UNKNOWN HAS STOLEN THE VICTIMS INSECURE PEDAL CYCLE FROM THE COMMUNAL GARAGE.
Southchurch	42/135319/18	Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000)	18/09/2018 10:10	17/09/2018 22:00	Whittingham Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS SUPERGLUED THE VICTIMS LETTERBOX AND YALE LOCK ON THE DOOR TO HIS FLAT. THE VICTIM NOW CANNOT LOCK THE FLAT AND THE LETTERBOX AND LOCK WILL NEED REPLACING.
Southchurch	42/136027/18	Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	18/09/2018 15:52	18/09/2018 15:00	Whittingham Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED HAS BARGED INTO THE VICTIMS ADDRESS AND

							SHOUTED ABUSE AT THE VICTIM. SUSPECT HAS REMOVED THE VICTIMS PHONE AND EXITED THE PROPERTY.
Southchurch	42/136494/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	17/09/2018 20:02	16/09/2018 03:47	Shoebury Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE INTERFERED WITH AND STOLEN FROM VEHICLE ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS.
Southchurch	42/136282/18	Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	19/09/2018 21:19	19/09/2018 00:00	Broadclyst Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS ENTERED BY A BACK WINDOW WHICH IS SMASHED AND CONDUCTED A MESSY SEARCH.
Southchurch	42/136353/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	20/09/2018 09:40	19/09/2018 19:45	Shoebury Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ENTRY TO VICTIMS WHITE VAUXHALL CORSA BY MEANS UNKNOWN. NO SIGN OF ANY DAMAGE. A SELECTIVE SEARCH HAS BEEN CONDUCTED AND ITEMS REMOVED.
Southchurch	42/136297/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	20/09/2018 07:24	20/09/2018 03:00	Little Thorpe	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE APPROACHED THE VICTIMS TWO VEHICLES WHICH WERE PARKED ON

THE FRONT DRIVE.
SUSPECTS HAVE
ATTEMPTED TO
ENTER A LOCKED
AND SECURE BLUE
FORD KA
UNSUCCESSFULLY.
THE SUSPECTS
HAVE THEN
GAINED ENTRY TO
A BLACK NISSAN
QASHQAI WHICH IS
BELIEVED TO HAVE
BEEN INSECURE
AND STOLEN THE
SATNAV AND
LOOSE CHANGE.
NO DAMAGE
CAUSED TO EITHER
VEHICLE.

Southchurch	42/136853/18	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)	21/09/2018 02:28	21/09/2018 00:00	Trinity Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS SMASHED THE FRONT NEARSIDE WINDOW OF THE VICTIMS VEHICLE CAUSING AN UNKNOWN VALUE OF DAMAGE. SUSPECT DESCRIBED AS A MALE IN A GREY JACKET WITH A BAG. NOTHING TAKEN FROM THE VEHICLE.
Southchurch	42/137511/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	22/09/2018 10:01	21/09/2018 17:30	Shoebury Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ACCESS TO VICTIMS VEHICLE - WHITE BMW 220D BY MEANS UNKNOWN CAUSING NO

DAMAGE. SUSPECT ENTERED VEHICLE AND HAS TAKEN; THE STEERING WHEEL, AN IPOD, RAY BAN SUNGLASSES AND SOME LOOSE CHANGE FROM WITHIN WITHOUT VICTIMS PERMISSION.

Southchurch	42/138815/18	Interference with a motor vehicle	20/09/2018 08:31	20/09/2018 00:00	Shoebury Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE ATTENDED THE LOCATION ON PUSH BIKES ONE STAYED ON HIS BIKE AND ANOTHER GOT OFF AND OPENED A DOOR OF A VOLKSWAGEN. THE ALARM WENT OFF AND THEY BOTH LEFT ON THEIR BIKES.
Southchurch	42/139656/18	Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	26/09/2018 10:41	24/09/2018 17:00	Southchurch Boulevard	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ENTRY THROUGH THE UNLOCKED FRONT DOOR AND STOLEN SOME MONEY FROM THE VICTIMS PURSE AND THE VICTIMS MOBILE PHONE.
Southchurch	42/139693/18	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)	26/09/2018 10:00	16/07/2018 20:00	Whittingham Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED HAS REPORTEDLY CAUSED 140GBP WORTH OF

DAMAGE TO THE
VICTIMS BLACK
PEUGEOT 306
UNKNOWN.

