



OUR NEWS

> FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS ACROSS ENG & WALES

Dear supporters,

With lockdown restrictions being progressively lifted people have been getting together outside and are starting to return to higher levels of 'in person' gatherings. However, we know from research that approximately 55% of people feel anxious or apprehensive about socialising without restrictions, with women feeling this the most. We also know that about 12 million people feel closer to their neighbours than pre-Covid. **Supporting our communities** to move from virtual to more 'in person' contact is vital to maintaining the increased connectedness.



This month we launch our first ever [Neighbourhood Watch Annual Insights Survey](#) for members and non-members alike. We encourage you to take 5 minutes to complete the survey. The findings will help us better understand public perception of Neighbourhood Watch, and how satisfied members are with their experience of Neighbourhood Watch.

Neighbourhood Watch Week is now just a month away. This year we are focusing on staying connected in our communities with the mantra 'Listen. Talk. Do'. Find more details on page 3.

As always please share with us the great work that you are doing, by emailing enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

John Hayward-Cripps,
CEO - Neighbourhood Watch Network



Neighbourhood Watch Week 5th - 11th June

If the pandemic has taught us anything, it is that **neighbourliness and community spirit** are just as important as ever.

[Neighbourhood Watch Week 2021](#) is an opportunity for us to build on the existing and new neighbourly relationships built throughout the pandemic. It is a time for us to cement these connections and work together to make positive change in our communities.

This year we are encouraging you to 'Listen. Talk. Do.' with our activity guides, resources and more. Find out more on page 3.

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Neighbourhood Watch Annual Insights Survey

A key part of our Neighbourhood Watch Strategy for 2020 - 2025 is to promote the perception of Neighbourhood Watch as a movement of “neighbours watching out for each other, building safer and more inclusive communities”.

To do this effectively, we need to better understand the current public perception of Neighbourhood Watch as an organisation, identify the positives we can build on, and identify any strategic areas we need to focus on to improve our image and services.

We are also keen to understand how satisfied our members and volunteers are with their involvement with Neighbourhood Watch, so we can improve this experience in liaison with local Associations and Area Leads.

We are therefore delighted to launch the first **Neighbourhood Watch Annual Insights Survey** which will provide us with a benchmark against which we can plan our work to improve in this area and a means of measuring our progress over the next few years.

The survey is open to **members and non-members** alike to share their perception of Neighbourhood Watch and for members to indicate how satisfied they are with their experience of being involved with the Neighbourhood Watch movement.

The results will be shared over the coming months in our Impact Report, on our website and through our social media channels. Please do share the survey link as widely as you can with your own networks and with your partners so we can obtain as broad a range of views from as diverse a range of people as possible.

[CLICK HERE
TO TAKE THE
SURVEY](#)

Help make dog theft a specific criminal offence

In response to what our supporters have asked, we are launching a dog theft campaign running on our social media channels from 17 - 30th May.

The campaign, which has support from the police and other charities, will highlight simple but effective actions people can take to help prevent their dog being stolen.

Details of the campaign, as well as ways you can raise awareness in your local community, will be emailed to our supporters on 17th May. **We encourage you to follow us on our social media channels ([Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Instagram](#)) and SHARE the campaign posts when they are launched.**

At present, **dog theft is not defined as a specific crime**, with dogs classed as ‘property’ under the Theft Act 1968. If caught, the penalty for stealing pets is generally a small fine or suspended sentence, with the Pet Theft Reform campaign reporting that in recent years only 1% of dog theft crimes have led to a prosecution.

How can you help?

- One thing you can do NOW is [SIGN THIS PETITION closing on 20th May](#) to make dog theft a specific criminal offence
- Additionally, you could use [The Kennel Clubs dog theft template letter](#) to write to your parliamentary representative lending your support and letting them know how they can help

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK - LISTEN. TALK. DO!



This year we will be promoting activities to support you to 'LISTEN. TALK. DO!' with your community.

We are offering a range of **online and face-to-face** activities for you to engage in both **individually and as a community**. We encourage you to participate as you see fit - but always within Covid-19 government guidelines.

All resources will be available at ourwatch.org.uk/nweek. Some are already up, such as our HOW TO GUIDES, so you can start planning now, while others, such as our COMMUNITY PODCAST episode, will launch on 5th June.

