

# Bobby Van News

## 2018 Edition



## The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Registered Charity No. 1153790

### Correspondence:

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### Website:

[www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk)

## Job Figures 2017 - Total 1,251

Burglary .....	128
Attempted Burglary.....	34
Non-Dwelling Burglary.....	38
Criminal Damage.....	11
Rogue Trader.....	61
Theft.....	32
Bogus Official.....	8
Distraction Burglary.....	4
Cyber Crime .....	58
Domestic Abuse .....	189
Visits to Vulnerable.....	622
Anti-Social Behaviour.....	16
Suspicious Incident.....	30
Other.....	12

## Director's Message

### Safeguarding people for 20 years

**Stay Safe Online** At the Trust we recognize that the loneliness felt by our clients continues to increase, as life expectancy rises and people increasingly living alone or far from their families. A recent study showed that a fifth of older Britons felt lonely all of the time. This isolation has a serious effect on both their mental and physical health. The computer helps to prevent loneliness, it enables people to keep in touch with family and friends, interests and is a useful shopping tool. Our Stay Safe Online Scheme was launched last year to ensure our clients are safe whilst using their computers. Further details of the scheme are overleaf.

**Social Media** Please have a look at our new website that our administrator, Paula Evans, has transformed; she is also our social media guru. Our Facebook and Twitter pages are where all the latest news, security tips and information can be found and is regularly updated with information supplied by Wiltshire Police.

**General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)** Email is an important means of communication and these new regulations coming into force in May means that only those who have given explicit consent can be contacted by email. So if you can help us cut our postage costs and are happy to receive the newsletter and information on fundraising events by email please send your consent to [jennie@hazelandmill.co.uk](mailto:jennie@hazelandmill.co.uk) if you have not already done so.

**Modern Day Heroes** Our home security service was once known as 'Wiltshire's best kept secret'. We have worked hard to raise public awareness of our service. This has led to an increase in referrals and we have recently appointed a third operator, Will Todd, to cope with the demand. Based mid county he is ideally located to support Mick Leighfield in the south of the County and Doug Batchelor in the north and Swindon. Doug recently attended a client who described him as a modern day hero. Well Wiltshire now has three heroes operating in the County

For me, this is my 11th year at the Trust, and I want to thank our Patron, Vice Patrons, Trustees, headed by Robert Hiscox, the wonderful volunteers and the operational team for their continued support and for making this role so rewarding. And of course our donors without whom we couldn't carry out this vital work.



*James Shaw*



Proud to help the community



## Stay Safe Online

Our new Stay Safe Online service was launched at Wiltshire Police HQ in May 2017 by Angus McPherson, Wiltshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, ex Chief Constable Mike Veale and Bobby Van Chairman, Robert Hiscox, alongside our fabulous volunteers and team.

This service is unique in offering advice and assistance across Swindon & Wiltshire. The Trust fully understands that raising awareness about computer fraud and, what to do if you have concerns over your online safety, will help prevent and reduce this type of crime. Unfortunately, in this day and age we can no longer live in a world that is built on trust alone. Computer fraud is the fastest growing crime targeting the over 60's. We know that cyber-crime and fraud can have a devastating impact, both financially and emotionally, on victim's lives.

Our volunteers are on hand for one-to-one home visits or group talks to raise awareness about computer fraud. They have already visited over 55 homes and given 15 talks and the feedback has been full of praise for this new service, which is a welcome addition to the Bobby Van remit.

If you are aged over 60, or 18+ with any form of registered disability and have concerns about your online safety you can request a home visit or to arrange a group talk please call 01380 861191.



Friends Against Scams has been created to tackle the lack of scams awareness by providing information about scams and those who fall victim to them. This information enables communities and organisations to understand scams, talk about scams and cascade messages throughout communities about scams prevention and protection. For further details go to: [www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk](http://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk).

## Bobby Van Community Group Talks

In 2017 we saw a marked increase in talks given by our team. The figure rose from 74 in 2016 to 118. These talks are instrumental in spreading the advice that the Bobby Van give on personal and home safety. These talks are around an hour long and are normally delivered by one of the Security Operators, and incorporate a 'show and tell' element on the types of security items that they use and install in people's homes. People are able to see and touch the kind of locks and door chains etc. that we use, they are also able to see items such as security marking pens and the UV lights to see the markings. Our external key-safes are a popular item so that family, carers and emergency services can access a house with a code should the resident be unable to open the door. Awareness is raised over simple good security behaviours, such as locking doors, when to use a door chain, and dealing with rogue traders. Security Operators are always happy to answer questions from the audience, and take referrals for follow-up home visits.

We have also been increasing our talks to the police and other partner services that we work with, not only to raise awareness of our work, but to ensure that they know about our new Stay Safe Online service and how to refer people to us for assistance.

Our revamped website, [www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk), includes information on these talks. If you know of any community groups that would like a member of our team to attend please call the office on 01380 861155.