Southchurch	42/140078/18	Attempted Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	27/09/2018 08:34	23/09/2018 00:00	Hamstel Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS ENTERED THE VICTIMS VEHICLE ON SEPARATE OCCASIONS AND HAS MADE AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THE KEYS VIA THE LETTERBOX.
Southchurch	42/140128/18	Aggravated Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	27/09/2018 02:19	27/09/2018 00:00	Oakleigh Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS NAMED ATTENDED VICTIMS ADDRESS ARMED WITH A HAMMER PUSHED THEIR WAY THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR ONCE INSIDE THEY HAVE REMOVED A DOG.
Southchurch	42/141012/18	Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000)	29/09/2018 02:21	29/09/2018 01:50	Vallance Close	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE HIT THE VICTIMS FRONT DOOR WITH AN UNKNOWN OBJECT CAUSING THE GLASS IN THE DOOR TO SHATTER.
Southchurch	42/141123/18	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)	29/09/2018 08:14	29/09/2018 00:00	Newington Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT HAS GONE ROUND TO THE ADDRESS OF THE VICTIM AND DURING AN

ARGUMENT
SUSPECT HAS
BECOME ANGRY
AND SMASHED A
TV IN THE
PROPERTY WHICH
IS JOINTLY OWNED
BETWEEN THE
PAIR AS WELL AS A
DRAWER FROM A
CHEST OF
DRAWERS.

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
West Shoebury	42/135603/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	18/09/2018 18:41	16/09/2018 00:01	Delaware Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS REMOVED BOTH THE FRONT AND REAR NUMBER PLATES TO THE VICTIMS VEHICLE A SILVER BMW VIA UNKNOWN MEANS AND HAS ALSO STOLEN BOTH THE WING MIRRORS.
West Shoebury	42/136159/18	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)	19/09/2018 20:45	19/09/2018 19:00	Saxon Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT HAS DAMAGED TWO TABLET DEVICES AS WELL AS A DOOR PANE.
West Shoebury	42/137620/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	22/09/2018 13:11	21/09/2018 19:00	Yarnacott	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN BY MEANS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS BLACK BMW 420D M SPORT AND REMOVED THE

HAVE REMOVED THE STEERING WHEEL CENTRE CONSOLE WITH CONTROLS AND VIDEO SCREEN.

West Shoebury	42/137533/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	17/09/2018 06:25	14/09/2018 00:01	Shillingstone	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS VEHICLE CAUSING DAMAGE AND REMOVING PROPERTY FROM WITHIN.
West Shoebury	42/137835/18	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)	22/09/2018 19:06	22/09/2018 07:00	Saxon Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS ENTERED THE VICTIMS GARDEN AND CAUSED DAMAGED TO THE VICTIMS POP UP TENT THAT WAS SECURED IN THE BACK GARDEN BY PEGS. THE POP UP TENT WAS PLACED UNDER THE TRAMPOLINE.
West Shoebury	42/138272/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	20/09/2018 13:51	19/09/2018 23:59	Withypool	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE USED MEANS UNKNOWN TO GAIN ENTRY TO VICTIMS MOTOR VEHICLE BLACK NISSAN JUKE WHICH HAD BEEN LOCKED SECURE. NO DAMAGE CAUSED. MESSY SEARCH

CONDUCTED.
PROPERTY
REMOVED FROM
GLOVE BOX AND
INTERIOR.

West Shoebury	42/138097/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	23/09/2018 10:01	21/09/2018 19:00	Bishopsteignton	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS OPENED THE PASSENGER DOOR AND STOLEN PROPERTY FROM THE GLOVE BOX.
West Shoebury	42/140761/18	Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	28/09/2018 16:58	28/09/2018 12:00	Bishopsteignton	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ENTRY INTO THE VICTIMS PROPERTY BY USING A TOOL TO JEMMY THE KITCHEN WINDOW OPEN CAUSING DAMAGE TO THE WINDOW AND BRICK WORK. ONCE INSIDE SUSPECTS HAVE USED THE VICTIMS CELLOTAPE TO TAPE TISSUE PAPER OVER THREE ALARM SENSORS. SUSPECTS HAVE THEN CONDUCTED A QUICK TIDY SEARCH INSIDE THE HOUSE AND REMOVED 100 EUROS AND SMALL CHANGE. SUSPECTS HAVE SET THE ALARM OFF. SUSPECT THE

LEFT THE SCENE.

