



HEATHWATCH

THE QUARTERLY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER FOR SURREY HEATH
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surreyheathnw.co.uk

Message From The Chairman, Jan Warwick

In these times of multiple strikes affecting every area of our lives coupled with the cost of living crisis, it is reassuring to be part of such an amazing group of Volunteers who make up the Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group. Together with over 300 Watch Coordinators who are constantly looking out for others in their Community and keeping our streets and Surrey Heath a safer place to live. We should be grateful that Surrey is still the 4th safest County in the UK. You will see that this is a 'bumper' issue of 'HeathWatch' with 8 pages – we hope you enjoy the content.

Since our last meeting in November, SHNW have welcomed 26 new Watch Coordinators across the Borough (full list on page 8). We are delighted to announce that this includes our very first Community based Watch scheme at St Peter's Church in Frimley. (see the full story on page 4).

As you will see in Inspector Matt Walton's article which follows, Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch have continued to be very active supporting Surrey Heath Police over the past 5 months.

You may have heard that Gavin Stephens, the current Chief Constable for Surrey Police will be taking up a new appointment as Chair of the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC). Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch wishes him well in his new role and thanks him for all he has done. I was honoured to be invited to join Lisa Townsend, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey on her 'Assessment Panel' to support her in the recruitment process to find a new Chief Constable. I am delighted that Tim de Meyer has been named as our new Chief Constable for Surrey and will take up the position in April. The full article from the PCC can be found via this link https://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk/new-chief-constable-join-surrey-police-following-unanimous-approval-commissioners-preferred-candidate/?fbclid=IwAR2TMGZS5cz79aNTbUYQuoA-fc4Qws988--NoMD7Kom_yRzSiDse7XbRlo



Lisa Townsend, Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey congratulating Tim de Meyer on his appointment.



Congratulations to Tim Tostevin, SHNW Treasurer and Cyberhood Watch Ambassador, who was presented a Surrey Neighbourhood Watch Award by Alison Barlow, Assistant Chief Constable for Surrey Police, for his work on the Surrey Cybercrime Awareness Campaign.



This newsletter is produced by the Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group with funding received from Safer Surrey Heath Partnership, Windlesham Parish Council and from Surrey Police in the promotion of Neighbourhood Watch and the distribution of HeathWatch. We gratefully acknowledge their generosity in supporting us.



Update from Inspector Matt Walton

With the Christmas period now behind us, we are now approaching the Spring so we will take this opportunity to both look back over the past three months successes and look forward to the future.

In October we conducted Operation Invasion which saw officers from across the west Surrey police division work a focused day of action for the borough. It included all our partners - the Council, the Housing Association, Crimestoppers, and most importantly Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch members.



Over the course of the day, we had crime prevention and cybercrime stands with members of the Watch there to help, plus joint patrols later in the day focused on burglary and keyless vehicle theft. The day was successful and the results included:

- Six drivers given words of advice for speeding and twenty-eight warning letters sent out.
- One Community protection notice was issued to a male for begging in Camberley town centre.
- Four vehicles stopped for checks re waste carrier licences.
- Youth engagement activities including visits to all the local secondary schools.
- Hotels and other locations visited as part of Operation Makesafe linked to the prevention of child exploitation.
- Two males arrested on suspicion of theft from motor vehicles (catalytic converters), one was arrested for failing to stop and assaulting police. Another male wanted for domestic criminal damage arrested.
- We conducted test purchase operations against nine licensed premises and three of these premises failed. Two for selling alcohol to under age people and one for selling alcohol and vapes. All the locations visited for knives passed, which shows our education efforts with these premises are working.

We are now conducting smaller joint borough operations every month. We look forward to reporting in the next issue of HeathWatch about another Op Invasion which ran in early March, where we were again assisted by members of SHNW.

Another key area for me over the past few months has been Camberley town centre. A spike in serious violence caused me to authorise a section 35 dispersal order. This gave my officers additional powers to remove those causing ASB from the town during the night-time and make the place safer for you to visit. This in conjunction with partnership work to address poor driving behaviour by delivery drivers and restoring things like the gate to the town led to a significant drop in violence and ASB – in January 2023 there has been a **decrease of 19%** of incidents compared to last year.