LISTEN



TALK



DO



HEAD OVER TO
[OURWATCH.ORG.UK/
NWEEK](http://OURWATCH.ORG.UK/NWEEK)
TO GET INVOLVED
#LetsStayConnected

Public Liability Insurance for Neighbourhood Watch members

We are pleased to be able to continue offering public liability insurance to our members. The new policy runs from 1st April 2021 and provides relevant cover for all recognised schemes and Neighbourhood Watch volunteers carrying out their roles across England and Wales.

Why do we have public liability insurance?

Public liability insurance covers your scheme or group if a meeting or an event doesn't quite go to plan, for example if someone gets injured or something is damaged. It takes care of claims arising from trips, slips, falls and other mishaps. Say a visitor to your event loses their footing on wet grass, or a mid-meeting coffee spill means your laptop is damaged. In cases like these, public liability insurance is your back-up. It covers legal costs and any compensation you may have to pay.

What does it cover?

The policy covers typical Neighbourhood Watch organised activities provided they are undertaken in line with conditions set out in the policy. Details of what is covered and what is excluded is available on our website [here](#).

Who is the insurer?

Access Insurance Services, a charity specialist Chartered Broker, has arranged this comprehensive cover with RSA Insurance Group plc. The certificate can be downloaded from our website [here](#) and printed off as and when needed. If you are hosting an event it is a good idea to have a copy readily available. If you have general enquiries regarding this insurance, please [contact Neighbourhood Watch Network](#).

If you have enquiries about the cover the Policy provides, please contact Access Insurance directly by email neighbourhoodwatch@accessinsurance.co.uk, phone 0333 344 7429, or visit www.accessinsurance.co.uk.



To order a Patlock at the Neighbourhood Watch discounted rate of £42.50 search Patlock at ourwatch.org.uk



Kenilworth shows success is about timely communication with a choice of channels

This month we hear from Fraser Pithie, Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for Crown Watch in Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

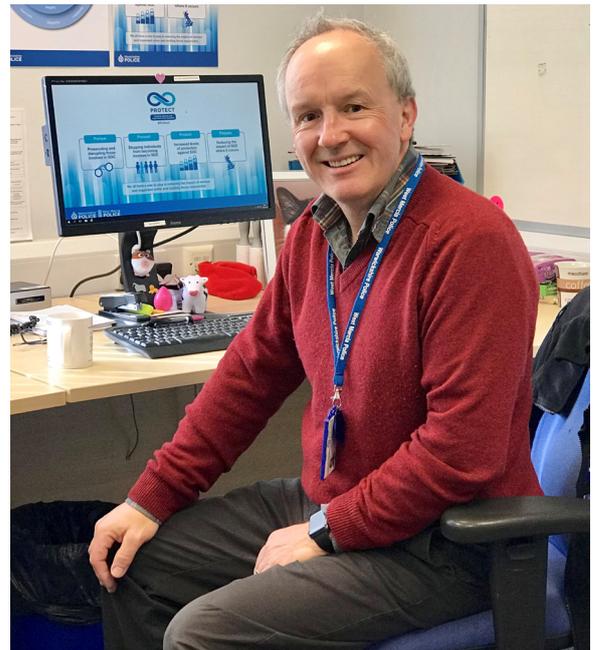
'Newsletters and meetings in neighbours' homes were very much the way Neighbourhood Watch operated two decades ago, with streets or groups of streets within a neighbourhood working together through Coordinators. Today, that approach has not disappeared altogether, but time has certainly moved on, and so has society, criminals and the police.

Crown Watch in Kenilworth, Warwickshire, operated very much along the lines described above when I joined some 25 years ago. We met regularly and produced newsletters. By the time we had reacted, it was days and more usually weeks after the crime had taken place! Several years ago, Crown Watch took a brave decision to disband.

Budgetary pressure upon the police service meant they could not manage to provide an officer to spend time visiting our meetings because there were more pressing things for an ever-decreasing finite number of police officers to do. Police Support Volunteering was championed by Warwickshire Police and enabled me to step in and provide practical support to the police teams by getting important messages out to the public.