West Shoebury	42/141411/18	Attempted Burglary - Residential - Non-Dwelling	29/09/2018 18:10	29/09/2018 11:30	Saxon Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAVE BY MEANS UNKNOWN FORCED THE VICTIMS GARDEN SHED DOOR OPEN. THIS HAS RESULTED IN DAMAGE TO THE HINGES. THE SHED WAS EMPTY SO THERE HAS BEEN NOTHING STOLEN.
West Shoebury	42/141425/18	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)	29/09/2018 20:30	29/09/2018 20:15	Ness Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS BY MEANS THROWN AN UNIDENTIFIED PROJECTILE AT THE BUS - THE VICTIM REP WAS DRIVING A SILVER IRIZAR 16 AD2 DOUBLE DECKER BUS . THIS HAS RESULTED IN DAMAGE TO THE OUTER PANE OF A GLASS WINDOW. THE SUSPECT THEN LEFT THE AREA.

Southend NHW Crime Data (1st to 7th Oct 2018)
Thorpe Ward – No crime recorded in this period

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
Southchurch	42/142296/18	Interference with a motor vehicle	27/09/2018 22:31	27/09/2018 01:30	Shoebury Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNIDENTIFIED HAVE ENTERED THE INFORMANTS BLACK VOLVO C90 BY MEANS UNKNOWN. NOTHING TAKEN.
Southchurch	42/142046/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	26/09/2018 20:21	24/09/2018 16:30	Whittingham Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN REMOVED A CASE BELONGING TO THE VICTIM CONTAINING BANK CARDS AND OTHER ITEMS FROM THE CENTRE CONSOLE OF THE VICTIMS VEHICLE AND SUBSEQUENTLY USED ONE OF THE BANK CARDS THREE TIMES.
Southchurch	42/143191/18	Theft of a motor vehicle	03/10/2018 08:40	02/10/2018 16:30	Barnstaple Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS REMOVED THE VICTIMS RED AND BLACK TOYOTA YARIS OFF OF THE DRIVEWAY BY MEANS UNKNOWN. NOTHING WAS LEFT AT THE SCENE.

Southchurch	42/143221/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	03/10/2018 10:18	02/10/2018 18:00	Cherrybrook	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN BY MEANS UNKNOWN HAS STOLEN MONEY FROM INSIDE THE VICTIMS KIA SPORTAGE.
Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
West Shoebury	42/142175/18	Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000)	01/10/2018 08:49	01/10/2018 08:40	Saxon Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED HAS SMASHED THE VICTIMS PLATES, UPSTAIRS DOORS AND A DOWNSTAIRS WINDOW.
West Shoebury	42/143173/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	30/09/2018 10:31	20/09/2018 23:00	Maplin Way North	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN BY MEANS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ASSESS TO THE VICTIMS VEHICLE AND REMOVED ITEMS FROM WITHIN. NO DAMAGE WAS CAUSED TO THE VEHICLE.
West Shoebury	42/145077/18	Theft if not classified elsewhere	06/10/2018 17:17	03/10/2018 12:57	Seaview Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS COME IN TO THE VICTIMS FRONT GARDEN AND HAS UNDONE A GARDEN ORNAMENT FROM A HANGING BASKET NEAR THE FRONT DOOR AND STOLEN IT.

West Shoebury	42/145167/18	Theft if not classified elsewhere	06/10/2018 21:11	01/01/2018 00:00	Saxon Gardens	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED IS REFUSING TO RETURN ITEMS TO THE VICTIM THAT WERE BEING STORED BY THE SUSPECT.
West Shoebury	42/145122/18	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)	05/10/2018 18:05	24/09/2018 00:00	Seaview Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS DRAWN OVER THE VICTIMS VEHICLE IN MARKER PEN WHICH HAS CAUSED HER TO HAVE TO FIND OUT HOW TO REMOVE IT EFFECTIVELY AND THEN GET IT CLEANED OFF. VEHICLE IS A PURPLE FORD FIESTA E.

2. Existing Telecommunications Mast, THORPE BAY ATE, STATION ROAD, THORPE BAY, SOUTHEND ON SEA, ESSEX, SS1 3JY

This letter is to draw your attention **to a proposal by Arqiva to install mobile phone network equipment on the existing mast we know as Thorpe Bay ATE.**

Arqiva builds, owns, hosts and operates shared radio telecommunications infrastructure. It owns and operates the UK's TV and radio broadcasting transmitter network, and it hosts a large number of other radio transmission services on its sites, including the equipment at Thorpe Bay ATE.

