

MERTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SPRING NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2026



Welcome Spring 2026 Newsletter

Neighbourhood Watch



**You are invited to our AGM on Tuesday 12th May 2026 starting at 7pm
Merton Civic Centre Committee rooms , London Road Morden SM4 5DX**

Please email nhw@merton.gov.uk to book your place:

**There will also be a question-and-answer session with Merton Neighbourhood
Watch Committee, updates on our plans and how the year has gone.**

Two guest speakers, The Merton Neighbourhood Wardens and Trading Standards.

Spring 2026

Neighbourhood Wardens updates

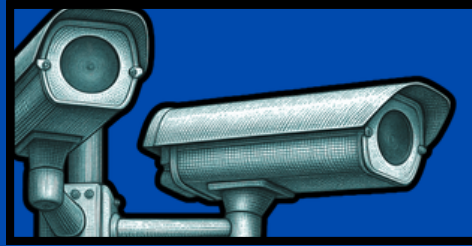


Morden - Op Nexus - shoplifting operation (Feb) - stopped a total of just over £1000 worth of items from leaving stores in Morden Highstreet and assisted police and security in the detention and arrest of multiple prolific offenders. These offenders have been given community protection warnings to not enter any stores they have been banned from and to not enter any store in Merton without having the means to pay. Stores have also supported this action by giving these individuals banning orders.

Wimbledon - wardens have worked with internal and external partners to safeguard an individual who was causing antisocial behaviour in the town centre. They recognised that mental health had a part to play in the persons behaviour and sprung into action to coordinate a safeguarding response. This has resulted in the individual being provided with essential care and the recognition that the wardens do not only enforce against antisocial behaviour, but recognise other factors that may be in play.

Mitcham - wardens worked alongside internal partners and the police to safeguard school children due to the online advertisements of school fights. Although we had no specific intelligence to confirm that a fight was going to happen, the wardens decided to be present during school kickout to speak to any children or parents about the matter and to be a visible presence. This resulted in a few parents engaging with the wardens and passing on intelligence about potential conflict and this was passed onto our CCTV department and the police. The joint working in response to this matter meant that conflict was kept to a minimum.

CCTV Good News



Morden

Early morning burglary attempt stopped suspect arrested

Early morning burglary attempt stopped suspect arrested In the early hours of Christmas morning, police radio reported a male attempting to gain entry to a local pharmacy. CCTV operators immediately carried out an area scan and quickly located a male matching the description outside the premises. The suspect was seen returning towards the store, with what appeared to be an e bike positioned nearby, possibly intended as a getaway vehicle. Operators provided continuous live updates to responding police units. Officers attended promptly and confronted the male, who was non-compliant. Taser deployment was used to safely detain him at the scene. He was arrested for burglary and taken into custody. A strong example of coordinated response and real-time monitoring helping prevent further damage and protect local businesses during the festive period.

Wimbledon

Night-time threat dealt with weapon, recovered and suspect arrested

A report was received via police radio of a male making threats to kill inside a popular night-time venue. CCTV operators immediately scanned the surrounding area and reviewed playback footage to identify the suspect. A male matching the description was quickly located nearby. Police were informed and provided with live updates on his movements. As officers approached, the male attempted to flee the area but was pursued and eventually detained. A search was carried out, resulting in the discovery of a knife and cannabis in his possession. The male was arrested and taken into custody. This incident highlights the vital role of CCTV in supporting police during high-risk situations, helping to quickly identify suspects, recover dangerous weapons, and protect the public.

Mitcham

Swift response to violent assault, suspect intercepted and arrested

While monitoring the area, CCTV operators observed two males engaged in a heated argument. The situation quickly escalated when one male struck the other on the head with a wrench, causing visible bleeding. Recognising the seriousness of the assault, operators immediately informed police and provided live updates. The suspect attempted to leave the scene in a vehicle, but responding officers were guided to his location and successfully intercepted the car before he could make off. The male was arrested at the scene. The victim received prompt medical attention and was transported to hospital. A crime scene was established to allow officers to carry out further investigation. This incident demonstrates the importance of rapid CCTV intervention in violent situations, enabling swift police action and ensuring the safety of those involved.

Mitcham

Proactive CCTV intelligence leads to warrant, arrests, and closure order

During regular patrols, CCTV operators repeatedly observed suspicious activity at a particular address. The behaviour raised ongoing concerns, and detailed findings were carefully documented and shared with police. Acting on this intelligence, officers were able to obtain a search warrant for the property. CCTV supported the operation by monitoring surrounding areas and exit points during the execution of the warrant, ensuring officers had full situational awareness. As a result of the search, four individuals were arrested for possession of cannabis with intent to supply and possession of offensive weapons. The address was also identified as being used as a suspected "chop shop" for e-bikes. Further action was taken, and officers successfully secured a three-month closure order on the property. This is an excellent example of how proactive monitoring, intelligence gathering, and strong partnership working between CCTV and police can disrupt organised criminal activity and deliver long-term benefits to the community

Mitcham Carnival

Sunday 7 June 2026, 11am to 6pm,
Three Kings Piece



Join us for the 2026 Mitcham Carnival – one of Merton’s biggest community events – for a full day of family fun, entertainment and celebrations, bringing local communities together for live music, vibrant performances, delicious foods, shopping and much more. Featuring the carnival’s street parade makes it return for the second time.

Entry is free – no tickets are required.

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Spring scams

Taken from the FCA <https://www.fca.org.uk/>



Protect yourself from scammers

Spot the warning signs

Scams can be difficult to spot. Fraudsters can be convincing and knowledgeable, with websites and materials that look identical to the real thing.

