

»»» OCTOBER 2023 «««



OUR NEWS

FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS ACROSS ENGLAND & WALES



Looking back at September, and forwards to October!

Celebrating our National Crime and Community Conference!

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We were delighted to welcome Association Leads, guest speakers, sponsors and volunteers to this year's Neighbourhood Watch Conference. We also celebrated our Volunteer Awards 2023 winners.

Read more on page 2!

Neighbourhood Watch are excited to partner with SimpliSafe, who are offering members exclusive discounts on their home security products and systems, as well as expert advice regarding burglary prevention and home security.

Read more on page 4!

We launch a new partnership with SimpliSafe!

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Celebrating our National Crime and Community Conference 2023

On Wednesday 20th September, we welcomed over 100 attendees to our National Conference, with guests travelling from across England, Wales and Scotland. Thank you to our Association Leads, guest speakers, sponsors, Central Support Team and Trustees for taking part in what was a really positive and exciting day.

Read on to hear more about the seminars and keynote speakers of the day...

A series of guest speakers lead discussions throughout the day around a variety of topics. **Ian Bretman, Chair of the Neighbourhood Watch Network**, opened the day, followed by a video message from the **Rt Hon Chris Philp MP**, who applauded the work of our volunteers across the country.

Dr Melissa Pepper shared an empowering presentation which looked at the volunteer workforce across the country, the different motivations behind why people choose to volunteer, and the 'diffusion of benefits' that volunteering has. **Assistant Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police, Louisa Rolfe**, gave an insightful and frank presentation on frontline policing and 'the new Met for London', and reflected on the Met's commitments to improving how it operates, both internally and externally, with a focus on building more trust. This was followed by a panel discussion with **John Hayward-Cripps**, our CEO, **Rebecca Bryant OBE**, Chief Executive of Resolve and a Neighbourhood Watch Trustee, **Dr Pepper**, and **Louisa Rolfe**.



The four seminars throughout the day were: *Are you okay? The bystander project*, with **Bianca Rembrandt** from Hackney Council and **Saskia Garner** from the Suzy Lamplugh Trust; *A Green and Pleasant Land? Why Rural Crime isn't just a rural problem*, with **Sam Durham** from the National Farmers Union and **Claire Wright** from the Country Land and Business Association; *Young voices on crime and community* with **Simeon**, a young person from Croydon's Youth Service and his worker, **Deandra**; and *A Dartford case study: setting up an association and building a NW community*, with **Garry Turner, Coordinator for West Hill Watch in Dartford, Kent**.

After a delicious lunch sponsored by **Berkeley Homes**, **Mike Douglas** from VISAV delivered his reflections on how our Alert system allows dialogue across the country, between Neighbourhood Watch schemes, volunteers, and partners, which is invaluable to the running of our charity. **Avi Collins** and her colleague from the Policing Outreach Team, South East BCU then joined us, sharing data and insights on diversity in the police force, and how there is still much work to be done on attracting diversity to the police.

After a well-deserved tea and cake break, attendees regrouped in the auditorium to hear closing remarks from Ian Bretman, before the winners of this year's **Volunteer Awards** received their prizes and were acknowledged for their hard work and dedication to crime prevention and improving community wellbeing. You can read more about our Volunteer Awards winners on the next page!

This was a truly brilliant day, and special thanks go to all our sponsors, the venue, and of course **Sandra Bauer** for putting together such a successful, positive day.

As Ian said, "Volunteers are at the heart of Neighbourhood Watch." We couldn't agree more!

For sign printing with NSP, you can contact Mike Johnston and Kevin Rogers by telephone: 0115 973 3323 or via their website: nsprint.net/crimereductionsigns.com



Congratulations to our Volunteer Awards 2023 winners!

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Volunteers are at the heart of Neighbourhood Watch and last year we celebrated volunteers for their length of service supporting the charity, in some cases 40 years!

This year, the Volunteer Awards were given for specific categories, celebrating the really fantastic work of individuals and groups. The categories were: **Innovation and Reach**, **Crime Prevention** and **Community Health and Wellbeing**. We were amazed to receive almost 300 nominations, showing us that our volunteers have a huge impact in their community.