The joint press release for this work can be found by following this link : <https://www.surreyheath.gov.uk/news/surrey-heath-borough-council-driving-improvements-camberley-town-centre-partnership-surrey>

Whilst the dispersal has now ended, due to the reduction, this will be kept under review, and we have support from our volunteer Special Constables in keeping up the visible patrols on Friday/Saturday nights. Whilst talking about the town centre I was pleased for my team to be part of the Christmas lights switch on and would like to say again a big thanks to SNHW for their support at our joint stand that day.



As we move away from Winter and enter the start of Spring, we are beginning to see an increase in thefts from motor vehicles, in particular tools being taken from vans. We are working hard to ensure members of the public are taking the right steps to prevent and help detect this crime, ensuring their vehicles are secure, valuable items removed, property marked, within an area of CCTV and/or security lighting, if possible, etc. SHNW has a key role in helping to share this advice either at events in your neighbourhood or in those conversations with your friends and family. If you follow this link, you will find all our current advice around vehicle crime. Vehicle crime is now a priority for us, and we are working hard to tackle this.

<https://www.surrey.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/>

It was excellent to see the work by SHNW in getting St Peters in Frimley into the network, as these are key enablers in community engagement. We recently conducted joint meetings at both St Peters and St Pauls that were well received.



I would like to congratulate our long serving PCSO Vince Wakeling who not only achieved a “Surrey Star” award with Surrey Police but also was awarded Police Officer or employee of Surrey Police who has made a most valuable contribution in support of Neighbourhood Watch in 2022. He received his award on 9th February at Horton Park Golf Club, presented by Assistant Chief Constable Alison Barlow. His nomination included the following :

“Vince Wakeling is a self-motivated individual whose sole focus is the Surrey Heath Community and doing what is best for them no matter what it takes. He goes above and beyond to keep victims of crime and antisocial behaviour updated on police action and looks to the long-term problem solving to resolve these issues and regularly collaborates with partner agencies to facilitate this. Vince is an advocate for the Neighbourhood Watch initiative and has been working alongside the area Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator to increase the NHW schemes in the area to 100% coverage, this was part of a project to reduce the number of burglaries in the area which has shown success and a reduction in offences so it has been expanded to the whole area that Vince covers as well as the wider Surrey Heath area.”



PCSO Vince Wakeling receiving his SNWA Award from Assistant Chief Constable Alison Barlow for 'Surrey Police officer who has made a most valuable contribution in support of Neighbourhood Watch in 2022'.

Finally, I am sad to report that I will have moved on to a new Role by the time you read this article. I became Borough Commander for Spelthorne on the north end of our policing area on 12th March. I have been replaced by Inspector Sam Turner, who will hopefully remain in post until September/October 2023, when Inspector Gemma Taylor will be returning from maternity leave. It has been incredibly rewarding working in the Surrey Heath borough, in particular with the SHNW. Thank you for all your support in trying to make this area even safer to live and work in for everyone.

St Peter's Church, Frimley joins Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch to create our first "Community Watch Scheme"

The SHNW Support Group is delighted to have worked with the Church Wardens and others from St Peter's Church in Frimley to set up our very first Community based Watch scheme.

Whilst we have more than 300 watch schemes active in our Borough, to date these have all covered specific roads or groups of residential properties. We recognise that there are areas where schemes are not operating and/or where residents may be reluctant to join. Therefore, in conjunction with the Surrey Heath Police team, we thought about having organisations, such as local churches, run their own schemes which would then cover a wider area, rather than the traditional road-based approach, and which can then be open to any of their parishioners, wherever they live.

St Peter's Church in Frimley is a group with whom we had developed good links, and so our Area Coordinator, Jackie Davies and our Surrey Police Community Engagement Volunteer, Rob Freeman approached them to see if they thought a Watch scheme would benefit them and their parishioners.

The idea was met with a positive response because the Church had been experiencing some issues around antisocial behaviour in and around the church yard plus previous issues with youths gathering and fighting.

