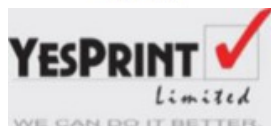




HeathWatch



www.surreyheathnw.co.uk



The quarterly Neighbourhood Watch newsletter for Surrey Heath
Volume 2 Issue 68 Winter 2019 Editor Juanita West
Printed by YesPrint Ltd. 01252 878120 YesPrint.co.uk



Message from the Chairman

Firstly, thank you to those who attended the last Coordinators' meeting from Air Ambulance - Kent Surrey Sussex for donating to their organisation in order to keep the helicopters flying. You will see below the Certificate of Appreciation we received in recognition of your generosity on behalf of Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch.

Also to those of you who have signed up for Surrey Heath Lottery and pledged your proportional donation of the stake money to Neighbourhood Watch we greatly appreciate the gesture. Your contribution helps to fund our expenses associated with providing Surrey Heath Residents with a Safer Borough to live in, along with your participation of creating neighbourliness to help deter and the detection of crime by being vigilant at all times.

Whilst the lottery funds help us, the scheme also gives participants the opportunity to win that £25,000, other cash prizes and now also a selection of different prizes. So why not take part? "You cannot win if you are not enrolled." *See P3 for how to enter and possibly win Panto tickets!*

We are coming to the end of a year when we have been able to stretch our attendance to the public at the various fetes, fairs, carnival and other local events, having the use of the Display Trailer and our Gazebo. 2020 will be more challenging as we need to find somebody willing to tow the trailer to the venues: Mike Davis has now decided to retire from the Support Group after some 30 years associated with promoting Safer Surrey Heath Neighbourhood and serving an active role as Treasurer combined with the storage and stock control of the security devices made available at competitive prices to all.



If you can help or know someone who will be willing to provide a vehicle to take the trailer to and from the events throughout the season May to September please contact either myself or any member of the Support group. Our contact details are on back page. *Thank you, Martin Butcher*

Surrey Heath Borough Commander

I am aware of the concerns many Surrey Heath residents have due to the dramatic increase in burglaries of late. Some have occurred whilst residents were at home and were confronted by offenders. I do not underestimate how terrifying this must have been to those victims. We are not alone in this rise; neighbouring areas including Spelthorne, Runnymede, Thames Valley Policing area, have all seen similar increases. It is difficult to ascertain whether we have one team of professional burglars hitting us at the moment or more than one. Suffice to say we are doing all we can, in conjunction with colleagues from other areas to identify those responsible; we have deployed plain clothes officers in unmarked cars as well as marked vehicles and colleagues from support teams such as traffic and firearms; we have some promising forensic lines of enquiry and I am really hopeful that these will lead to arrests soon. Meanwhile, please keep reporting suspicious activity, noting of vehicle registrations and clothing of any suspects.

This summer has been especially busy with officers from the Surrey Heath team being abstracted to support numerous

events in both Surrey and Sussex, at the cost of officers having days off cancelled, sometimes at very short notice. I wish to express in this publication my thanks and gratitude to my team for their hard work and commitment in continuing to come to work with a positive attitude despite the relentless pace of the last few months. Examples of abstractions are the Epsom Derby event, Pride events in Brighton, Labour party conference in Brighton, Policing oil drilling protests in the East of the county, contingency staffing for Brexit; all this when dealing with the everyday demands on the team. We are now approaching the run up to Christmas, which will also see an increase in demand for our services whilst staffing levels continue to be a challenge so I doubt there will be much of a let up for the team.

I continue to receive a number of lovely emails and letters praising the work that officers from my team do and I would like to thank those residents who have taken the time to write for doing so. I cannot tell you how much that means to the officers to be acknowledged in that way. It really does make it worthwhile and is a reminder as to why we joined the job.

Thank you, Bob Darkens



This newsletter is produced by the Neighbourhood Watch Support Group with funding gratefully received from Surrey County Council. We are thankful for the regular help we receive from Safer Surrey Heath Partnership and from Surrey Police in the promotion of Neighbourhood Watch and the distribution of HeathWatch. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Windlesham Parish Council in supporting us.



Surrey Police Crime Reduction Advice Police Update

Crime prevention advice issued following high value jewellery thefts in the North and West of Surrey:

We're reminding the public of our burglary crime prevention advice following a number of recent reports about high value jewellery theft in the North and West of Surrey.