Combining volunteer support with setting up a Neighbourhood Watch website for Kenilworth laid the foundations for the community to keep much more up to date using technology, with the benefit of information being much more up to date and current. Success is measured by website growth, going from 20 subscribers in three streets in 2004 to over 1,300 today.

The ability for people to 'sign up' by providing their email address has been the driver of getting so much community engagement across the town. Each time I update the website with a crime alert, it automatically sends out an email immediately to all those who have signed up. It means that the recipients receive that message on any device they have their email account linked to, usually a smartphone, tablet, home computer, or all three! Each update also automatically



sends out a tweet that takes the reader to the actual website update.

I have grown the number of subscribers by engaging on local social media community-based sites. By sharing one or two alerts on social media sites and pointing out that people can sign up to get such alerts 'as they happen', more people learn of Neighbourhood Watch and choose to sign up to the emails.

The psychology is also fascinating because I have shared some of the milestones in subscriber numbers as they have increased. Typically this leads to even more people signing up as they see that more and more of those in their community are doing. More recently, with the help and active support of Finham Neighbourhood Watch, who designed the system, we have launched a CCTV register.

The idea behind the register is to record where CCTV is located at home addresses. Householders sign up and give their contact details too. This then enables us to contact householders and ask them to review CCTV footage over a specific period if there has been an incident. It saves time for the police, who would have to look down streets and properties to see if CCTV existed and then contact owners.'

To find out more contact Fraser Pithie, photographed above, on crownwatch@me.com.

What does Action Fraud do?

Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud.

You should report all types of fraud to Action Fraud whether or not you choose to report it to another agency such as Trading Standards or your bank as well. This includes if you have been the victim of attempted fraud or cybercrime, you have incurred a financial loss as a result of fraud, your personal data has been compromised or you have been hacked as a result of responding to a fraudulent email or text. This ensures that all frauds can be recorded and assessed and that trends in fraud can be identified, assisting with the identification of offenders.

Fraudsters are often clever and take advantage of the shame that many people feel if they have been taken in by them, that can prevent people reporting fraud. Fraud can happen to anyone - do not be too embarrassed to report if you have been conned or tricked out of money or your personal data. Reporting fraud helps track down and stop fraudsters and can prevent other people from becoming their victims.

It's quickest to report fraud to Action Fraud online using the [online reporting tool](#), but you can also report by phone on 0300 123 2040 Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm.

If you can't hear or speak on the phone, you can use Relay UK with an app or a textphone on 18001 then 0300 123 2050.

Action Fraud collates the reports and will give you a crime reference number, which can be helpful if you need to tell your bank you've been a victim of fraud. It passes details of all fraud reports received to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB). If there are active lines of enquiry, a substantial amount of money has been lost or the victim is particularly vulnerable, the NFIB may investigate themselves or pass the details to the local police force to initiate an investigation. Everyone who reports a fraud to Action Fraud has the option to receive support from Victim Support afterwards.

Not every report results in an investigation, but every report helps to build a clear picture of fraud, contributes to making the UK a more hostile place for fraudsters to operate in and helps to keep other potential victims safe.

If you have received a suspicious text message (smishing)

You can forward a suspicious text message from your phone to Action Fraud free of charge by sending it to **7726**. This enables your provider to identify the origin of the text and take action.

If you've been a victim of a smishing fraud, then you also need to report it to Action Fraud by calling **0300 123 2040**, or by using their online form.

If you have received a suspicious email (phishing)

If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, forward it to the **Suspicious Email Reporting Service (SERS)** report@phishing.gov.uk. It will go to the National Cyber Security Centre who will analyse the suspect email and any websites it links to and use any additional information you've provided to look for and monitor suspicious activity.

If you think you may have been a victim of fraud as a result of phishing you should also report this to Action Fraud.

When to call the police

Contact the police immediately by calling 101 if (any of the following occurs):

- The fraudster is in still your area
- You need help, support and / or assistance as result of the fraud
- A fraud is being committed, or recently occurred (within 24 hours)
- You know the suspect and they reside in the UK
- The victim is perceived to be vulnerable (this may be through age, or by way of mental, or physical impairment, or in need of care and support)
- You believe that it is important to report the incident to police quickly in order that police can secure and preserve evidence, or prevent loss (i.e. CCTV, recover large amounts of money transferred from bank accounts before the criminal can remove it)

If you feel threatened or unsafe call 999.