Frimley Parish Neighbourhood Watch not only gives the Parish congregation the opportunity to belong to a NHW scheme with all the information and advisory services available, including local Police, but also allows the Parish to bring the immediate neighbours of St Peter's Church and historic graveyard into the scheme.

This new partnership is working very well. Jackie and Rob regularly attend the church's monthly coffee mornings to meet the Church Wardens and parishioners who really appreciate this way of accessing information they may otherwise not get.

The SHNW Support Group, supported by the Surrey Heath Police Safer Neighbourhood Team, would be pleased to chat to any churches or similar community organisations who wish to consider setting up a Watch scheme.



For more information please contact info@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Dates For Your Diary

SHNW Upcoming Events

- Monday 1st May - Chobham Carnival
- Saturday 6th May - Bagshot Big Bash
- Sunday 7th May - King Charles Coronation Event, Frimley Lodge Park
- Saturday 13th May - Lightwater Fete
- Saturday 10th June - Windlesham Fete
- Saturday 17th June - Camberley Armed Forces Day
- Sunday 25th June - Bisley Strawberry Fayre

Dates for Watch Coordinator Meetings

The dates for our next Watch Coordinators Meetings are listed below. All meetings will commence at 7.30pm. We will advise nearer the dates if they will be held face to face at St Mary's, Camberley or on a Zoom call.

- Monday 26th June 2023
- Monday 25th September 2023
- Monday 27th November 2023

Advice and assistance on Home Security by Alan Dixon, Development Coordinator SHNW Support Group

I would like to take the opportunity in this issue of Heathwatch to remind you about our offer to provide advice and assistance on home security to members of Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch.

At home we face a number of threats from criminals including burglary, anti-social behaviour, unwanted callers and car theft. Although it is impossible to protect ourselves 100% we can do much to deter criminals and ensure that we can provide evidence to the Police when things do go wrong. Sometimes a simple improvement in your home security can result in you feeling safer and more confident at home which can make an enormous difference.

Home security equipment covers a wide range of possible solutions from a simple door chain, or a padlock for the back gate, to a fully integrated CCTV and burglar alarm system.

Often it is difficult to know where to start so we can make a home visit to discuss whatever concerns you may have. We will conduct a survey of your current home security and discuss any vulnerabilities in the context of the current threat. We can provide advice on the most appropriate home security solutions, help you navigate through the sometimes bewildering array of available technologies and identify the key features that you need to look for.

Thanks to our local Borough Councillors and our Treasurer's marvellous fund-raising initiatives, we are also in a position to provide a financial contribution towards the cost of security equipment for members who may be finding it difficult to make ends meet.

Please get in touch with me by email at adixon@surreyheathnw.co.uk if you need any sort of advice or assistance on home security.

Keyless car theft is still a major problem in our Borough so it makes sense to take precautions to protect your car if it is vulnerable to this type of theft. A common and inexpensive solution is to keep your car keys (including the spare) in a Faraday pouch when not in use. At our quarterly Coordinator meetings and at other events we attend we sell a "Secured by Design" approved pouch - [Defender Signal Blocker | Faraday Pouch](#) (defendersecurityproducts.co.uk) – it costs £3.



A more expensive but very effective deterrent is to use a steering wheel lock and one of the best on the market, again "Secured by Design" approved is the [Disklok - The UKs Strongest Steering Wheel Lock \(disklokuk.co.uk\)](http://Disklok - The UKs Strongest Steering Wheel Lock (disklokuk.co.uk)).

Special SHNW Offer

We have now negotiated a 10% discount with Disklok giving a saving of up to £15 depending on the size of lock purchased.

If you are intending to purchase a Disklok and would like the discount code, please email adixon@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Stephen Cake, 'Designing Out Crime Officer' (DOCO), tells us about his Policing Career in Surrey and his Role as a DOCO.

My Policing Career started in 1980 as a Royal Air Force Policeman. After my 12 years engagement, I applied to Join Surrey Constabulary and was welcomed on board in March 1993.