# World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

On 15 June events around the world marked Elder Abuse Awareness day and locally Board members and partners were out raising awareness of financial abuse in Trowbridge.

In Wiltshire almost 60% of financial abuse cases confirmed by the council's safeguarding adults team in 2016/17 involved a victim who was over 65. Tackling financial abuse is a priority for WSAB because we can all take steps to help prevent it and because financial abuse can make someone who is independent feel, and then become, less confident and more vulnerable.

Professionals from the council's safeguarding adults and trading standards teams, Carer Support Wiltshire, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service and our own Bobby Van Operator, Douglas Batchelor, talked to professionals and the public in Trowbridge.



## Masonic Lodges

throughout Wiltshire have been supporting the Trust since it began in 1998. This year to celebrate their 300th anniversary they were giving £3 million to charities across the UK. The Trust was nominated to be one of the four charities in Wiltshire. The amount each received was decided through a public vote and we received £6,000 which Provincial Charity Steward, Ian Priest, presented to the Trust at the Grand Provincial Lodge in Salisbury on Thursday 5th October. Thank you to everyone who voted for us.

[www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirebobbyvan.org.uk)



Our website has been overhauled and is now a font of information on our services, security tips and forthcoming events. As well as our Blog there are links to follow us on Twitter and Facebook. Please do take a look and keep up to date with all the latest Bobby Van news.



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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR 2018

26/27th April	Annual Bobby Van Clothes Sale, Hazeland Mill, Bremhill
9/10th June	WAPG Steam Rally, Rainscombe Park, Oare
29th July	Ride London-Surrey 100 Cycle Event - places available, please contact Bobby Van office
11/12th August	Swindon and Cricklade Railway Vintage and Sensational 60s Weekend
16th September	Emergency Services Show, Cotswold Airport
26th October	Charity Dinner/Dance at Mere
28/30th October	Clothes Sale at Hillbrush Factory Visitors Centre, Mere, BA12 6FE. For further details of both the clothes sale and dinner/dance at Mere go to the Convish Farm Charity Events page on Facebook.

**Bowood Hotel, Spa and Golf Resort** hosts our **Ladies' Lunches** on the first Thursday of every month. Arrive at 12:30pm for lunch at 1:00pm. Two courses £25 to include main course, dessert and a glass of wine (Price includes a donation of £5 to the Bobby Van Trust).

To make a reservation please call Bowood Hotel Reception on: 01249 822228

If you would like to be added to our contact list and be notified of future events, or further details of the events above, please email Jennie: [jennie@hazelandmill.co.uk](mailto:jennie@hazelandmill.co.uk)

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## Thanks to one and all:



Many thanks to DC Michael O'Sullivan who completed the 2017 London Marathon in a personal best time of 3hrs 46 mins! An exhausted but elated Michael said the next day "Thank you for giving me the

opportunity to do it and for all your support. Thank you to everyone who has sponsored me or who has offered me support along the way. If you ever get the opportunity to run the London Marathon do it, it truly is a great day and I loved every moment of yesterday."



Kelly Watts, a Police Community Support Officer based at Devizes, Wiltshire, has worked for Wiltshire Police for over 10 years. During that time, she has worked closely with The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust team. It has been one of her personal goals to do a sky dive and she thought

there was no better way of doing one than to combine it with raising money for this great local charity. She raised £647 so thank you to Kelly and all those who sponsored her.



Once again a massive thank you to Annette and Nick Mason for opening their beautiful gardens at Middlewick House. The weather held, sausages were sizzled and gallons of tea and coffee were drunk. The cars were, as always, an added bonus to be able to wander around and admire. A total of £23,500 was split between the Bobby Van and Wiltshire Air Ambulance Air Base Appeal.



## Special thanks to:

Lord & Lady Lansdowne for supporting the Trust through the Bowood Christmas Extravaganza and our Ladies' Lunches at Bowood Hotel.

Noel, his team at the Co-op Food Store in Trowbridge and their customers for raising £2,780.

Scott Symes of Symes Wealth Management Ltd for his £1,000 donation from the St James's Place Partnership Charitable Foundation.

Please use this form to send a donation in support of The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

Donation    £ \_\_\_\_\_

*PLEASE PRINT YOUR DETAILS BELOW*

Title/Name    \_\_\_\_\_

Home \_\_\_\_\_

Address    \_\_\_\_\_

*(including post code)*    \_\_\_\_\_

Date    \_\_\_\_\_

*giftaid it*

A Gift Aid donation means that for every one pound you give, we can claim an extra 25p back from the Inland Revenue.

Donations from individuals qualify for Gift Aid if you pay UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the amount we can reclaim on your gift.

**Yes, I would like this donation, and any future gifts I make to The Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust, to be treated as Gift Aid.**

**Gift Aid signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Or alternatively you can donate online at:

