



JULY 2024



OUR NEWS

FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS ACROSS ENGLAND & WALES

What's in July's Our News?

June's issue of Our News was jam packed with information about Neighbourhood Watch Week and how you could get involved with the Month of Community - now those wonderful events have come to an end, we'll be bringing you photos and stories from them in this issue of our newsletter. You can also read guidance on identifying and reporting antisocial behaviour (ASB); learn more about our Community Safety Charter; hear Horsham's tale of when the Prime Minister visited; get to know Avast's Yppah tool; and much more!

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A Prime Minister, Neighbourhood Watch group and camera crew walk into a bar...

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Nominations for our Volunteer Recognition Awards 2024 are now CLOSED!

Thank you to everyone who nominated a NW volunteer, community group or local initiative in one of the 5 categories in this year's Volunteer Awards.

We will now begin shortlisting the nominations, with Awards being given out to winners at this year's National Crime and Community Conference in September.

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Neighbourhood Watch Week and Month of Community - thank you!

This year's Neighbourhood Watch Week was fantastic!

We would like to say a huge thank you to every volunteer and supporter who got involved in celebrating the work that NW does in local communities across England and Wales. [Visit the Month of Community's website to read about the fantastic Big Lunches which took place!](#) Take a look at a small snapshot of some of the fun had by all...



Abberton & Langenhoe's village fete raised over a £130, with so much fun had and delicious cakes sold, even with the unpredictable weather!

Squires Walk, Northampton

"We held our annual Neighbourhood Watch party in Squires Walk, which took place in the centre of the street. Fifty neighbours, plus children and relatives took part in creating the site using our own marquee and a combination of gazebos.

A host of volunteers prepared refreshments, including Chicken curry, Chilli and Shepherd's Pie.

The residents provided a healthy selection of prizes to be raffled off, which resulted in us donating a total of £270 split between the local food bank and Cynthia Spence hospice.

All together a great night which was enjoyed by all."

The Central Support Team enjoyed their own Big Lunch!





Staffs Watch was officially established during Neighbourhood Watch Week - we can't wait to hear about their impact in the local community!



Right: *Winston was presented with an award by the PCC for his hard work and commitment to Neighbourhood Watch and volunteering in Hounslow - congratulations Winston!*



Left: *Aldeburgh and Fearon held several community litter picks to brighten up their community - well done!*



Humber Watch held their conference, with over 50 local Coordinators in attendance - amazing!



Volunteers from the Milton Keynes NW Association went on tour in the local area to raise awareness and engage with residents!

Antisocial behaviour (ASB) - identifying and reporting

In our National Crime and Community Survey 2023, respondents told us that antisocial behaviour (ASB) has been the most experienced, and the most feared, crime, over the previous 12 months. Although The Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported that crime rates dropped by 10% in 2023, our survey found that a staggering 37% of Brits experienced a crime in the last year, with 63% of those having experienced antisocial behaviour, followed by physical assault (25%).

This month, we'll be sharing guidance on identifying ASB, as well as how to report it. We'll also be focusing on fly-tipping as a form of ASB which affects communities across England and Wales, and how you can safely and responsibly dispose of waste, as well as how to report incidents of fly-tipping.

Recognise

Recognising what ASB is and isn't, can be difficult. What constitutes ASB is extremely subjective and whilst we have examples of behaviour, what you may consider to be antisocial behaviour, another person may not. Noise nuisance; neighbour and household disputes; harassment and intimidation; vandalism; and littering are all examples of ASB. There's a fine line between antisocial behaviour and neighbour disputes which can often begin over relatively minor inconveniences, such as parking. However, if they persist, they can potentially become antisocial behaviour. [Read more on our website.](#)

Record

It is important to keep a record of the antisocial behaviour incidents, as this will be of great help in investigating the behaviour and tackling it. It can also help you to get some perspective on how often the incidents take place. If you decide to take formal action at some stage, it can help others see an established pattern of nuisance over time. You can [use our ASB diary to record incidents](#) before reporting them.

Report

Antisocial behaviour can ruin lives and devastate communities. Reporting antisocial behaviour early on is important to prevent it from escalating. The Local Authority, Social Housing Landlords & the police all have powers to deal with antisocial behaviour. It is important that on reporting antisocial behaviour to your local authority, police or housing provider that you detail the impact that it is having on your health and wellbeing.

Sign up to our Community Safety Charter!

We are proud to support the
COMMUNITY SAFETY CHARTER



We pledge to:

PROMOTE
Promote a culture that does not tolerate antisocial behaviour, harassment, intimidation and hostility towards others

ENABLE
Enable others to identify and take an active stance against these crimes and incidents

REPORT
Actively encourage and support those who experience or witness these crimes and incidents to report them to the relevant authorities

SUPPORT
Support those affected and signpost those who need further support to agencies who can help them

ourwatch.org.uk/charter

#BETHECHANGE
Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, CID no: 1173349

Have you registered to our Community Safety Charter yet?

Designed for local groups, businesses and organisations, the Charter provides toolkits and crime prevention advice for those who encounter some of the crimes that more commonly occur in public spaces, such as antisocial behaviour, harassment and vandalism.

Registration is **free**, and members will receive regular training modules designed to empower and educate. Training topics include:

- Harassment
- Antisocial behaviour
- Hate crimes

and more!

[Click here to learn more about the Community Safety Charter and register for free!](#)

PM Rishi Sunak visits Horsham NW group

Sussex Neighbourhood Watch were invited to an informal meeting with their Horsham colleagues and the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne OBE, at a local pub in June, and were surprised to be joined by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak.