Most of my Service has been within neighbourhood policing, during which time I took part in a national policing project called the "Mixed Economy". I was responsible for six Parish areas within Guildford Borough, managing a team of 6 Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's).

Working closely with the Borough Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) and Architect Liaison Officer (ALO). On his retirement I became the Borough CPO/ALO, which I carried out for 6 years before the Post was made a Police Staff role in 2011.

Retiring in 2013, anticipating the joys of retirement. However, during 2015 I was asked if I would return to the (Crime Prevention Design Advisor (CPDA) post. Changes in the role had happened, it was now a Divisional based post. I returned to Western Division working with Mike Jones, covering the Boroughs of Guildford, Surrey Heath, Waverley and Woking. Within Surrey we have a dual role which covers:

Crime Prevention.

All aspects of Crime Prevention are trained to encourage, promote and advise on crime prevention in both private and business communities.

Designing Out Crime Officer (DOCO)

The UK Police Service has a number of specialised staff called Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCOs) whose role is to provide specialist security advice and guidance as it pertains to the built environment at every stage of the design process, from pre-planning to the full development control process, in order to minimise the potential for crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

Liaising with architects, designers and developers, DOCOs provide ongoing specialist advice on the security of new buildings and the refurbishment of existing buildings to enable building designs to be as safe and secure as is reasonably possible, promoting

an awareness of the principles of crime prevention through design to both build awareness of, and ensure the adoption of, recommended security standards and specifications.

I am fortunate that from the age of 7, I had wanted to be a Policeman, some 56 years later, I am still involved in Policing and would follow the same career again, but I am now looking forward to retirement, when I can say "Dunplodding" and mean it.



Surrey Police and SHNW car safety advice

Rob Freeman, Police Community Volunteer comments: "Several areas of Frimley and Camberley were struck in recent months by people trying car doors and where they were found open (or were able to access the vehicle) would go in and search through for anything of value. Whilst in many cases only loose change was taken, in other cases unfortunately work id badges and wallets that had been left in the cars overnight were taken.

The Police and SHNW therefore urge residents to check that they have locked their cars when they are left unattended (be that parked up during the day or overnight) and to take all valuables out of the cars when left - even if valuables have been put away out of sight in glove boxes and or the boot etc.

If people do have their car/drives covered by home CCTV or video doorbells then we suggest that notifications are turned on to alert owners of potential interference at the time thus allowing the owners to call the police as and when its happening.

The local police team were able to respond to a call from the public about one set of events in Camberley and arrested a man in relation to attempted theft from motor vehicles."

From Our Treasurer, Tim Tostevin

Whilst being a member of Neighbourhood Watch is free, sometimes people wish to support us by making a donation towards our running costs - for example to help cover the cost of printing this newsletter. We recognise these people as "Friends of Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch" when they donate a minimum of £25 per year as individuals or £50 per year as a business.

We are delighted to give grateful thanks for the very generous donations from all of our renewing members including Douglas Fish, Shirley Powell and Christine & Barry Stevens who have all renewed for a third year and Dennis Vance who has renewed for a second year. Our recent new 'Friends' include Robin Bachman, Peter Tuitt and Pam Gillett – great to have you all with us!

If you would like to become a "Friend of Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch" you can:

- Donate by card via our secure website: <https://www.surreyheathnw.co.uk/donate-to-surrey-heath-neighbourhood-watch/>
- Make a payment direct to our bank: Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group, Sort code 30-91-53, A/C 00859924
- Send a cheque payable to "Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group" to Tim Tostevin, Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group, C/O Police Office, Surrey Heath House, Knoll Road, Camberley, GU15 3HD.

Our main source of funding is the regular income from our supporters playing the Surrey Heath Lottery. It costs a minimum of £1 a week to play; of this 50p comes to us. There is a jackpot of £25,000 each week and there has already been one jackpot winner – a lady from Camberley. We also had four £250 winners last year and 13x £25 winners, so could you be next?

A big thank you to those of you who already support us! If you would like to join in the fun please use the QR code here or visit our website: <https://www.surreyheathlottery.co.uk/support/surrey-heath-neighbourhood-watch-support-group> and sign up to support us.

