



HeathWatch



The quarterly Neighbourhood Watch newsletter for Surrey Heath

Issue 92 | Summer 2026

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surreyheathnw.co.uk

A message from our chairman, Alan Howell

Welcome everyone to the Summer HeathWatch Newsletter and please do remember to let us know if you have any suggestions or want to request any future topics that you would like to see.

As you continue to read through this edition you will see that our support

group is once again asking for your help with fund raising and the programme of various community events across the borough. There have been a few personnel changes in the support group which is another reason why we are looking for volunteers.

Our Designing Out Crime Officer (DOCO) explains how we as Neighbourhood Watch members can help make our homes and communities a much safer place over the warmer months when we are away on holiday or just spending less time indoors.

I do hope that you enjoy reading this edition and please also remember to stay safe at home and online.

Warm regards,

Alan Howell - Chairman
Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch

alanhowell@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Dates for your diary

The Watch Coordinator & Members meetings for 2026 will be held at St. Mary's Church Centre, Park Road, Camberley, GU15 2SR, at 7.30pm:

Monday 28th September

Monday 30th November

These are open to all Watch Coordinators and all members of the Watches.

We usually have a local Police spokesperson to provide an update and take any questions, as well as a guest speaker.

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators

This year we have already said a fond farewell to a number of support group members for various reasons including changes in personal circumstances and relocation etc.

We would like to say a very big thank you to all, especially those who have provided strong support over many years to their local community:

Neil Wilkins, Carol Wilkins, Reg Ward and Anne Bing.

We would also like to extend our thanks and welcome to the team of Lez Rayman-Bacchus, for taking over the role of HeathWatch Editor and Wendy Evans, for taking over as Area Coordinator for Bisley & West End.

Join the Support Group

The Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group coordinates Neighbourhood Watch across the Borough. The Support Group meets every two months, and we are seeking new volunteers to join the Group. We still need: a Meetings Secretary (to keep a record of our meetings); a Community Events Organiser (to coordinate our attendance at local

community fetes, fayres and fundays), a Membership Secretary (to keep our membership records up to date); and a Social Media Coordinator to help us improve our Social Media presence.

If you are interested in any of the roles or helping us generally then please contact Alan Howell - alanhowell@surreyheathnw.co.uk



This newsletter is produced by the Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group with the support of Surrey Heath Police and funding from Surrey County Council and Windlesham Parish Council. We gratefully acknowledge their generosity in supporting us.

Summer Crime Prevention Reminder: from your Designing Out Crime Officer (DOCO)

As we move into Summer and spend more time outdoors, Surrey Heath residents are encouraged to remain mindful of seasonal crime risks. Longer daylight hours and increased outdoor activity can create opportunities for opportunistic offenders.

Neighbourhood Watch members play a vital role in helping keep our communities safe. A few simple steps can make a big difference.

Keep your home secure

- Always lock doors and windows, even when you're at home or in the garden
- Don't leave windows open in empty rooms
- Ensure garages, sheds, and side gates are kept locked

Protect bikes, tools and garden items

- Secure bikes with quality locks to fixed objects
- Lock away tools and equipment after use
- Consider property marking or registering valuables

Maintain good visibility

- Keep hedges trimmed, especially at the front of your property

- Ensure entrances are visible from the street and neighbouring homes
- Remove or reduce potential hiding places near doors and windows

Check your lighting

- Use sensor or dusk-to-dawn lighting where possible
- Make sure all external lights are working and cover key access points

Vehicle security

- Lock your vehicle and remove valuables every time
- Consider additional security such as steering locks
- Park in well-lit, overlooked areas where possible

Stay alert and report

If you see anything suspicious, please report it

- 101 for non-emergencies
- 999 in an emergency

Strong community awareness is one of the best deterrents to crime

Further advice

For more detailed guidance, please visit the Crime Prevention Handbook

<https://www.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/>

An update on your DOCO team under the Surrey Police Two Divisions: The DOCO team is now made up of four full-time and one Part time DOCOs.