Dealing with uncertainty

Tips to share with your neighbours and loved ones in support of Mental Health Awareness Week, 10th - 16th May.

The impact and experience of the Covid-19 outbreak has been different for everyone, as has how we have reacted, but there's no doubt it's been a really difficult time for us all.

There are plenty of things you can do and more help and support is available if you are, or someone you know is, struggling with your mental health. [Every Mind Matters website](#) pages on stress, anxiety, sleep and low mood have lots more tips and specific advice.

With the restrictions beginning to lift, there's lots of reasons for hope and optimism, but many of us are still dealing with a lot of change.

With **Mental Health Awareness Week running from the 10th - 16th May** we are highlighting some tips for dealing with uncertainty:

- **Take stock of how you feel:** Put time aside to examine your current situation and consider how you really feel, perhaps talking it through with someone you trust
- **Focus on the short term:** The further we look into the future, the easier it is to get overwhelmed by long-term uncertainty. Instead, try to focus on the day-to-day, and think about what's in your power to do right now
- **Acknowledge what's working:** Even when it might feel like everything is up in the air or going wrong, there will be some things,

however small, that do not change. It could be a close relationship, our favourite meal or a song that means something to us

- **Reframe your thoughts:** In changeable times like this, it can be easy to get caught up in negative thoughts, feelings and actions. For most people, at this time, feeling uneasy is an understandable response to the uncertainty present in everyday life. It can be helpful to step back, examine the evidence for your thoughts and explore other ways of looking at the situation
- **Find a new rhythm:** Routine and structure can be a powerful way to regain consistency and reduce uncertainty. Make time to de-stress and wind down each day – build in positive activities like exercise, relaxation, hobbies, speaking to friends or spending time with those close to you, and think about a positive sleep routine

Get a free [NHS Every Mind Matters action plan](#) and start feeling better on the inside

Did you know...

You can gift your neighbour an Every Mind Matters Conversation Starter Postcard as part of Mental Health Week or as part of Neighbourhood Watch Week
[Download a postcard here](#)

HM Government

Now we can all get free rapid Covid-19 tests to help protect each other.

NHS
Test and Trace

Let's take this next step safely.

FREE, RAPID COVID-19 TESTS

NHS.UK /GET-TESTED

Lottie crowned winner of Croods 2 Inspired Treehouse competition

Congratulations to **Lottie Brown**, aged 8 from York, who has been crowned the winner of Co-op Insurance and Neighbourhood Watch “**Design a Croods 2 inspired treehouse**” competition!

Lottie’s design was selected from nearly 100 entries across the county.

The judges were impressed by Lottie’s attention to detail and her unique ‘kindness rocks’.

We can’t wait for July, when Lottie will see her treehouse design come to life as the winning creation will be built and unveiled at the **Wildlife Trust’s Idle Valley Nature Reserve!**



Join in with the Month of Community this June

The Month of Community is about creating a focal point in the year to bring people together to reconnect, celebrate what’s local and help bolster the recovery effort with something that touches everyone.

Despite the difficult times for every one of us during the Covid-19 pandemic, many people feel that there have been some positive things to come out of this time. Spending more time at home and being more present in our communities has brought with it a heartening wave of community action, seeing neighbours talking and supporting one another far more than ever before.

Some good causes across the UK have teamed up to celebrate this summer 2021 with a #MonthOfCommunity. Join in when it works for you and your community, whether that’s to say cheers to volunteers, connect with your neighbours, support a cause you care about or simply to say thank you.

Events include:

- Volunteers Week 1-7 June
- The Big Lunch from 5 June
- Neighbourhood Watch Week 5-11 June
- Carers Week 7-13 June
- Loneliness Awareness Week 14-18 June
- Refugee Week 14-20 June
- Small Charity Week 14-19 June
- The Great Get Together 18-20 June
- Thank You Day 4 July

Find out more [here!](#)

A graphic with a green border and a string of colorful bunting at the top. The text reads: "WE'RE TEAMING UP WITH GOOD CAUSES ACROSS THE UK TO CELEBRATE SUMMER 2021 #MONTHOFCOMMUNITY". Below the text are several logos: "1-7 JUNE VOLUNTEERS' WEEK", "the big lunch an eden project & the national lottery", "NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH Week", "Carers Week", "LONELINESS AWARENESS WEEK 2021", "Refugee Week", "SMALL CHARITY WEEK", and "THE GREAT GET TOGETHER INSPIRED BY JO COX".