Congratulations to our Volunteer Awards 2023 winners...

Innovation and Reach: Peter New

Crime Prevention: Supporting Sisters

Community Health and Wellbeing: Fairfield Village Neighbourhood Watch

Congratulations to all those who were nominated for this year's Volunteer Awards - your hard work is instrumental to the success of this charity.



Fairfield Village Watch



Peter New



Samia from Supporting Sisters

SimpliSafe and Neighbourhood Watch announce new partnership

SimpliSafe[®]
Home Security

Neighbourhood Watch are excited to team up with **SimpliSafe** as their first ever charity partner. The partnership bring many benefits for our members, including exclusive discounts on their smart home security products, and expert advice on burglary prevention and home security.

Protecting over 4 million people across the US and UK, SimpliSafe delivers advanced, yet affordable security solutions including sensors for every window, room and door, indoor and outdoor HD security cameras and hazard detectors to guard against fires, floods and burst pipes. All powered by 24/7 professional monitoring with no long-term contracts. Suitable for both homeowners and renters alike, additional components can be added to the system at any time, and can also be taken with you if you decide to move.

There is much to look forward to as a result of this exciting new partnership, including a **large-scale hardware donation event for a local community in the new year**, SimpliSafe's sponsorship of Neighbourhood Watch's National Crime and Community Survey 2023; and **regular fundraising events** by SimpliSafe's staff for Neighbourhood Watch.

Additionally, SimpliSafe will also donate a number of home security systems each year to households who are disadvantaged and vulnerable members of the community.

Neighbourhood Watch members will soon receive their exclusive discount code - [read more here!](#)



The Lookout is back!

The latest issue of The Lookout is here, full of incredible features **written by students for students**. Our termly magazine includes advice on safety and wellbeing on and off campus, and tips on how to get involved with volunteering opportunities.



»»» What's in this edition?

In this issue of The Lookout, we have a quality quartet of articles on mental wellbeing, First Aid on a night out, solo travel, and how to make your political voice heard. **READ IT HERE!**

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all our Crowdfunder backers who made this issue possible. We dedicate this issue to all 737 of you, whether you donated £5 or £5,000, or entered our festival ticket prize draw.

»»» Youth Council

We are encouraging students and young people aged 16 to 24 years old to join our Youth Council. The Youth Council will be formed of a selected group of diverse students who will provide a sounding board and ideas drive for tackling safety and health and wellbeing throughout the organisation.

Young people and students can [join here](#) - please share this with any young people in your communities!



#NoPlaceForHate

»»» **There is no place for hate, and we stand against hate crimes.**

A hate crime is motivated by someone's hostility or prejudice towards another person because of their race, gender, religion, sexuality, disability or other prejudice. Hate crimes include posting abusive or offensive messages online about a person or group of people.

Anyone can be the victim of a hate crime or incident. For example, people may be targeted because someone thinks that they are gay even if they aren't, or because they have a disabled child. We will be focusing on a few particular types of hate crimes throughout October.

Incidents motivated by hate have a **devastating impact on the victim and their family.** Some hate crimes start as more minor incidents, which can escalate into more serious and frequent offences. Where victims suffer a series of such incidents, the cumulative effect can destroy their lives through emotional damage and long term trauma. Hate crime isn't just an attack on an individual, but an attack on a community (or group).



»»» **Reporting hate crime and supporting victims**

All hate incidents should be reported to ensure the police and other agencies know the extent of the problem and can take steps to combat it, support victims and bring perpetrators to justice. [Read more about reporting hate crime here.](#)

Victim Support offers specialist support for victims of crime and can help in a variety of ways. [Read more about the support available to victims of hate crimes here.](#)

Get Safe Online week - join us for a free webinar on 'You, the internet and trust'.

Online, do you trust in others?

And do you earn the trust of others?



Every October, leading online safety advisory organisation Get Safe Online holds Get Safe Online Week, focusing on a particular topic central to helping people to use the internet with safety, security and confidence. This year's topic is **You, the Internet and Trust**.

