

## Stay Safe, Stay Connected Project 2016-2017 – 6 month update

### Grant

In June 2016 Solva Care was awarded a grant of £4,635 by the Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner for PCSO Jude Parr, and Sue Denman of Solva Care to run a project called 'Stay Safe, Stay Connected'. The aim of the Project is to raise awareness of scams by mail, telephone, text, internet and doorstep callers, and to prevent our community from falling victim to fraudsters. Sue Denman and Lena Dixon, Co-ordinator of Solva Care have been working closely with PCSO Jude Parr and Sandra McSparron of Trading Standards to provide information through the village newsletter, run prevention session for volunteers and organise meet-the-police-sessions.



### Regular meetings

We started by meeting with PCSO Jude Parr to discuss our plan for activities. Secondly, we arranged to meet Sandra McSparron to explore how we could work together to mutual benefit. Since then the four of us have held regular project meetings every two months.

### Publicity: Leaflet and Village newsletter

One of the first actions we took was to design and print a leaflet adapted to the Solva Community. The leaflet was distributed at all the major local events in Solva ( the Edge Festival and the Church Fete) and to all households in the village in August 2016. There has been a section about the project in the monthly Solva newsletter including interviews with Jude and Sandra along with information about how the Police and Trading Standards can help and who to contact.



### Activities 2016

#### 26 October

IT Training on the safe use of internet for volunteers provided by Digital Communities Wales, covering topics such as using Social Media, ways of supporting people using digital tech and some useful apps/sites for health and wellbeing. Volunteers are 'cascading' the training to primarily elderly residents.

#### 17 Nov 2016

Film evening with the screening of 'Catch me if you can' and talks by the Police & Trading Standards. It was attended by 23 residents and seven randomly selected attendees were followed up with a short

interview to evaluate the evening. The age range of the respondents was 1 (30-40), 1 (50-60), 4 (60-70), 1 (70-80). Most (5) did not feel that they had learned anything new. This was due to the presentations by the Police being short and lacking information. Most (6) found the evening useful and all enjoyed it. On a scale of 1-5 (5 being excellent) all thought the evening was excellent or very good. All thought that the event successfully raised their awareness of scams.



### 8 December 2016

Special coffee morning in Solva Memorial Hall where people were encouraged to bring along or share information about scams they had come across. Jude and Sandra assisted and the morning was attended by approximately 20 people. There were information packs distributed by the Police of *How to stay safe over the Christmas season*, which residents could take home.



We also ran a quiz in the December Newsletter (see below), the prize being a trueCall device (the secure plus model) worth £119.99. There were 30 entries and a draw was made of all those by residents aged over 60, to pick the winner of the telephone device. Anyone under 60 had the chance to win the 'Catch me if you can' Blu-ray DVD.

### Pick the right answer from the options given

1. The number you should call to report a scam to your neighbourhood police officers.  
1. 103    2. 101    3. 999
2. If a website has an address ending with .co.uk it is always safe to use.  
1. true    2. false
3. If a stranger calls you, and has lots of information about you, should you accept that they are from a legitimate company?  
1. always    2. sometimes    3. never
4. A person calls you saying you have problems with your computer and that they can help. It is best that you  
1. accept their help    2. say you will call them back    3. say no thank you
5. A cold caller comes to your door and offers to do a job for a price. It is best that you  
1. ask them to give you a written quote    2. say no thank you    3. say come back next week you'll think about it

### Future plans under discussion

Include a further IT Training Session, coffee morning, film evening and an exhibition. We will also have fridge magnets made with relevant phone numbers to report scams.