

# Fear of Crime Events

Over 500 people attended AGEnda's Fear of Crime events last week. Events were held in Newtownards, Holywood, Bangor, Comber & Portaferry. Each event provided tips, advice, contact numbers and an opportunity to meet the PSNI, NI Fire & Rescue Service and many others to learn about home safety. The focus of the project was on how to deal with bogus callers to the house, nuisance calls and scams by post, phone or online. Fear of Crime built on the successful Safety of Seniors events held in February this year. Both projects were funded by the Police Community Safety Partnership (PCSP). Following this latest event, a series of videos outlining the support available and a list of useful tips to reduce the fear

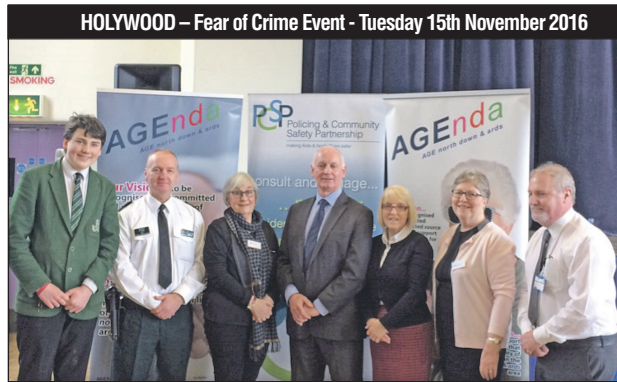
of crime will be available via the AGEnda website. Almost everyone will have had an unwanted visitor, phone call, letter or email. With only 1 in 20 reporting a scam, it's important that older people are aware of potential scams and take practical steps to protect themselves. The events not only highlighted a number of individual stories but also signposted a number of free services for older people: **Good Morning Call.** Good Morning Call is a free service from AGEnda that will call each morning to make sure you are ok (Call AGEnda on 028 91271968, e-mail [agenda@agenorthdownards.co.uk](mailto:agenda@agenorthdownards.co.uk) web page [www.agenorthdownards.co.uk](http://www.agenorthdownards.co.uk) for more information).

**Home Accident Prevention** – If you're over 65, Home Accident Prevention (HAP) can call at your house and provide a free home safety check. They can provide support eg sticky mats and lights that will reduce the chances of someone falling and hurting themselves. **NI Fire & Rescue Service** – Provide a free fire safety check to people over 60 (call 028 9260 0477 for more information). NIFRS encourage people to test their smoke alarms, plan what they would do in the event of a fire and to be cautious with electric blankets and overloaded circuits. **Ards & North Down Secure Homes** – has a free service whereby someone from the PCSP can come and visit your home. They will offer tips and advice, and can offer various support from intercoms and door chains to CCTV in extreme circumstances. Call AGEnda if you would like to arrange a referral. **Personal Alarms** Many older people live on their own. To increase their safety, AGE NI offer a personal alarm service that you carry with

you when in the house and can press at any time (call 028 9023 3341 for more information). **Free Helpline** Finally, Silver Line is a recently launched free helpline (call 0800 4 70 80 90) that provides older people with advice, information and friendship. A full list of tips and advice will be available shortly but key tips coming up to Christmas include: Lock your front and back doors and don't answer the door to someone you don't know. Ask for identification and call **Quick Check** free on **0800 0132290** before letting someone claiming to be from NIE etc in to the house. Quick Check will confirm whether someone should be in the area. Don't have cash in your house, and hide valuables from display. If you get a call, letter or email asking for money or access to your computer be very careful. Always wait and contact someone you trust before proceeding – Don't be rushed into something.



**NEWTOWNARDS – Fear of Crime Event - Monday 14th November 2016**  
Alan McCay Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP), Julie Morton Alzheimers Society NI, Phil Donnan Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS), Dorothy Beattie AGEnda, Alderman Ian Henry PCSP, Albert Spratt PCSP & Ards & North Down over 50's Forum, Inspector Ray Shaw Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI)



**HOLYWOOD – Fear of Crime Event - Tuesday 15th November 2016**  
Robert Burkee from Rockport School, Inspector Ray Shaw PSNI, Ann Martin Ards & North Down over 50's Forum, Alderman Ian Henry PCSP, Kay Barrie PCSP, Dorothy Beattie AGEnda, Alan McCay PCSP.



**BANGOR – Fear of Crime Event - Wednesday 16th November 2016**  
Inspector Ray Shaw PSNI, Bernie Kennedy Ards & North Down over 50's Forum, Dorothy Beattie AGEnda, Alderman Ian Henry PCSP, Alderman Bill Keery Deputy Mayor of Ards & North Down, Albert Spratt PCSP, Simon Crowe NIFRS



**COMBER – Fear of Crime Event - Thursday 17th November 2016**  
Back Row – Alan McCay PCSP, Margaret McMahon Ards & North Down over 50's Forum, Constable Jackie Martin PSNI, Jonathan Gamble NIFRS, Councillor Trevor Cummings PCSP, Front Row – Des McAuley AGEnda, Dorothy Beattie AGEnda, Alderman Deborah Girvan Mayor of Ards & North Down, Albert Spratt PCSP



**PORTAFERRY – Fear of Crime Event - Friday 18th November 2016**  
Back Row L-R - Liam McGarry Facilitator McGarry Consultants, Kaye Boyle Ards & North Down over 50's Forum, Alan McCay PCSP, Jonathan Gamble NIFRS, Robin Holliday Ards & North Down over 50's Forum. Front Row L-R - Inspector Ray Shaw PSNI, Dorothy Beattie AGEnda, Pam Williamson Street Pastors, Frances Wong Ards & North Down over 50's Forum, Chief Inspector Hazel Reid PSNI



**PORTAFERRY – Fear of Crime Event - Friday 18th November 2016**  
AGEnda Volunteers who supported the Portaferry Fear of Crime Event  
Back Row L-R: Robin Holliday, Ann Martin, Bernie Kennedy, Margaret McMahon, Janet Lavery  
AGEnda Front Row L-R: Frances Wong, Kaye Boyle