We are also delighted to say that there is now another way to support us and it won't cost you a penny! You can get a donation sent to us when you shop online at over 7000 retailers including the likes of M&S, Amazon,

Just Eat, Waitrose, Asda, Morrisons, TUI, Go Compare, Money Supermarket and Compare the Market. All you have to do is register with Easyfundraising at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>. You select 'Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group' as your beneficiary and add the 'Donation Reminder' to your browser. It only takes a couple of minutes and then when you shop you'll be asked if you want to donate to us – just say yes and we'll then automatically get a donation from whatever you purchase. If you have any questions about this just email me – timtostevin@surreyheathnw.co.uk. We would really appreciate your support!



Farewell and thanks to Martin Butcher, SHNW Chairman 2016-2021

After many years of voluntary service on the SHNW Support Group, Martin Butcher has decided to step down.

Martin first volunteered in 2006 when he became the Watch Coordinator for his street in Lightwater. In 2015 he was elected as a full member of the Support Group and in 2016, when a new Chairman was needed, he was duly elected and served until 2021.

During his time on the Support Group, Martin successfully updated our Constitution and also forged a better working relationship with the National Neighbourhood Watch Network, as well as being involved in all our local meetings and events, all of which required a big commitment over the years.

We would like to express our thanks to Martin and his family for his dedication and work during his time on the Support Group and we wish him well for the future.

Welcome to the following Watch Coordinators who have joined us since our last edition of HeathWatch:

Tony Bannister.....	Rideway Close, Watchetts
Kay Punn.....	Wilders Close, Parkside
Shelley Dulwich.....	Oldbury Close, Frimley
Matthew Sleaf.....	Frimley Parish
Antony Crafford.....	Gordon Avenue, Watchetts
Richard Thomas.....	Holly Hedge Road, Parkside
Christine Beer.....	Greenleas, Parkside
Pam Chan.....	Glenmount Road, Mytchett
Ruth Gillingham.....	Birchfields, Watchetts
Ann Barrett.....	Scotts Grove Road & Others, Chobham
Peter McCrory.....	Pollard Grove, Heatherside
Mike Collins.....	Knightsbridge Road, St Pauls
Jamie Coles.....	The Grove, Frimley
Harvey Ockrim.....	Middle Gordon Road, Town
Trish Thomas.....	Barnes Road & Purley Way, Frimley
Elizabeth Major.....	Gloucester Close, Frimley Green
Alan Haffenden.....	Radcliffe Close, Frimley Green
Jan Lonsdale.....	Waters Edge South, Mytchett
Michael Dornan.....	Curley Hill Road, Lightwater
Julia Barnes.....	Edward Road, Windlesham
Catherine Nwana.....	Crawley Wood Close, St Pauls
Debbie Hutson.....	Bain Avenue, Watchetts
Fiona Karimjee.....	South Farm Lane, Bagshot
King Bin Tan.....	The Lindens, Mytchett
Helen Major.....	Acorn Avenue, Frimley Green
Steve Cantwell.....	Kingsmead, Frimley Green

Neighbourhood Watch Key Contacts

Area Coordinator - Camberley, St Pauls, Old Dean, Town, St Michaels & Watchetts

Alan Hitchcock, 078300 69150, ahitchcock@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Area Coordinator for Frimley, Parkside, Heatherside, Deepcut, Frimley Green & Mytchett

Jackie Davies, 01276 506215 jdavies@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Area Coordinator for the 6 Villages Lightwater, Bagshot, Bisley, Chobham, West End & Windlesham

Mike Potter, 07985 506624, mpotter@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Surrey Heath Police Neighbourhood Team Coordinators

01483 639880

Designing Out Crime Officers (DOCO) - contact for advice on crime prevention.

Stephen Cake, 01483 633272, 07967 988734, stephen.cake1@surrey.police.uk

Mike Jones, 01483 636626, 07967987908, mike.Jones2@surrey.police.uk

Social Media



Surrey Heath
Neighbourhood Watch



@heath_watch