To improve its service Telefonica O2 has approached Arqiva to locate mobile telecommunications equipment at Thornaby on Thorpe Bay ATE.

The proposal is to remove six antennas and install six new antennas on the existing steelwork, along with a number of ancillary items known as 'RRU's which sit behind the antennas and replacement cabling.

The installation as currently proposed constitutes a 'Permitted Development' which does not require planning permission or prior approval from the planning authority.

3. Burges Road dip

We have gone back to the council following numerous emails from BERA members and they plan to monitor the situation on a daily basis. Our worry is that in the winter this dip may fill with water which will freeze overnight, meaning hazardous conditions the next day.

4. Speeding cars

Just a quick reminder to you all to be aware of speed limits, especially on side roads, as we receive a lot of complaints about speeding drivers, many of whom are on their mobile phones. Do not be intimidated and speed up if a car is tailgating you.

5. Concert series returns to Southend

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council are delighted to announce the return of the ever-popular annual concert series, starting on 12 October 2018, finishing in June 2019.

The series of 8 chamber music concerts is made up of performances from internationally renowned musicians. The concerts take place at the Plaza Centre, Southchurch Road, SS1 2PT.

The first performance on Friday 12 October, will be given by The London Mozart Players Quintet, who will be performing music by Boccherini, Arensky and Schubert's beautiful String Quintet. The London Mozart Players is the UK's longest established chamber orchestra, performing widely across the UK, Europe and the Far East. The orchestra has had a great many recordings and broadcasts over the years, in addition to their wide educational outreach programme. The uniqueness of the orchestra enables them to form smaller groups as for tonight's concert, when 5 of its most experienced players will be performing in Southend.

Between October and June, attendees have the opportunity to see musical talent ranging from concert pianists John Lill and Peter Donohoe, to the highly acclaimed vocal ensemble Tenebrae Consort, and international solo guitarist Gary Ryan, and much more.

It is such a unique opportunity for music-lovers to experience certain styles of music which they may have not contemplated listening to before, which shows the cultural lifestyle of Southend as a Borough.

Booking tickets for the whole series is quick and easy to do online, and offers the full series for just £66 (£58 for concessions). Alternatively, tickets for each concert have a maximum price of £10, with a discount available to members of the Southend Council Concert Club.

Visit <http://www.southend.gov.uk/concerts> or call 01702 215011 Monday to Friday during office hours. Tickets can also be purchased at the Plaza Centre (Southchurch Road), Allegro Music (London Road, Westcliff) and the Visitors' Information Centre (Southend Pier).

6. World Mental Health Day

Please join Open Arts in celebrating World Mental Health Day On Wednesday 10th October 2018 from 12.30pm to 3.30pm at Hadleigh Old Fire Station SS7 2PA (Opposite Morrisons)

12.30pm to 3.30pm Open Arts exhibition

1.30pm to 2.30pm Southend Jazz Coop

Refreshments and Parking available

For information please call Jo Keay 07580 982462 www.openartsessex.com

7. Roofing Scam

Essex Trading Standards are issuing a warning concerning roofing companies currently believed to be operating in Colchester area but may also be operating Essex wide. The indication is that individuals linked to the company could be intentionally loosening or removing roof tiles during the night and then approaching the householders the next day or

shortly after to rectify the problem, initially at a low cost. If the householder agrees to the work then the nature of the 'necessary' work can quickly escalate to include complete roof replacement, fascia's etc. with the cost escalating to thousands of pounds.

Householders are advised to never agree to work following a doorstep approach, if they feel that work is necessary they should obtain 3 quotes from reputable traders, ideally members of the Trading Standards approved Buy With Confidence Scheme (www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk). If anyone receives an approach similar to the above please report it to Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 03454 040506.

8. Car key signal blockers

We have ordered some car key signal blocking pouches which we will be giving away free to BERA members. These will be available at our next coffee morning or you can email cllrstafford@southend.gov.uk or ronwoodley@hotmail.co.uk if you would like one and we can arrange a date and time for you to collect it. We only purchased a limited number to start with to see how popular they are.