In recent weeks a number of reports have been received in the Frimley and Camberley area. Since the start of August 2019 we have received 35 reports of burglaries or attempted burglaries targeting gold or high value jewellery in the Surrey Heath area.

In the North of the county in the same period 94 reports have been received mainly in the Elmbridge and Runnymede areas.

Detective Superintendent Peter Fulton said: *"Proactive teams have been working with our colleagues from local neighbourhood teams to carry out regular patrols and to gather information which will help to confirm which of these reports may be linked."*

Report suspicious activity to Surrey Police by calling 101 as this may provide a vital piece of information to progress our enquiries.

"If you see anyone acting suspiciously in your street or a vehicle that doesn't seem to belong there please do call in to tell us.

"If you have CCTV installed at your home or business please familiarise yourself with how the system works and how to download footage. This will help us to circulate suitable images relating to burglary as quickly as possible to officers across the county and neighbouring forces.

What links many of these reports is the presence of high value gold jewellery, which is then stolen.

"I would ask the Asian community to consider our crime prevention advice if they have high value jewellery in their homes, as a high proportion of these offences have targeted Asian families.

In the North of the county many reports relate to burglaries carried out between 3pm and 7pm.

"I'd therefore remind people of our message to lock up properly and to leave a light on if they are going out because the evenings are getting darker earlier following the end of British Summer Time."

Surrey Police is working hard to reduce the number of burglaries across the county, including those where high-value gold and jewellery is targeted.

You can help to deter a burglar from entering your home and stealing your valuable possessions by following these simple crime prevention measures:

- Keep all jewellery and other valuables in a safety deposit box if your bank offers this service.
- If you have to keep your jewellery at home, invest in a home safe. Your insurance company will provide advice as to the best safe to suit your needs. Ensure that the safe is out of sight, securely bolted down and ideally professionally installed.
- Keep an inventory of your jewellery, either on paper or via a company such as www.immobilise.com; include identifying marks and the value.
- In addition, photograph your jewellery against a plain background using a ruler to give an idea of size.
- Check your home insurance to ensure that it covers keeping high-value jewellery at home.
- Install a house alarm from a NSI registered company. nsi.org.uk, and dusk to dawn, sensor activated security lighting, to the front of your house. Always make sure doors and windows are locked and secure when you go out.
- Make sure your home looks occupied when you are out or away. Use an automatic timer switch to turn interior lights on and off.
- Consider your privacy settings on any social media platforms and avoid posting about weddings, festivals or other celebrations, where someone may be able to identify that you are not at home or that you own high value jewellery.
- Try to avoid decorating the outside of your home during religious festivals and events. This could attract burglars, as they may believe that jewellery or other valuables are inside the address.
- Mark your property with a forensic marking product such as selectadna.co.uk.



For more crime prevention advice please visit:

surrey.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary

Or contact Mike Jones and Stephen Cake, West Surrey Police Crime Reduction Advisors: **01483 639508**. This number is an answerphone only and we will get back to you. Do not use this number to report incidents; **ring 101 for this (always 999 in an emergency)**. Mike Jones and Stephen Cake: Surrey Police Designing Out Crime Officers for, Surrey Heath, Waverley, Guildford and Woking.

Surrey Police tackling rural crime

Equipment and tool security can be a particular issue for rural businesses and farms. To keep your belongings safe:

- lock equipment away in a secure building or part of a building when not in use
- invest in a secure storage toolbox
- install a burglar alarm on buildings where equipment is kept
- always lock vehicles when left outside and keep the keys in your possession
- keep expensive items and vehicles out of sight when not in use
- consider using hitch locks, wheel clamps or ground anchors
- mark your tools and equipment and register them for free with Immobilise

- keep a record of all valuable items
- consider fitting outside security lights.

Officers say they want to educate, engage with our rural communities and assure them that we take crimes, which occur in rural areas seriously. Crime in rural area is still a crime.



For further information on securing your belongings and how to mark your equipment, [visit Surrey Police's burglary advice pages: surrey.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary](https://www.surrey.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/residential-burglary)

Play the Surrey Heath Lottery to help Neighbourhood Watch. Jackpot £25,000. Win Panto Tickets*

We need your help so that we can continue to offer and even expand our Neighbourhood Watch service! In particular we need to raise funds to purchase a vehicle to showcase and raise awareness of Neighbourhood Watch at local shows and events. Please help us by joining the Surrey Heath Lottery today and good luck in the draws!