But if you've been contacted unexpectedly, or are suspicious about a call or text message, make sure you stop and check the warning signs.

- Is it unexpected? Scammers often call out of the blue. They may also try and contact you via email, text, post, social media, or even in person.
- Do you feel pressured to act quickly? Scammers might offer you a bonus or discount if you invest quickly, or they may say the opportunity is only available for a short time.
- Does the offer sound too good to be true? Fraudsters often promise tempting rewards, such as high returns on an investment.
- Is the offer exclusively for you? Scammers might claim that you've been specially chosen for an investment opportunity, and it should be kept a secret.
- Are they trying to flatter you? Scammers often try to build a friendship with you to put you at ease.
- Are you feeling worried or excited? Fraudsters may try to influence your emotions to get you to act.
- Are they speaking with authority? Scammers might claim that they're authorised and often appear knowledgeable about financial products.

If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, or you're unsure if a contact is genuine, follow the steps on the next page to protect yourself.

Spring scams

Check the firm

Use the FCA Firm Checker

Almost all financial services firms in the UK must be authorised or registered by us. To find out if a firm or individual is authorised, you can search the Firm Checker.

Firm Checker

Check that the firm reference number (FRN) and contact details you've been given match the details on the Firm Checker.

If there aren't any contact details listed on the Firm Checker, or the firm says they're out of date, call us on 0800 111 6768.

Remember, some firms pretend to be authorised firms, so always use the contact details on the Firm Checker.

Always use the website address above to visit the Firm Checker. Never click on links in emails or on company websites. It could be part of the scam.

Contact us

If you're struggling to check the details of a financial firm or individual, find out how to contact us. Our team can check the details you've been given and tell you if the firm is genuine.



Spring scams

How to protect yourself

Do:

- Treat all unexpected calls, emails and text messages with caution. Don't assume they're genuine, even if the person knows some basic information about you.
- Hang up on calls and ignore messages if you feel pressured to act quickly. A genuine bank or business won't mind waiting if you want time to think.
- Check your bank account and credit card statements regularly.
- Consider getting independent financial advice or guidance before a big financial decision (MoneyHelper has information on how to find a financial adviser [Link is external](#)).
- Check overseas regulators if you're dealing with an overseas firm (you should also check the list of scam warnings from overseas regulators [Link is external](#)).

Don't:

- Give out your bank account or credit card details unless you're certain who you're dealing with.
- Share your passwords with anyone (including your social media passwords).
- Give access to your device by downloading software or an app from a source you don't trust. Scammers may be able to take control of your device and access your bank account.
- [What to do if you've been scammed](#)



Report it

If you're worried about a potential scam, or you think you may have been contacted by a fraudster, report it to us. This could help prevent others falling victim to the same criminal.

Be wary of future scams

It's important to be extra careful if you've already been scammed. Fraudsters could try and target you again, or they may sell your details to other criminals.

The new scam might be completely different, or it could be related to the previous scam. For example, you could be contacted with an offer to get your money back or to buy back an investment after you pay a fee. These are known as recovery room scams.

Money Saving Advice

Summer is a time for making memories—whether it's family outings, sunny holidays, or simply enjoying those little seasonal treats. But with costs adding up quickly, it's easy for spending to spiral. That's why we've put together these practical, money-saving tips to help you enjoy summer while keeping your budget in check.

1. **Discover local gems:** Your local area is full of hidden treasures! Parks, museums, libraries, and community groups often host free or low-cost activities and events. Not only will you save on travel, but you'll also find new ways to enjoy quality time close to home.
2. **Get creative with DIY fun:** Who needs expensive activities? Try rustling up a picnic, hosting a garden camp-out, or having a movie night at home. For families, a DIY craft session with the kids can be a great way to keep them entertained and engaged without spending a fortune.
3. **Pack snacks and save:** Heading out for a day trip? Bring your own snacks, drinks, and refillable water bottles. It's much cheaper than buying on the go—and it's better for the environment too. Small habits like this can save you a surprising amount over the summer.
4. **Save on school uniforms:** The back-to-school season doesn't have to break the bank. Start by taking stock of what you already have and consider swapping with other parents. Charity shops, second-hand uniform sales, and online marketplaces like eBay are also great places to look. Check out our blog on saving money on school uniforms for even more tips.
5. **Snap up last-minute holiday deals.** If you're flexible with your dates and destinations, there are amazing deals to be found. Websites like Travelzoo, Holiday Pirates, and lastminute.com can help you bag a bargain, whether it's a weekend away or a full holiday package.
6. **Make the most of second-hand sales.** Summer is prime time for car boot sales and second-hand markets. You can find everything from summer outfits to garden toys for a fraction of the cost. And why not sell some of your own unwanted items while you're at it? Declutter and make some extra cash—it's a win-win!
7. **Tackle home and garden projects.** Use those long summer days to get stuck into some home improvements or garden makeovers. Whether it's planting flowers, painting a room, or reorganising your space, these low-cost projects can refresh your home while keeping you productive.
8. **Plan ahead for big expenses.** Thinking ahead can save you money. Whether it's setting a budget for summer holidays or planning for upcoming costs like back-to-school shopping, a little preparation goes a long way.

We believe that summer should be about fun, not financial stress.

Events coming up

Merton Dog Watch Live
[Merton Dog Watch](#)

16th May 10:00 - 17:00

The start of the line Festival
[Start of the Line](#)

20th June 13:00 - 22:00

Morden Family Fun Day
[Family Fun Day](#)

5th July 10:00 - 17:00

Soulstasia/Garage Nation presents
[Garage Nation](#)

8th August 13:00 - 22:00



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