

WATCH OVER WOKING



The news-sheet of the Woking Association of Neighbourhood Watches (WAN)



Clandon Park fire (www.Independent.co.uk). See AGM notice below

Issue 12

Summer 2015

Chairman: Tony Kremer email:
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Message from your Chairman

Welcome to the summer edition of Watch over Woking. This is mostly reporting back on what we in WAN have been up to in recent months, and in part notice of the **Annual General Meeting**.

See below for a brief account of the most proactive Watch recruitment drive WAN has ever undertaken: across the whole **Barnsbury** estate of over 450 houses and flats. But let me first mention **Junior Neighbourhood Watch**: the plan is for us to go into primary schools and deliver 6 sessions with kids opening their eyes to personal security and watchfulness. For this we need to recruit two confident people, possibly ex-teachers, to be trained up. All the sessions are well-scripted and supported by worksheets, but we do need to deliver them ourselves. Please do volunteer for what will be a great experience and a very valuable contribution to the community.

Best regards
Tony Kremer, Chair

AGM

The AGM is always well-attended. This meeting **which is open to** all WAN Coordinators or their representatives will be held on Tuesday 30 June 2015 at Goldwater Lodge, Goldsworth Park, 7:30pm start. Our first guest speaker will be from Surrey's Fire and Rescue Service. Mark Rios-Vinas will tell us about how Watches can stretch their support for their neighbours beyond Police work to include fire safety, naturally with the help of the experts. Mark will also give us an insider's view of life in our own County's Service which as you will know has had to recently deal with a major country house fire.

Secondly Camilla Edmiston who is the Community Safety Officer from Woking BC will talk about how the Council and the other statutory bodies plan to make Woking a safe place to live and work, through the Safer Woking Plan.

We should also have time for Coordinators discussion. We aim to follow this event with autumn and Spring Special Meetings, and also to issue three Watch over Woking newsletters in between.

FORMAL AGM CALLING NOTICE

Please see at the end of this WOW the formal notice of our seventh AGM to be held at Goldwater Lodge, Wishbone Way, Goldsworth Park Woking GU21 3RT on Tuesday 30th June 2015 at 7.30pm.

NHW's role helping you tackle the rapidly growing threat of Cyber crime

This is a matter much discussed in the press, and we learnt this month that the NHW movement is to join forces with other key bodies across Surrey to improve the way people in the community are supported. Previous efforts have yielded some interesting lessons, but matters are rapidly escalating out of control, so efforts must be redoubled.

In future there will be a pooling of resource materials, best advice and key contacts on a new website called CyberSafe Surrey. At a recent meeting we all agreed that NHW can play a core role in communications between the Police and the residents. A key part of this is passing on email alerts from the Police and WAN. To do this once again we must ask you to gather your residents' email addresses and forward them the emails (use BCC or "blind copies" when you do this) or hand-deliver them. Remember, we advise you to say you'll be keeping these email addresses confidential.

As an illustration of how **clever these** people are getting, Crimestoppers has found that scammers have been impersonating their call handlers and asking for people's personal information, including their bank details.

Crimestoppers has never, and will never, make cold calls to members of the public asking for any personal details, so if anyone does receive a call from someone asking for personal information and claiming to be from Crimestoppers, please report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

Risk of Fire heightened by loss of mobility

Many Watches get to know where the most vulnerable neighbours live, and keep an eye open for them. As we will hear in more detail at the AGM, Surrey's Fire and Rescue Service can pay special attention to the homes of these vulnerable neighbours, at no cost to the resident themselves.

Let's set ourselves the target of ensuring all vulnerable homes in Woking have been fire-safety-checked. WAN is suggesting that members encourage any vulnerable residents in their watch to make use of this free service and have their homes fire-safety-checked at no cost to themselves. More details at the AGM.

Our idea to stock anti-theft devices takes off

At November's Coordinators Meeting we launched the idea of stocking a wide-range of good value anti-theft devices and these are offered on stalls at village fairs, street parties etc, in part to promote the idea of NHW more widely.

I am glad to say that the idea has started very well and will be extended. Items will be on sale at the AGM too.

Don't forget that we also have special DNA marking kits for your high value items such as jewellery, watches and cameras. This we have bulk-bought in order to be able to sell on to you at half the normal price, namely just £17 for a kit that will mark around 50 items. Please contact Tony directly on this at the above address.

WAN TAKES NHW IN NEW DIRECTIONS

Our standard Watch recruitment programme of responding to people who ask to start a watch of course continues, but these new Watches tend to be on roads where neighbours are part of an active local community. We have developed a map of Woking showing the current Watches and there are large parts without an active watch - or residents' association either.

Now we want to fill in these gaps, turning our Watch recruitment to roads where we believe the benefits of joint community action are high. Our first trial of this new approach is the Barnsbury estate, a geographically close group of 450 or so houses, just east of the road to Guildford.

In April, your committee along with a few young outsiders leafleted the estate calling a meeting of what we are calling the Barnsbury Association- a combined new residents' association and watch. This meeting went well and a number of good ideas are being pursued to the benefit of the people who live there - fun activity and the creation of new shared facilities. They are to hold a Big Lunch party at St Mary Bethany's Church in July too.

What do you think of this new approach? Would you like to support us?

DO YOU SHOP ONLINE?

The Woking Association of neighbour Watches relies on donates and there's no easier way to donate than to shop on-line and get the retailer to do the donation – not you.

