



HeathWatch



The quarterly Neighbourhood Watch newsletter for Surrey Heath

Issue 91 | Spring 2026

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surreyheathnw.co.uk

A message from our chairman, Alan Howell

Welcome everyone to the Spring 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.

Based on recent 2025/2026 reports, the Surrey Heath police spring focus centres on a “back to basics” approach, with a strong emphasis on proactive patrols, tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB), and reducing retail crime.

Key Focus Areas and Actions for Early 2026:

- **Proactive Operations:**
Officers are focusing on disrupting criminals using the road network, particularly around Camberley and the A30, resulting in vehicle stops and drug-related arrests.
- **Targeting Priority Crimes:**
Efforts are focused on reducing burglary, shoplifting, and drug-related offences, with a specific focus on combating retail crime.

- **Visibility and Engagement:**
New Borough Commander Inspector Ryan Scott is emphasizing increased, visible policing, with teams conducting community engagement events (e.g., in Camberley Town) to meet residents.
- **Road Safety:**
It is hoped that we can set up some new Community Speed Watch groups in the area. Community Speed Watch enables residents to get involved in monitoring traffic through their local community. It is intended to educate and inform drivers about anti-social driving and the impact and consequences of their actions. The scheme has been operating across Surrey for a number of years and has achieved significantly positive results in changing the behaviour of motorists, reducing the threat to life, reducing the impact of anti-social driving and improving the quality of life of those most affected.
- If you are interested in joining those that have already expressed an interest, please contact PCSO John Adams (john.adams1@surrey.police.uk).

Volunteering

As we move through the spring and summer months, our support group will again be asking for volunteers to support

our NHW gazebo and stand at the various community fetes and awareness campaigns. More about these activities once we have specific locations and dates confirmed. We have already recently supported various awareness campaigns along with Surrey Police, Trading Standards and CrimeStoppers.

Surrey Heath Beat

We are happy to report the continued support of Surrey Police as part of their directed and meaningful engagement. This means police officers spending time where it matters most: listening to our residents, speaking with local businesses, and ensuring they are visible in the areas you've told them need attention. A perfect example of this in action can be found under 'Events' on page 3.

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

07919320135
alanhowell@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Join the Support Group

The Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch Support Group coordinate Neighbourhood Watch activities across the Borough. We have been seeking new volunteers to help us and I'm delighted to say that two people have stepped forward to help - Lez Rayman-Bacchus (HeathWatch Editor) and Wendy Evans

(Area Coordinator for Bisley and West End). We are still looking for a Meetings Secretary (to keep a record of our bi-monthly meetings) and a Community Events Organiser (to coordinate our attendance at local community fetes, fayres and fundays).

If you can help with either of these roles or would just like to find out more about the work the Support Group carry out, please contact our Chairman Alan Howell (alanhowell@surreyheathnw.co.uk) for more information. All 'out of pocket' expenses will be covered for any roles undertaken.



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.

Update from Acting Inspector Ryan Scott

The Safer Neighbourhood Team in Surrey Heath have had a busy start to the year, with multiple operations having been conducted and further ones being planned. The team had a large-scale proactive operation, Op Westlake, which saw numerous officers in Surrey Heath looking for offenders using our road networks. This resulted in three persons being arrested for drug dealing offences. We have also had the first Live Facial Recognition operation in Camberley Town, although this did not result in an arrest, there was a lot of positive engagement from the day, and no recorded shop lifting offences in the Town.

My commitments remain the same for the year, and the team and I are dedicated to upholding them. They are:

Directed and meaningful engagement

That means spending time where it matters most: listening to residents, speaking with local businesses, visiting school and youth facilities, and making sure we're visible and approachable in the areas you've told us need attention. The conversations we have with you directly shape how we deploy our patrols and resources, so please keep sharing your concerns and feedback.

ASB

Tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) remains one of our key priorities. We know the impact ASB can have on individuals and communities, and we continue to work closely with partners and housing providers to address issues early and effectively. Where necessary, we will take enforcement action — but we're equally focused on prevention and long-term solutions.

Shop theft

We are also maintaining a strong

focus on shop theft across Surrey Heath. We're working closely with local retailers to deter offending, identify repeat offenders, and provide reassurance to staff and customers. Visible patrols and intelligence-led operations will continue throughout the year.