Our 40th Anniversary in 2022

In 2022 we are excited to be celebrating 40 years of Neighbourhood Watch! We would like to thank everyone who took a moment to complete our recent 'Neighbourhood Watch 40th Anniversary' survey.

Of the 299 responses we received **91%** said they would like our celebrations to focus on a **drive for new membership**.

81% of people would like to see a **roadshow featuring seminars and workshops**, whilst **70%** would like to see us running a **central online prize draw**.

68% of people would also like to see **local Neighbourhood Watch street parties (during Neighbourhood Watch Week - June 2022)**.

We are taking on board all the findings, including the many new suggestions given to us and will keep you informed of plans as they develop. To get you started we do encourage you to look at the HOW TO ORGANISE A STREET PARTY guide which we are launching for [Neighbourhood Watch Week 2021](#). You can use this to begin planning for a street party next year.

Applications now open for Co-op's Local Community Fund

Applications for [Co-op's Local Community Fund](#) - which supports projects across the UK that Co-op members care about, helping communities come together, co-operate and make a difference - are now open.

They'll support projects that:

- enable people to access food and co-operate together to feed everyone
- help improve people's mental wellbeing
- offer young people opportunities to develop new skills and make a difference in their community



Find out more [here](#) - apply by the 30th May!

Neighbourhood Watch partners with Locklatch

We are pleased to announce a new partnership between Neighbourhood Watch Network and LockLatch: the worldwide distributor of LockLatch, PetLatch and MiniLatch.

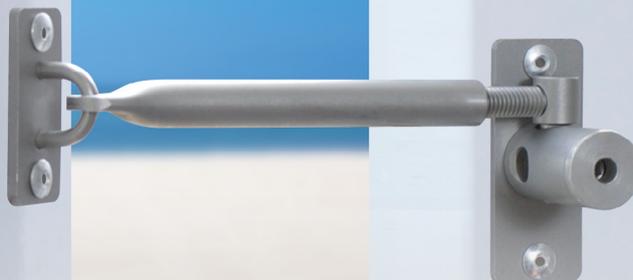


The three products are adjustable lockable latches that fit **any door or window**, whatever the window or door is made from and whichever way it opens. The locks enable you to keep your property secure with leaving windows and doors ajar. Made from C304 stainless steel they are rust resistant, come with a lifetime guarantee and are quick and easy to install yourself.

The new partnership is an important part of Locklatch's commitment to raise awareness regarding domestic safety and security. They are pleased to offer all Neighbourhood Watch supporters a **15% discount off the retail price** of their products with a matching contribution going towards Neighbourhood Watch Network expenses.

Visit www.locklatch.co.uk and use the coupon code **NWNLock** on check out.

LOCKLATCH™



LEAVE ANY DOOR OR WINDOW OPEN, BUT LOCKED

Safe ventilation, security, child safety and pet access

Made from C304 stainless steel with a satin finish, LockLatch™, PetLatch™ and MiniLatch™ will fit any door, window or hatch, whichever way it opens and whatever it is made of.

The U bolt allows for easy positioning on the frame with an adjustable width. The locking pin drops into the barrel in any of the 4 holes which is lockable with a removable key.



MiniLatch™

Let fresh air in, keep opportunistic intruders out.

Adjusts between 4.5 to 8 cms



LockLatch™

Perfect for Safe Ventilation, small Pets Access, or as a Window Restrictor.

Adjusts between 9cms to 17cms



PetLatch™

The perfect Pet Door alternative for small to medium sized dogs.

Adjusts between 14.5cms to 23cms



Customer Reviews ★★★★★

Buy Online Today

www.locklatch.co.uk



SPECIAL 15% DISCOUNT FOR ALL NWN MEMBERS

Use Coupon Code **NWNLock** on Check Out.