EasyFundraising.org.uk provide a service whereby you log into them first and then route to your retailer (Amazon, Boots, Singapore Airlines, etc etc) and do the shopping. When you paid the retailer EasyFundraising gets the retailer to donate to your chosen cause (us!) up to 2% of your purchase price. It costs you absolutely nothing and you carry out the purchase through the retailer's normal website – you just log in to EasyFundraising first.

Send with this WOW is a description of how to log into EasyFundraising and start donating as no cost to you.

Happy shopping

Area Coordinator contact details

We hope to recruit an experienced coordinator in all 8 areas in Woking, but as you can see we still have a few vacancies:

Byfleet, West Byfleet, Pyrford	Angela Williams	ByfleetAC@wanw.org.uk
Horsell & Goldsworth Park	Alan Taylor	Horsell_area_coordinator@wanw.org.uk
Town Centre	Martin Stilwell	Centre_Area_Coordinator@wanw.org.uk
Old Woking, Barnsbury, Kingfield & Westfield	Derek Bartholomew	old_woking_area_coordinator@wanw.org.uk
Mount Hermon, St Johns, Hook Heath, Mayford & Sutton Green	Vacancy	
Sheerwater	Vacancy	
Maybury	Vacancy	
St Johns, Knaphill, Brookwood	Vacancy	

News from the neighbourhood Police teams

Please go to the Woking Police web page for news regarding your local area.

Byfleet, West Byfleet, Pyrford:	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKBP
Horsell & Goldsworth Park	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKGH
Town Centre	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKWT
Old Woking, Barnsbury, Kingfield, Westfield, Mayford, & Sutton Green	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKOW
Sheerwater	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKSH
Maybury	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKMA
Mount Hermon, St Johns, Hook Heath, Mayford & Sutton Green	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKMH
Knaphill, Brookwood	http://www.surrey.police.uk/my-neighbourhood/woking/WKNB

Call 101 for all non-emergency policing matters or **report online** at www.surrey.police.uk.

Call 999 if you have a genuine emergency requiring the attendance of the police (eg a crime is in progress or someone is in immediate danger)

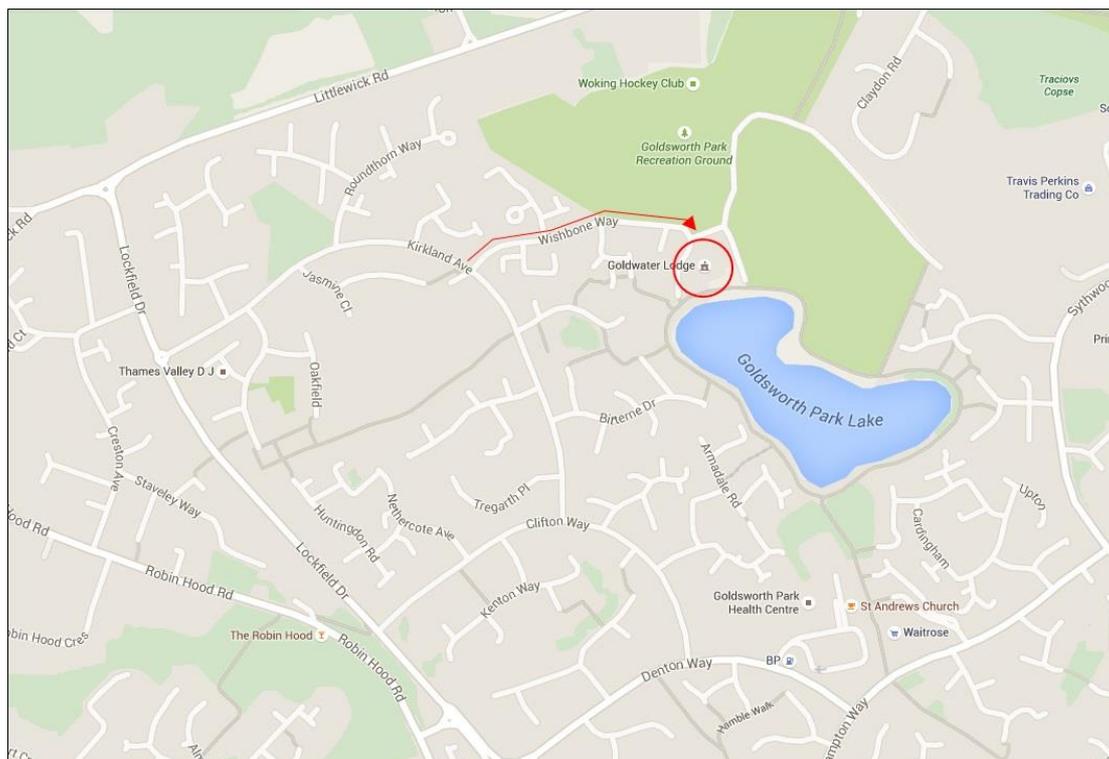
Call the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 if you have information about a crime and don't want to leave your name.

WOKING ASSOCIATION of NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHES

SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 30th JUNE 2014

**Goldwater Lodge, Wishbone Way, Goldsworth Park,
Woking GU21 3RT**



19:15hrs Doors Open

19:30hrs AGM

Guest speakers:

**Mark Rios-Vinas from Surrey's Fire and Rescue Service
Camilla Edmiston, Community Safety Officer from Woking BC**

21:30hrs (latest) Finish