9. Tips for a crime free Christmas shop.

The tips for a crime free Christmas shop start before you leave your house, after all you don't want to come home to find the house broken into.

- a. Garden tools securely locked away in the shed – Burglars will be happy to use your tools to break into your house.
- b. Create the illusion your home is occupied - Radio and lights on a timer in rooms you would normally occupy, there is even a device called "Fake TV" that flashes a series of lights when it gets dark that looks like the TV is on. There are now door bells that you can view and answer from your Smartphone.
- c. Lock up properly not just your windows and doors in the house, but also any gates and outbuildings.
- d. Choose a "Park Mark" car park where you can <http://www.parkmark.co.uk/> . By choosing a Park Mark® Safer Parking facility you are visiting a car park that has been vetted by the Police and has measures in place in order to create a safer environment for both you and your vehicle.
- e. Leave nothing in sight within your car, remove the "Sat Nav" cradle and clean the mark on the windscreen.
- f. When you lock your car with the remote look for the light flash confirmation or better still try the door handle before leaving the car.
- g. Now you're starting your shop watch your purse, wallet, mobile phone and handbag especially in busy places, don't leave them on display in bags or on counters while you pay, and while you're paying watch that no one is watching you entering your PIN when making purchases or withdrawing cash.

h. Time to stop for lunch or a cuppa, don't drop your guard. Mobile phone on the table, shopping by the chair, wallet or purse visible, coat, jacket or handbag over the chair; if a thief sees it a thief will steal it.

i. Need to off load some of those purchases in the car, look around are you being watched? Back to (e & f) above again.

j. Time go home, don't fall for any distractions while you load the car i.e. "you dropped some money" pointing to cash on the ground, holding a map "can you tell me the way to...". While you are engaged the second person steals from your car on the other side. Close and lock your car before speaking to anyone.

10. Here is a brief summary of the crime information for Southend-on-Sea for the past two months:

	July 2018	August 2018
All crime	383	295
Anti-social behaviour	105	73
Bicycle theft	5	9
Burglary	18	29
Criminal damage and arson	36	17
Drugs	4	3
Other crime	3	3
Other theft	31	20
Possession of weapons	4	3
Public order	22	24
Robbery	1	2
Shoplifting	19	6
Theft from the person	1	4
Vehicle crime	37	34
Violence and sexual offences	97	68

11. High Street action plan launched with new Community Safety team in place

An action plan aimed at reducing problems such as aggressive begging, rough sleeping and anti-social behaviour has been launched.

Following a summit held on Monday 24 September, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council – working in partnership with Southend Police, Southend Business Improvement District (BID) and several other local charities and agencies, has developed an action plan which will address six key areas.

Additionally, and commencing work on 15 October 2018, six new uniformed Community Safety team officers working across a seven-day week will support the Police and other agencies in reducing antisocial behaviour in the town centre.

The six objectives of the action plan are:

- End rough sleeping in the High Street
- Reduce begging, professional begging and associated anti-social behaviour
- Improve communications to ensure a consistent approach and enable better understanding of key issues
- Make the High Street feel safer and attractive to local community and visitors
- Improve anti-social behaviour enforcement in the High Street
- Reduce Street drinking and improve interventions for street drinkers

Following the summit, a number of initiatives were swiftly put into place.

- The recruitment of a six-person Community Safety team for the town centre.
- Improving the street scene in conjunction with businesses by carefully removing any unattended items from privately owned shopfronts, doorways and publicly owned highway. Personal possessions would be stored and made available to collect.
- Increasing the number of outreach visits in order to help rough sleepers, including substance misuse experts.
- Launching a highly visible campaign later this month across central Southend to encourage shoppers to donate to local charity, instead of giving their change to people begging.
- Developing a strategy to identify and implement enforcement legislation that will help us ensure street drinking is reduced.
- Develop a community grant to support cultural events in the High Street, and commission more High Street events that encourage footfall into the area.
- New 'no drinking' signage commissioned and installed and ensure necessary powers are being implemented.
- Developing a new treatment programme to improve support available to street drinkers.

BERA COMMENT: It is a pity they didn't start doing this some time ago. After all, the legislation has been in place from the very beginning. It does concern us that there are only an additional 6 people covering 24 hours a day 7 days a week in the town centre. What about the rest of the neighbouring areas in the town. It's a start but the numbers are insufficient.