

WATCH OVER WOKING



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



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Letter from the Chair

I am writing in a very positive frame of mind, and I hope you will consider this good news too. In my position as Chair of Surrey Neighbourhood Watch Association, I asked for an interview with the Chief Constable of Surrey Police, Nick Ephgrave, but in the event met instead with Deputy Chief Constable Gavin Stephens, and both Temporary Assistant Chief Constables Helen Collins and Charlie Doyle.

After 90 minutes or so discussion I left with the strong belief that Surrey Police now want to strengthen community engagement. There is a recognition that the PIYN reorganisation last year coupled with the poor migration from the old messaging system ACS to the new InTheKnow system had damaged communications with residents in general and Neighbourhood Watch in particular. We have a number of new initiatives underway to get things back on track and I look forward to talking to you in detail about these at the AGM on May 20 (see calling notice below). For more details on what Surrey Police are now aiming to do, see below.

A key element in getting information flowing again in the form of regular notices is the network of Police volunteers, one of whom is WAN Committee member Stephen Dew. Stephen has recently completed his training and tells us that the local Police crime updates will shortly be resumed and issued from the InTheKnow system.

Our February meeting was a memorable occasion for all those there, thanks to Henk van Roest from Microsoft who helped us appreciate the best ways of countering cybercrime. We have posted details of his presentation on our website www.wanw.org.uk. I am sure we all want to learn how to “stop making it easy for criminals”.

I'm looking forward to meeting you all at the AGM which will be on a Saturday afternoon, namely 20th May from 2pm till 4pm, at the Goldwater Lodge on Goldsworth Park. Our guest speaker is a Woking Borough Councillor Mark Pengelly who is a town centre-based Watch Coordinator, and he will talk about the way Woking's town centre is planning to develop and the implications for us all (see below).

Looking ahead, we will arrange another high profile event next autumn and I promise to give you these dates in good time so that you can diarise them.

I hope to see you at the AGM.

Tony Kremer
Chair

What Surrey Police are now aiming to do:

1. Senior Officers will monitor the latest position on InTheKnow usage. They will shortly have a full complement of Borough / District Volunteer Coordinators to improve the quality and timelines of information available.
2. Their Information specialists are preparing a draft Information Sharing Agreement. This will enable them to share more information with approved NHW people so that we can tackle crime against vulnerable people.
3. They will review their Cyber bulletin to see if this will aid their work to prevent and protect Fraud and if it fits the bill they will share it with us and discuss how to move that work forward through NHW
4. Look at new ways for NHW to feedback activity towards local priorities in the absence of Panels, but reassured that Neighbourhood teams are doing some good work to ensure local communities are kept informed about policing in their area.

PIYN UP AND RUNNING BUT UNDER REVIEW

The new Police organisation structure known as Policing In Your Neighbourhood, or PIYN, has been operational since April last year. However a number of problems and difficulties arose and there are some 30+ recommendations for change being implemented now.

AGM FEATURE SPEAKER – COUNCILLOR MARK PENGELLY

Mark became a Watch Coordinator for his blocks of 90 flats near to the town centre just a few years ago and can give a different perspective to how neighbourhood watch works in this environment. In his role as a Woking Borough Councillor, Mark has an overview of the plans for the further development of the Town Centre. This includes, yes, you guessed it: more flats to come!

So we have asked him to give a high level outline of some of the changes taking place in Woking and what the eventual impact may be. This should be of interest to all Woking watch members.

OUR NEW WEBSITE

www.wanw.org.uk....

Thanks to Martin Stilwell, in recent months we have launched our completely redesigned WAN website so please do look at it. Please email us at wansec@wanw.org.uk if you have any comments as we aim for the website to be a helpful source of information for co-ordinators.

...AND COORDINATORS' GUIDE TO INTHEKNOW

We have written a Guide for coordinators to help them make good use of the IT systems. The Guide will be expanded, but the first version covers: how the IT systems work; registering on the system; what all users (coordinators and residents) can do, the powerful emailing facility, and registering in multiple locations to also receive Neighbourhood Alert emails for where, say, elderly parents live or your business is situated. This Guide was emailed to all coordinators last month, but you can download it from our website under the "Useful stuff" tab: <http://www.wanw.org.uk>

CYBER-BULLYING

In the last Watch over Woking we described one of the new priorities in the latest Safer Woking Plan, namely Hate Crime. This time we thought it would be useful to draw attention to another fast-growing type of crime, cyber-bullying.

Cyber bullying is any form of bullying which takes place online or through smartphones and tablets, and is often something older children and young adults experience. To understand the ways in which this can happen and to recognise signs, there are websites such as <http://www.bullying.co.uk/> that are worth consulting.

Should this be escalated to the Police? Well, there is no specific reporting procedure in place for this type of incident. Locally there is the option for young people to report to their teachers who in turn can report to the Police via 101, or via a link from the Surrey Police website. Other agencies who this can be reported to include Childline 0800 1111 and CEOP (Child Exploitation and On Line Protection Agency) on <https://ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>.

WOKING ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCHES
NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday 20th May 2017

Goldwater Lodge, Wishbone Way, Goldsworth Park Woking GU21 3RW.

AGENDA & TIMETABLE

1.45pm Doors Open.
2.00pm AGM

1. Welcome by Chairman.
2. Chairman's Report.
3. Treasurers Report.
 Acceptance of Accounts
4. Election on Officers:
 Chairman.
 Treasurer.
 General Secretary.
 Membership Secretary.
 Committee Members (maximum five).
5. Appointment of Independent Examiner.
6. Any Other Business.
7. Closure of AGM BY Chairman.
8. Mark Pengelly.
 WAN Member & Woking BC Councillor (see details above of Mark's talk).

4.00pm Finish.

All co-ordinators are welcome to attend, or send a deputy in their place if not available. If you intend coming please email wanssec@wanw.org.uk with your name (or your deputy's name) and Watch area. If you cannot make the AGM and do not have anyone who could attend in your place we would still appreciate an email with an apology and so continue to register your interest.

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	Vacancy	
Horsell & Goldsworth Park	Alan Taylor	horsell_area_coordinator@wanw.org.uk
Town Centre	Martin Stilwell	Wansec@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/woking/byfleet-west-byfleet-pyrford/
Horsell & Goldsworth Park	http://www.surrey.police.uk/woking/goldsworth-park-horsell/
Town Centre	http://www.surrey.police.uk/woking/woking-town/
Old Woking, Barnsbury, Kingfield, Westfield, Mayford, & Sutton Green	http://www.surrey.police.uk/woking/old-woking/
Sheerwater	http://www.surrey.police.uk/woking/sheerwater/
Maybury	http://www.surrey.police.uk/woking/maybury/
Mount Hermon, St Johns, Hook Heath, Mayford & Sutton Green	http://www.surrey.police.uk/woking/mount-hermon-st-johns-hook-heath-mayford-sutton-green/
Knaphill, Brookwood	http://www.surrey.police.uk/woking/knaphill-brookwood/

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 (e.g. 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.