Please do keep reporting any concerns and intelligence through to us. This helps us build a bigger picture of what is happening in the area and where we need to focus our resources.

I look forward to working with you all this year.

Ryan Scott
Acting Police Inspector 40400
Surrey Heath Safer
Neighbourhood Team

07720044284
101 ext 36746
ryan.scott@surrey.police.uk

Events

This was a joint operation, with Surrey Heath Beat, Neighbourhood Watch and Crimestoppers. Alan, Alan & Jackie recently joined the Police and Crimestoppers at an event in Camberley Town Centre. The Facebook article read "On Wednesday 4th February, PCSO Dobson and PC Exall were out in

Camberley Town with Crime Stoppers and members of Neighbourhood Watch, providing crime prevention advice surrounding burglary, scams and more. Residents were also able to come and chat to the team about concerns they were having within their local areas. Sources: Tim Tostevin, Alan Hitchcock



Recognition

Anne Bing has been nominated for the award of Best Communicator at the National Community Engagement Awards 2026. I am delighted to say that she has been selected as a Commended nomination.

The judging panel commented that this is a significant achievement in an extremely competitive year, with a large number of exceptional entries received across all categories. As our Membership Support Administrator (MSA), Anne maintains the details of all our Watch Coordinators in accordance with GDPR and ensures that they are accurate. She also sends out 'Alert' emails on behalf of Surrey Heath Neighbourhood Watch and tailors the audience as much as possible so that people only get messages relevant to their local area.

Source: Tim Tostevin

Community Events: We need your help

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.

So far this year we've been invited to attend the following forthcoming events in April, May & June.

- Old Dean Emergency Services Day – 7 April
- Chobham Carnival – 4 May
- Lightwater Fete – 9 May
- Windlesham Fete – 20 June
- West End Fete – 13 June

We really need more volunteers who can spare a little time to help us staff the stand at upcoming community events. Your support is vital—whether you can offer an hour or more, every bit of help makes a difference and ensures we can continue providing security advice and encouraging involvement in Neighbourhood Watch across Surrey Heath.

If you are able to help please contact:

mikerpotter@aol.com,
Mike Potter,
Surrey Heath,
NW Support Group

Dates for your diary

The Watch Coordinator meetings for 2026 will all be held at St. Mary's Church Centre, Park Road, Camberley, GU15 2SR, at 7.30pm. The dates are as follows:

- Monday 29th June
- Monday 28th September
- Monday 30th November

These are open to all Watch Coordinators and all members of their Watches. We usually have a local Police spokesperson to provide an update and take any questions, as well as a guest speaker.

Changes to Surrey Internal Boundaries

As part of National Government's policy of devolving power and funding to local governments (Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), Local government in Surrey is changing. LGR will bring significant change to how councils in Surrey are structured and how local services are delivered. From 1st April 2027, Government has decided that Surrey County Council, District, and Borough Councils, will be replaced by two new unitary councils, East Surrey and West Surrey.

Surrey County Council, along with its 11 district and borough councils, has developed a website, Future Surrey (www.surreylgrhub.gov.uk), to bring together information, updates and resources about these changes in one trusted place, helping people understand what is changing, why it is happening, and what it means for those living in Surrey. You will also receive information through your door, on social media, in newsletters, in your local library and community spaces.

On Thursday 7th May 2026, you will be able to vote for who represents you on your new West Surrey Council.

The changes may result in changes to our Local Police and Council contacts but we'll continue to work together as we always have.

Source: Wendy Evans

A warm welcome to the following new Watch Coordinators

- Margaret Lawson.....Newark Road, Windlesham
- Emily Tse Roundway Close, Heatherside
- Sabrina Yang College Ride, Camberley (Town)
- Russ Gaines Oakridge & Fennscombe Court, West End



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 £17,000 in 6 1/2 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

- Donations help cover our running costs and any are gratefully received!
- 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 Peter Evans who has made his third donation!
- 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 any cost - 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 over £260 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, 01483 633272, 07967 988734, stephen.cake1@surrey.police.uk
Mike Jones, 01483 636626, 07967987908, mike.Jones2@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@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Bagshot

Chris Seaton, 07544 506624, chrisseton@surreyheathnw.co.uk

Surrey Heath Police Neighbourhood Team Coordinators

01483 639880

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