

**SUMMER 2023**

**Merton Neighbourhood Watch**



## Struggling with the cost of living

### Get a £10 Supermarket voucher per household

There is support available in Merton. Come along to one of Merton Council's free advice events to access the financial and benefit support you need.

**Saturday 17 June, 10.30am–1.30pm at Mitcham Library**

**Saturday 22 July, 10.30am–1.30pm at Merton Civic Centre, Morden**

**Saturday 23 September, 10.30am–1.30pm at Pollards Hill Library**

**Saturday 28 October, 10.30am–1.30pm at Raynes Park Library**

To find out more, visit [merton.gov.uk/CoLEvents](https://merton.gov.uk/CoLEvents)

### Call for Volunteers

Please get in touch with [nhw@merton.gov.uk](mailto:nhw@merton.gov.uk) if you would like to give your time to Merton Neighbourhood Watch. We are currently looking for **Committee members, a Newsletter Editor and Twitter Manager**. Time commitments are flexible, and we welcome individuals from all backgrounds with a range of skills.

Stay connected... email: [nhw@merton.gov.uk](mailto:nhw@merton.gov.uk) twitter: [@WatchMerton](https://twitter.com/WatchMerton) phone: 020 8545 3622



## IDAHOBIT+ 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

This year on 17th May, we came together to mark International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia.

The theme for IDAHOBIT this year is **'Together Always United in Diversity'** The theme was chosen as when we unite, in all our beautiful diversity, we can really bring about change!

**STOP HATE CRIME**  
**0800 138 1625**  
**24 HOUR HELP LINE**



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME PREVENTION PROJECTS

Merton Neighbourhood Watch were pleased to secure funding 2022-2023 from the Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime to purchase a supply of bike marking kits, shed alarms and catalytic convertor marking for the Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

Bikes are marked using a tamper proof QR code sticker and details of the owner added to a national database. This acts as both a deterrent to thieves and a tool for the police to identify stolen bikes and return them to their owners. The catalytic convertor marking uses Smart water.

In early April we held a Day of Action within Mitcham town centre tackling several local issues, Siobhan McDonagh MP was also in attendance offering support to residents. Several bikes were marked by the local Safer Neighbourhood team.



Read more about the bike register scheme here. <https://www.bikeregister.com/>

## **WOMENS Walk and Talk**

**21<sup>st</sup> June 18:00-19:30**

**Wandle Park, Colliers Wood (Charles Holden entrance)**



*Chat to our friendly local officers and share your thoughts on women's safety*

*Wednesday 21st June, 6pm at Wandle Park, Charles Holden entrance of the park which is opposite Colliers Wood Tube station  
If you fancy popping along to take part in a gentle stroll amongst the delightful scenery and should you wish, engage in conversation, we will be delighted to see you*

## **WILSON WELLBEING CENTRE**

The Wilson Wellbeing centre is a space where community members in East Merton can come to connect with others, find support, or learn some new skills. Our aim is to help individuals improve their overall wellbeing, mentally and physically, through offering opportunities to meet others and take part in activities.

We are currently developing a programme of activities to include open tea/coffee mornings, gardening and art sessions. Our space is also used by specialist services who can provide support to those impacted by homelessness, domestic abuse or those struggling with loneliness. Anyone is welcome to pop in and visit us at anytime during our opening hours (Monday - Friday 9.30am-4.30pm) to have a chat about their wellbeing and learn more about additional support in the area.

The space we have here at Wilson Wellbeing is bright, welcoming and peaceful, and is available for hire to local grassroot community groups and organisations to hold meetings and activities. Do come along and take a look!

Find more information please visit the Wilson Wellbeing website: [www.wilsonwellbeing.com](http://www.wilsonwellbeing.com)



## **Summer crime prevention tips**

- ✓ Ensure that windows and doors are closed and locked when you are out.
- ✓ Don't leave small windows open believing them to be safe.
- ✓ If you want to leave windows open while you sleep, fit window restrictors so they cannot be fully opened, or make sure they are not large enough to allow access to a burglar.
- ✓ When out in your garden ensure that windows and doors to the front of the house are secure. It only takes a second for someone to get into your home and take things without you noticing.
- ✓ Do not leave valuables on display in front of windows or in reach of open windows or doors.
- ✓ Ensure that all barbecue and garden equipment and tools are securely locked up in a shed and out of sight. Tools can be used by the potential offender to break in to your home.
- ✓ Consider fitting outside security lighting or a visible alarm to help deter burglars. Even using pea shingle or gravel on a driveway and spiky plants in garden beds can help.
- ✓ Don't leave any keys near entry points where they can be 'fished' or 'hooked' out through the window, letter box or cat flap.
- ✓ Ensure any internal handle operated locks on UPVC doors are fully secured with a key.