Mr Sunak was campaigning in West Sussex, and had visited Crawley earlier in the day. This followed an announcement that a further 8,000 warranted police officers were to be recruited, and a hotspot policing programme introduced to stamp out antisocial behaviour across England and Wales.

Mr Sunak was keen to hear about how Neighbourhood Watch was helping to enhance crime prevention in Sussex, with John Wright MBE, the Chair of Sussex Neighbourhood Watch Federation, explaining how the 100,000+ members of Neighbourhood Watch across the county support Sussex Police to help keep residents and visitors as safe as possible. Mr Sunak was surprised at the size and reach of Neighbourhood Watch, and its range of activities in Sussex.

John said: *“Katy Bourne has been very supportive of Neighbourhood Watch, and has provided much needed funding for a range of projects planned for the coming months.”*



Left to right: John Wright MBE, Brian Aldred, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Derek Pratt MBE

He continued: *“Neighbourhood Watch is a charity, and as such we are completely neutral in politics. Our focus is on crime prevention, reducing the fear of crime, public and community safety, and Community Resilience. We want people to feel safe as well as to be safe.”*

Brian Aldred, Federation Image & Branding Team Leader, outlined the Sussex Junior Neighbourhood Watch scheme, designed for primary school children in Years 5 and 6, to help keep them safe, deter them from becoming future causes of crime, and along with their families, become members of Neighbourhood Watch for life.

Having heard about all Neighbourhood Watch does in Sussex, the Prime Minister said, “Thank you team, you do an inspiring, absolutely brilliant, and incredible job. Thank you again.”

Home security just got smarter with ERA

ERA

Never worry about you or your loved ones forgetting a door key again by unlocking the potential of smart home security. Easy to retrofit, stylish and secure, with ERA Protect's Smart Universal Door Handle, you are the key.

Easily fitted to most PVCu, composite, aluminium and timber doors. ERA Protect's Smart Universal Door Handle provides personalised access at the touch of a button with ERA Protect's advanced fingerprint panel, as well as encrypted key cards and geolocation technology. Once inside simply lift to lock, as you would any multi lock door handle.



With the home security experts' state of the art app, you can control, track, and revoke access from anywhere in the world, via the WiFi connection hub. Exclusive to ERA Smart Home app, a Smart Report feature provides valuable insights into your home's security activity and system's performance.

Expensive installation call outs are a thing of the past with the ERA Protect Smart Universal Door Handle. The clever device is battery powered and all wiring is contained within, so there's no need for an electrician; and because you are simply replacing a lock and not the whole door, there's no need for a locksmith either! Installation is straightforward and easy to do in under 60 minutes, with [ERA Protect's helpful how to guide](#). There's also a voice assistant for set up, and operation and low battery notifications too.

Having undergone rigorous independent testing to meet the highest standards, you can rest assured the ERA Protect Universal Smart Handle features top-tier data protection, with all fingerprints and key card information encrypted and securely stored within the handle itself. For peace of mind, ERA Protect's UK-based support team is on hand to assist you with set up and answer any questions, and just in case of emergencies, the smart handle comes complete with a 9v battery back-up.

Jey Jeyasingham, Chief Technology Officer for Smart Security at ERA Protect, said: "In today's fast paced world, convenience is key. The ERA Protect Smart Universal Handle is designed with the modern household in mind, to provide consumers with convenience combined with the peace of mind that their homes are as secure as possible."

Available in Matte Black, Polished Chrome, and Satin Chrome and with a RRP of £309. For more information, [visit ERA Protect's website](#).



How yppah are you today? Yppah is a free online tool that exists to help you navigate life positively, with a greater sense of control and contentment.

This starts with checking in to see how you are. Doing this regularly will help you understand why you feel a certain way, react differently in certain situations or simply have a desire to live better, without personal limitations.

The path to achieve this is through personal growth and the first step is finding out more - why not take the Yppah test today? **[CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE TEST!](#)**

Approximate assessment time: 8 minutes



Sunday 7th July is National Thank You Day!

Every year, Thank You Day brings together millions of people across the UK to celebrate and give thanks to those that go above and beyond for us. It is an opportunity to thank the people on your street, in your block of flats and all those local legends; the volunteers, teachers, carers who go the extra mile for us!

[Read more about Thank You Day here.](#)

Last year 74% of those who took part in a Thank You Day event said they felt a stronger sense of belonging to their local community as a result. **Why not get involved and thank the people around you who make a difference - whether that's a neighbour, friend, colleague or someone else!**



PATLOCK renew membership with Secured by Design

PATLOCK have renewed their membership with Secured by Design (SBD), with their home security product for French doors, Patio doors and Conservatories. Providing a visual deterrent to any would be intruders and instant peace of mind for home owners.

PATLOCK works by holding the interior door handles securely in place, ensuring that the door mechanism cannot be operated and remains in the locked position, even if the cylinder locks are snapped or removed.

Alfie Hosker, Secured by Design, said: *"The PATLOCK secondary lock is an excellent product in adding an additional layer of security for French and double doorsets. I am delighted that they have renewed with us once again and know that they are currently in the process of looking at expanding their Police Preferred Specification range going forward. I look forward to continuing this relationship with them".*

Secured by Design

Secured by Design (SBD), operates an accreditation scheme on behalf of the UK Police Service for products or services that have met recognised security standards. These products or services – which must be capable of deterring or preventing crime – are known as being of a 'Police Preferred Specification'.

SBD is the only way for companies to obtain police recognition for security-related products in the UK.

CLICK HERE

**to purchase PATLOCK at the Neighbourhood
Watch discounted price of £42.50**