[surreyheathlottery.co.uk/support/surrey-heath-neighbourhood-watch-support-group/buytickets](https://www.surreyheathlottery.co.uk/support/surrey-heath-neighbourhood-watch-support-group/buytickets)

Surrey Heath Lottery is a weekly lottery that raises money for good causes in Surrey Heath. From every £1 ticket sold 60p will go to good causes in Surrey Heath: you can choose to support your Neighbourhood Watch when buying tickets. There is a draw every Saturday night when a 6 digit winning combination will be picked. Prizes will be given to players with tickets that match the first or last 2-6 numbers from the winning combination. Match all 6 to win the **JACKPOT!**

**To be entered for the Panto ticket prize, simply buy one or more lottery tickets before Sat 16 November 2019. Each ticket gives you a chance to win.*

Donation from Windlesham Parish Council supports our Neighbourhood Watch.

Windlesham Parish Council has very generously given Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch a grant of £450 to pay for the publication of HeathWatch. We would like to express our sincere appreciation of this invaluable support. It will enable us to continue producing this newsletter that reaches thousands with its community messages and important Police advice. Thank you, Windlesham!



Waitrose green tokens raise funds for our Neighbourhood Watch once more.

If you have shopped at Waitrose recently, you may have noticed that at the checkout you receive a token, which you then place in the box of the good cause you'd most like to support. The more tokens a cause gets, the bigger the donation they receive.



Waitrose in Frimley have kindly included us in their green token scheme and a total of £360 has been raised from your little green tokens. We are delighted to have this support from Waitrose again, following the Bagshot branch's support recently, and we look forward to working with them in the future. Thank you, Waitrose!

Watch Updates

Upcoming Watch Coordinators' and Members' meetings on Mondays at 19.30:
25th November 2019 at St Mary's Church, Park Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 2SR. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Can you help?

Your Watch Coordinator does a grand job in running your Neighbourhood Watch but he/she needs your support in distributing HeathWatch and sometimes deputising at the Watch Coordinators' meeting. This is not onerous and your Watch will benefit. Please contact your Coordinator if you can help. Your Neighbourhood Watch Support Group would be very grateful for any contribution towards our work, large or small. Should you wish, our bank details are Lloyds, account name Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group, Sort Code 30-91-53, A/C No. 00859924.

Watch News

New Watches

Watch Name/Ward

Caernarvon, Frimley Green
Queen Road & Others, Bisley

Watch Rep

Pam Savage
Mark Wright

Watches with new coordinators

Watch Name/Ward

Surridge Court, Bagshot

Watch Rep

Will Robinson

Facebook

Emma Bagnell created **Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Group** on Facebook in 2017. Please do join the group and benefit from all the updates and hard work, particularly by our dedicated group admin, Emma. Visit facebook.com/groups/568384326884016/ or google Surrey Heath NW Facebook Group.

Useful websites

- Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch: surreyheathnw.co.uk
- Surrey Heath NW Facebook group: facebook.com/groups/568384326884016/
- In The Know: intheknow.community
- Neighbourhood & Home Watch Network: ourwatch.org.uk
- Surrey Heath Borough Council: surreyheath.gov.uk
- Safer Surrey Heath Partnership: safersurreyheath.info
- Lost Property: virtualbumblebee.co.uk
- Reporting minor crimes: police.uk
- Property Register: immobilise.com
- Most Wanted: crimestoppers-uk.org
- National Fraud Intelligence Bureau: actionfraud.org.uk
- Surrey Police: surrey.police.uk
- Twitter: @surreypolice

Neighbourhood Watch Area Coordinators

- Camberley, St Pauls, Old Dean, Town, St Michaels & Watchetts:
Alan Hitchcock, 01276 406911,
ahitchcock@surreyheathnw.co.uk
- Frimley, Parkside, Heatherside, Deepcut, Frimley Green & Mytchett:
Martin Shorten, 01252 838639
mshorten@surreyheathnw.co.uk
- Lightwater, Bagshot, Bisley, Chobham, West End & Windlesham:
Mike Potter, 01276 474231,
MPotter@surreyheathnw.co.uk
- Surrey Heath Police Neighbourhood Team Coordinators: 01483 639880
- Design Out Crime Officers (DOCO):
Stephen Cake, 01483 633272, 07967 988734,
stephen.cake1@surrey.pnn.police.uk
- Mike Jones, 01483 636626, 07967987908,
mike.Jones2@surrey.pnn.police.uk