### **Been a victim of crime? Report it!**

Call **999** when in an emergency or when a crime is in progress

Call **101** for non-urgent assistance or report online at [met.police.uk](https://www.met.police.uk):

<https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

Contact your local police team:

[https://www.mertonnhw.co.uk/assets/documents/Merton\\_Ward\\_Contacts.pdf](https://www.mertonnhw.co.uk/assets/documents/Merton_Ward_Contacts.pdf)

To report a crime anonymously call **CrimeStoppers** on **0800 555 111**

If you have been a victim of crime and want support contact **Victim Support** on **0808 168 9111** or visit [victimsupport.org.uk](https://www.victimsupport.org.uk)



## **Free Bike Marking Events**



*15<sup>th</sup> June 1pm-3pm Wimbledon Piazza*

*25<sup>th</sup> June 10-12am Wimbledon Village farmer's market*

*Come along and meet your local Police team and have your bike marked.*

Read more about the bike register scheme here.

<https://www.bikeregister.com/>

## **Mitcham Carnival is Back 25th June 10:30-5pm**

### **Three Kings Piece, Mitcham**



***Neighbourhood watch have a stall in the Marquee- Please pop by and say Hello***

***OVER SIX HOURS of FREE entertainment***

***Featuring:***

- Live music, dance & local acts*
- Wrestling show*
- Food & drink*
- Community stalls*
- Funfair*
- NEW Culture Zone, including: Sport Art Literature Wellbeing*

***£3 per car to park***

*To book a stall or take part in the event, please visit our website for further information:  
[mitchamcarnival.co.uk](http://mitchamcarnival.co.uk)*

Stay connected... email: [nhw@merton.gov.uk](mailto:nhw@merton.gov.uk) twitter: [@WatchMerton](https://twitter.com/WatchMerton) phone: 020 8545 3622

## **What do you do all day?**

### **A/PS Nad Shebally – Mitcham Safer Neighbourhoods SW BCU**

#### **Tell us about your role**

I serve as one of the sergeants of Mitcham Safer Neighbourhoods stationed at Mitcham Police Station, fulfilling the role of Neighbourhood Watch lead for the police in the Merton borough. Currently, I am entrusted with overseeing four wards within the Mitcham area. Previously, I held the position of ward officer for Wimbledon Village, where I gained valuable experience collaborating with the community and local agencies to address public concerns and contribute to crime reduction efforts

Throughout my twelve-year tenure with the Metropolitan Police, I have encountered a diverse range of situations, handling everything from minor infractions to public order challenges such as protests. These experiences have left a lasting impression on me and shaped my ability to effectively respond to various scenarios.

As a representative of the police force, my primary objective is to bridge the gap between the police and other relevant agencies. Our borough benefits from the successful implementation of the scheme by Merton Council, who have ensured the continued operation and improvement of Neighbourhood Watch.

#### **Why do you think NHW is important?**

NHW plays a crucial role in fostering connections between neighbours, communities, and organisations. NHW serves as a valuable conduit, linking members to organisations that provide pertinent information and guidance on issues such as cybercrime and fraud.

In an era marked by rapid technological advancement and the widespread adoption of new modes of work and socialisation, it is imperative that we do not overlook the vulnerable and elderly members of society who may have been left behind. Neighbourhood Watch serves as an invaluable mechanism for bridging this gap, conveying a strong message of care and assistance.



#### **How can Neighbourhood Watch coordinators assist?**

Actively encourage new members to join the scheme. The more members NHW has the more effective and successful it will be, therefore it is imperative that new members are found through the help of coordinators.

Coordinators will assist greatly by passing on any information for the members on their watch so that all members are up to date with information. Coordinators should make themselves known to their members so that information can be passed back to the scheme or police.

#### **What are benefits of being part of a NHW?**

There are many benefits of being part of NHW such as an increased awareness. Potential risks being identified from information shared makes members more aware of their surroundings and therefore this allows residents to take appropriate actions to implement any security measures or assist in reporting suspicious behaviours.

NHW encourages positive community engagement to help neighbours build relationships and making people feel a sense of belonging and unity. This can also enable individuals to seek assistance and guidance from their fellow members, local police and local council.

## **Adult cycle training**

Free adult Bikeability cycle training sessions for residents at beginner, improver and commuter levels.

Our adult group sessions are taught by accredited trainers and offered at a local venue on Saturday mornings where bikes, helmets and high vis vests are provided.

We can also offer 1-2-1 sessions for improvers or commuters who can cycle and have their own bike.

**Please contact our training providers  
Cycling Instructor for further information.**

<https://www.bikeability.org.uk/>



## **Have your say on community safety in Merton**

Every year Safer Merton carry out a strategic assessment, which looks at all community safety issues in the borough. As part of this process, a survey is conducted to find out the communities concerns in relation to crime, anti-social behaviour and drugs and alcohol.

The results of the survey combined with an analysis of all crimes that happen in the borough help Safer Merton set the partnership's priorities for the year.

Complete the 2023 survey here: <https://www.merton.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/crime-prevention-and-community-safety/safer-merton-consultation>

**The survey is available from 7 June to 3 September.**