

The Community

BUZZ

August 2026



A summer of **connection** and **community action**.

It has been a busy and inspiring few months for Neighbourhood Watch Scotland. During **Volunteers' Week** in June, we met coordinators and communities at events across Scotland, and July brought our first **Communi-Tea** gathering. A huge thank you to you all for everything you do to help create safer neighbourhoods and stronger communities. Behind the scenes, we continue to develop our website and a new **Coordinators' Hub**, which we hope to launch later this year. This will help support our volunteers and provide improved access to resources, ideas, and useful information to share locally within their communities. Have a safe and connected summer.



A local hero: congratulations, **Bill Beckett**

Warm congratulations to Bill Beckett, long-standing coordinator of Garnethill Neighbourhood Watch, who was recognised as a Local Hero by Their Majesties The King and Queen at a reception at the Scottish Parliament on 27 June.

Nominated by his MSP, Pauline McNeill, Bill was honoured for his outstanding commitment to his community, including his successful campaign to retain local CCTV coverage.

Bill's achievement is a wonderful example of the difference one determined volunteer can make. Across Scotland, many coordinators work quietly and tirelessly to protect, connect and strengthen their communities—and we are proud to celebrate them.

Antisocial behaviour (ASB): every report matters

ASB week took place from 29th June- 5th July and can affect any one of us at any time. Antisocial behaviour can include persistent noise, vandalism, graffiti, threatening or intimidating behaviour, and misuse of public or shared spaces.

If you experience or witness it, please report it through the appropriate local channel—or call 999 if there is an immediate danger.

[Check out our new webinar](#) in conjunction with the Community Alcohol Partnership where the team explain how they work with local communities to help address the issues.

Summer water safety

Following the annual Water Safety Open Day at Loch Lomond, we are sharing an important reminder: open water can remain cold and unpredictable even in warm weather.



**Plan ahead, stay together,
know your limits and call 999 in an
emergency.**

[Water safety code](#)



'Communi-Tea' brings coordinators together

In July, we held our first Communi-Tea at Fernhill Community Centre in Rutherglen. Thank you to everyone who joined us to share ideas, meet the team and build local connections. We hope to bring similar events to other parts of Scotland. Keep an eye on the Events page for future dates.



See upcoming
Events →

Community updates

Welcome to our new trustee

We are delighted to welcome Ruwan Uduwage-Perera to the Board of Trustees.

A former police officer and criminologist, Ruwan has extensive experience with charities and community organisations focused on reducing harm and improving wellbeing. He is Professor of Solution-Oriented Practice at De Montfort University and a local councillor in Sutherland. We look forward to benefiting from his experience in partnership, prevention and evidence-informed practice.



New webinars

We have begun introducing webinars to make advice and information easier to access. Visit the link to watch new sessions and recordings

[Watch Webinars →](#)



Community Survey

Thank you to everyone who responded to our recent survey. Your feedback helps us prioritise the support communities need and value most. The results will be published on our website shortly.



Preparing for the Digital Voice switch

The move from the traditional landline network to digital phone services is due to continue towards the January 2027 deadline.

NWS continues to support BT to help customers understand the change, particularly where telecare alarms or other equipment may rely on a landline. Look out for practical updates from us and contact your phone provider if you have concerns about how the change may affect you.

CCTV and doorbell cameras on Alert:

More than 2,300 Alert members have registered a camera and are willing to share relevant footage with partner agencies, if asked.

If you are happy to help, update your Alert settings and join the CCTV/Doorbell Camera group.

Stay Connected with Neighbourhood Watch Scotland!

Share your stories – We love hearing about the positive impact our volunteers make. If you have a story or event to share, please let us know. Your experiences inspire others and highlight the strength of our communities. Community safety and wellbeing is a team effort, and we are here to help support you and your neighbours with resources and advice.

Getting in touch

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[NWS Website →](#)

[f →](#)

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*A warm thank you for all that you do.
Together, we can make a difference and achieve so much more.*