The internet offers endless choice, convenience and flexibility for its users – some people choose to use it for nearly everything, while others prefer to do tasks such as banking and shopping offline. There are many reasons for this, including **trust in the internet, or a lack of it**.

In order to use the internet with safety and confidence, it's important to get to know who and what you can trust, and who and what you can't...

Join us on **Thursday 12th October** for a free webinar on the importance of trust in online inclusivity! It's vital that everybody who uses the internet can do so with safety and confidence, by being able to trust others' behaviour and behave responsibly themselves.

The panellists on this webinar are representatives of UK registered charities and include **Neighbourhood Watch, Deafblind UK, Sight Scotland and Age UK**.

[Register here to attend.](#)



#LookCloser - preventing, spotting and reporting child exploitation

**The
Children's
Society**

This year, The Children's Society is running their #LookCloser campaign, raising awareness of child exploitation, and how to spot and report it.

Across the country, young people are being manipulated, sexually abused, forced to launder money and deal drugs.

Exploitation isn't obvious. But it happens everywhere. And you can stop it.

Get to know the signs of child exploitation and how to report it through The Children's Society's award-winning #LookCloser campaign with the British Transport Police and National County Lines Coordination Centre. Together we can protect children from this abuse.

There are [several fantastic resources available, for free, on The Children's Society website.](#)

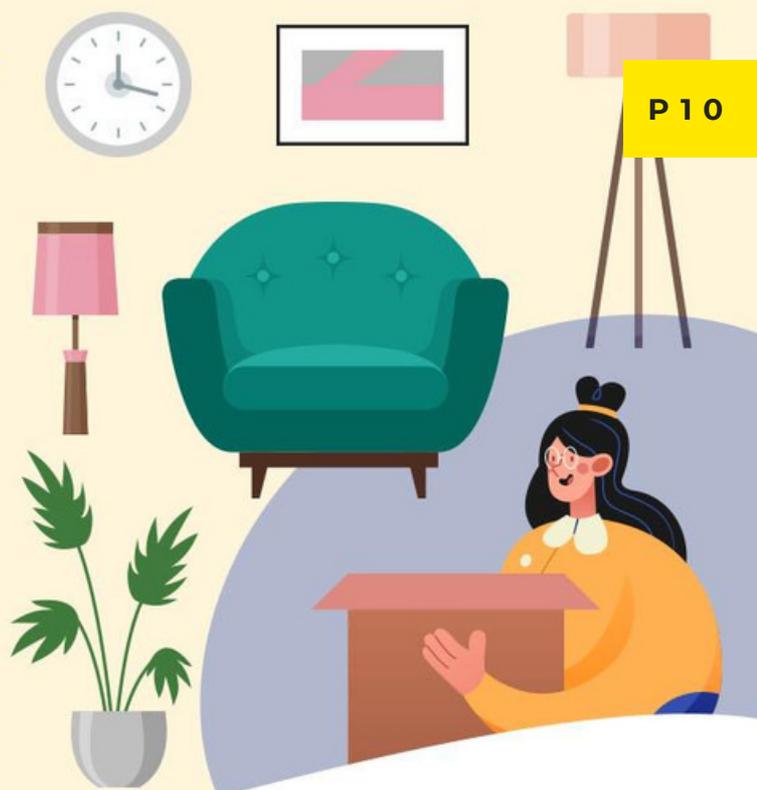
Free webinars available to our members

The Children's Society are offering a free, year round Programme of learning. Click on the links below to sign up to these webinars...

- **Thursday 19th October:** [Anti-Racist Practice to Tackle Child Exploitation: Why Anti-Racist Practice is Essential in our Fight Against Child Abuse and Exploitation.](#)
- **Tuesday 24th October:** [Transitions to Adulthood: Preventing Exploitation as Children Approach and Turn 18.](#)
- **Thursday 16th November:** [Safeguarding Care Experienced Young People from Exploitation.](#)
- **Monday 11th December:** [Gender and Exploitation.](#)

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