



# MERTON WATCH

The official Neighbourhood Watch newsletter for Merton



**Issue 20**

E-Mail: [mertonnhw@met.police.uk](mailto:mertonnhw@met.police.uk) - Website: [www.mertonnhw.co.uk](http://www.mertonnhw.co.uk)

## Junior NHW in Merton

**Don't rely on others. If you suspect it, report it.**

**Confidential Anti-Terrorist Hotline Call 0800 789 321**

If you are deaf or have hearing difficulties you can use a textphone to call us. Dial 0800 032 4539.

### Communities Can Defeat Terrorism

Everyone has a role to play in helping to prevent terrorism. You can do this by remaining vigilant and reporting any suspicious activity to the police.

Suspicious activity can include:

- someone noticeably behaving differently for no obvious reason
- someone with a large number of mobile phones for no obvious reason
- someone with passports or other documents in different names for no obvious reason
- someone who travels for long periods of time but is vague about where they're going
- someone buying or storing large amounts of chemicals for no obvious reason
- someone taking an interest in security, like CCTV cameras, for no obvious reason.

Specialist officers are waiting for your call - let them decide if the information is important.

**Don't rely on others. If you suspect it, report it.**

Junior NHW in Merton has been running since 2010 and is going from strength to strength.

Junior Neighbourhood Watch consists of a five week programme of sessions aimed at Year 5 pupils in primary schools across the borough of Merton. Sessions have been run in conjunction with Circle Housing Wardens and Merton Police.

The five week programme aims to have children understand the roles of Neighbourhood Wardens, Neighbourhood Watch and Merton Police; suspect identification, property marking, litter picking, and Anti-Social Behaviour. Also included, is a visit to a local Fire Station and the Merton Council CCTV room finishing off with awards from the Mayor of Merton.

During the last two years we have already worked with the following schools in Merton – Morden, St Marks, Lonesome and Merton Abbey schools. The Merton NHW Association, Circle Homes Merton Priory and Merton Police will continue to work with these schools and others into 2016 and beyond.

### Junior NHW update

During the months of January and February 2016, Lee Roberts (NHW Manager) along with volunteers Steve Ratcliffe, Tina and Neighbourhood Wardens from

Circle Homes Merton Priory (CHMP) have been working with Year 5 at Merton Abbey Primary School.

A five week programme of activities both in the classroom and external visits were delivered to provide knowledge about crime prevention, environmental crime and anti-social behaviour. The visits were to Wimbledon Fire Station and to Merton Council's CCTV room.

The children were asked to design a new junior neighbourhood watch logo and the best was awarded a gift token as a prize. All the children received certificates of achievement from Mayor of Merton Councillor David Chung at a special award ceremony in the Council Chamber at Merton Civic Centre.

We are looking to expand the scheme to other Merton Primary Schools, so if you know of a Primary School who might wish to participate in the Junior NHW scheme please contact Lee Roberts, NHW Manager.



JNHW winning design by Aina, Merton Abbey Primary School

## Bringing NHW back to life



Merton Neighbourhood Watch have been working with local police teams to set up and invigorate Neighbourhood Watch in wards where residents said they felt more worried about crime and Anti-social behaviour.

Leaflets were delivered in selected roads within these wards and to encourage greater take up, the police and neighbourhood watch representatives knocked on doors to offer crime prevention information, and encourage residents to sign up to Neighbourhood Watch.

A welcome pack was handed out to each new member of Neighbourhood Watch outlining how Neighbourhood Watch works, services available and contact numbers.

Door knocks have been carried out in St Helier, Longthornton, Colliers Wood and Cricket Green wards.

Future door knocks will be carried out in Graveney and Lavender Field Wards.

If you are an existing co-ordinator and would like to get involved with the door knocks please contact the Neighbourhood Watch manager.

## Merton pop up events

On the 19th January, Merton Neighbourhood Watch alongside Merton Council and the police held a "Pop Up" event at Pollards Hill.

There were exhibitions from the local Safer Neighbourhood Team, Safer Merton, Merton Domestic Violence Unit, London Fire Brigade, Environmental Services and Trading Standards who were on hand to provide advice and listen to residents concerns.

The event was a success with a good footfall from residents. More pop up days are being planned so please keep a look out for dates in future neighbourhood watch communications.



## Donate your old mobile phone

Phones can be dropped off at the front office of either Mitcham or Wimbledon police station or at Morden Civic Centre in an envelope marked for the attention of Lee Roberts, this is to ensure that the staff at the front desk know they are for me and not lost property! Thank you

## Committee member positions

Following the departure of valued and dedicated committee members Tony Webb and Peter Steiner we are on the look out for new members to join our committee.

As you will know, Neighbourhood Watch plays a large part in helping residents keep themselves and their neighbours safe.

This is achieved through increased security, greater vigilance and feeling more confident to report suspicious behaviour to the police.

With Police making cuts Neighbourhood Watch is the one thing we can all get involved in to help keep our areas safe.

We are currently seeing an increase in those wishing to set up watches, which of course is great, but unfortunately we do struggle to keep up with the increased work load due to working limited hours.

If you can spare some time to help we would love to hear from you.

We are currently recruiting for the following 3 positions below, however, anyone wishing to join the committee to take on any ad-hoc roles would be very welcome. The committee meets every 8 weeks.

**Events co-ordinator**  
**Fundraiser**  
**Web designer / updater**

Training will be given and expenses are paid.

For an informal chat about any of the above positions or to request a job description, please get in touch.

## Useful numbers to note

Emergencies	<b>999 or 112</b>	ASB Team	<b>020 8274 4907</b>	Merton Council	<b>020 8274 4901</b>
Crimestoppers	<b>0800 555 111</b>	Fly Tipping	<b>020 8274 4902</b>	Abandoned Veh.	<b>020 8274 4902</b>
NHW Office	<b>020 8649 3213</b>	Victim Support	<b>020 7801 1777</b>	Graffiti Helpline	<b>020 8274 4902</b>
Police-Non Emergency	<b>101</b>	Safer Merton	<b>020 8545 4146</b>	Fly Posting	<b>020 8274 4902</b>

*This publication of the Merton Watch is supported by the Metropolitan Police*

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