Western:

Nick Street
Stephen Cake

Eastern:

John Francis
Simon Evans
Mike Jones (Formally Western but now Part Time)

We will on occasion help by covering all the County, so you may see the others pop up from time to time.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping Surrey Heath a safe place to live

Contact us by email

crimereduction@surrey.police.uk

Source: Stephen Cake, Western DOCO

Community Events: Help Secure Our Community

Every year we aim to attend events across the Borough to offer practical security advice to residents and encourage more local families to join Neighbourhood Watch in Surrey Heath, helping to make our community safer and more connected.

If you would like to help please contact: mikerpotter@aol.com

So far this year we have attended three events:

- Old Dean Emergency Services Day, 7th April
- Chobham Carnival, 4th May
- Lightwater Fete, 9th May

We're always looking for people to help on the Neighbourhood Watch stand for an hour or more - just chatting to people helps promote Neighbourhood Watch,

while being a source of information about home security and products.

Remaining events that we will be attending this year:

- **Frimley Green Carnival – Sunday 12th July**
- **Mytchett Family Fun Day – Monday 31st August (Bank Holiday)**
- **West End Agricultural & Horticultural Show – Saturday 12th September**

Mike Potter | Surrey Heath, NW Support Group

Events Attended

Chobham Carnival, 4th May 2026: In attendance, Alan Hitchcock, Mike Potter, Tim Tostevin, Chris Seaton

This year's Chobham Carnival has been declared a magnificent success after attracting many thousands of people to the village on the May Day Bank Holiday. The crowds were bigger than in previous years, the procession was longer and the fete had a record number of stalls and sideshows



Lightwater Fete, 9th May, 2026: In attendance, Chris Seaton, Alan Hitchcock, Mike Potter

Another very well attended community event with lots of people coming to talk to us at our yellow gazebo. We even ran out of some stock.



Old Dean Emergency Service Day, 7th April, 2026: In attendance, Mike Potter, Alan Hitchcock, Jackie Davies





Supporting your Neighbourhood Watch

Surrey Heath Lottery

- This is our main source of funding and we are so grateful to all that play and support us.
- For each £1 ticket purchased we receive 50p and this has enabled us to raise over £18,000 in less than 7 years!
- Weekly jackpot is £25,000 and there are smaller prizes for matching fewer numbers. We get winners who support us nearly every week!
- Join the fun at www.surreyheathlottery.co.uk/support/surrey-heath-neighbourhood-watch-support-group

Friends of SHNW

- Some people prefer not to play the lottery but still want to support us by donating to help cover our running costs.
- If you can donate £25 or more in a year then we'll recognise you as a 'Friend of Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch'. Special thanks to four 'Friends who have renewed their 'Friends Membership' since the last newsletter, including Doug Fish (8th donation!), Christine Stevens and Shirley Powell (both Friends for 6 years!).
- Donations can be made on our website (www.surreyheathnw.co.uk), by bank transfer (Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group, Sort code 30-91-53, A/C 00859924) or by sending us a cheque (C/O Police Office, Surrey Heath House, Knoll Road, Camberley, GU15 3HD).

Easyfundraising

- For those of you that buy things online, you can raise money for us without it costing you a penny - the retailers will pay us!
- Sign up at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> and say that you wish to donate to the "Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group" and add the "Donation Reminder" to your browser. When you shop at a participating retailer you will be asked if you would like a donation to come to us.
- So far we have raised £280 from this scheme so please join us if you buy things online and if you have already signed up then please don't forget to agree to donate when you buy things online.

Neighbourhood Watch key contacts

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

Stephen Cake & Nick Street,
crimereduction@surrey.police.uk

Camberley, St Pauls, Old Dean, Town, St Michaels & Watchetts

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

Frimley, Parkside, Heatherside, Deepcut, Frimley Green & Mytchett

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

Lightwater, Chobham & Windlesham

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

Bisley & West End

Wendy Evans, 07733 444046, wendyevans@gmail.com

Bagshot

Chris Seaton, 07544 553367, chriseaton@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Surrey Heath Police Neighbourhood Team Coordinators

01483 639880

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