



Merton Neighbourhood Watch

Autumn 2020

Introduction to South West BCU Commander Elisabeth Chapple

I have just started as the South West London BCU Commander, taking over from Chief Superintendent Sally Benatar who is enjoying a well-deserved retirement.

I am very impressed by the number of Neighbourhood Watches and members we have in Merton. One of my key aims is for me, and my officers and staff, to always work closely with our communities and Neighbourhood Watch is an important way of achieving that. I am very grateful to all of you for giving your time to keep your communities informed and safe.

As you live and/or work in the area, you are best placed to see first-hand everything that goes on in our neighbourhoods and to be there raising any concerns in a timely manner. Community members, being alert and sharing information between them, are a fantastic defence and/or deterrent to matters, such as terrorism, as well as issues that may be hidden, such as the treatment of vulnerable people in our communities.

We want to support you to grow the number of active, supportive citizens across Merton and it would also be good to use your expertise to grow similar communities in other boroughs. By working together we will constantly improve and ensure that Merton is one of the safest boroughs in London – perhaps we should aim for the safest!

My thanks again for your time and commitment, and your dedication to supporting our communities. Your contribution is recognised and very much appreciated.

Elisabeth Chapple

BCU Commander South West (Merton, Kingston, Richmond, Wandsworth)



Autumn nights – crime prevention reminder



As the autumn nights draw in, unfortunately burglars can take advantage of the long hours of darkness.

Crime prevention doesn't have to cost a lot of money, there are simple measures you can take to make your home look occupied and reduce your chances of being a victim.

To keep opportunist burglars at bay:

- Always keep doors and windows locked, even when you're in. Remove the keys from the lock and keep them out of view or reach.
- Use timer switches to turn lights on when you are out. Alternate the times and lights that you use.
- Make sure your alarm and any outside lights are in working order. Always activate your alarm when you leave the house and go to bed.
- Don't leave items of value on show through ground floor windows (i.e. laptops, tablets, mobile phones, car keys etc.)
- Lock your garden gates and side entrances. Keep ladders and tools securely stored away, don't leave them outside where they could be used to break into your home.
- Look out for your neighbours, especially the elderly and vulnerable, and remind them to follow the **STOP, CHAIN** and **CHECK** rule when people call at the door:

STOP: If you are not expecting anybody and they don't have an appointment, don't let them in.

CHAIN: Use your door chain or bar before opening the door.

CHECK: Ask to see ID and double check this.

Report to police if you have any suspicions about door step callers or witness any suspicious behaviour.

To report a crime call 101 or report online at met.police.uk. Ring 999 immediately if the crime is in progress.

You can also report anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Don't forget, with Halloween upcoming you can download a 'No trick or treat' poster from mertonnhw.co.uk



Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) update

A new **Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)** is to be introduced in the Mitcham area to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) linked to the consumption of alcohol in public areas. The power as introduced in the 2014 Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act, will give authorised officers of the council and the police the power to confiscate alcohol and ask for an individual to stop drinking alcohol in public where the individual is causing or likely to cause anti-social behaviour. The new PSPO will replace the existing borough wide PSPO which expires on the 20th October 2020.

The decision was taken by the Council after looking at the available evidence, the results of the consultation with the public, police and community representatives and the outcomes from an Equalities Impact Assessment. The PSPO will still address alcohol-related ASB, but in a smaller more localised area covering Cricket Green, Figges Marsh, Graveney, Lavender Fields and Ravensbury Wards. The new PSPO will come into force on the 21st October 2020 and will last for 2 years unless extended before expiry. It may also be varied as necessary.

Once the PSPO is introduced:

- Anyone who does not comply with the request to stop drinking will be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £100 which must be paid within 14 days, no early discount fee will apply. Should the fine not be paid and the matter pursued to court individuals could be fined up to £500.
- Anyone failing to provide a name or address, or giving false, or inaccurate, name or address will also be prosecuted and could face a fine of £1,000.

In terms of addressing ASB in other areas of the borough, there are a number of tools to tackle ASB and these will be utilised as and when required. However, should evidence indicate that further PSPOs are necessary to combat ASB in other areas within Merton, the council will consider using its powers to make further PSPOs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in the public consultation.

Merton Neighbourhood Watch Association AGM

Each autumn we look forward to coming together for our annual AGM. Unfortunately, this year due to Covid-19 we will be unable to hold our AGM at Merton Civic Centre as usual.

Over the coming months we will circulate key information about the Neighbourhood Watch Committee to you via email, there will also be an opportunity for coordinators and members to feedback any questions to the Committee.

We will look to hold an event in person in the spring, hopefully when social distancing allows.



Hate Crime Awareness Week 2020 – join us to learn more about hate crime and how you can help prevent it in your communities

10th-17th October 2020 marks national Hate Crime Awareness Week.

A hate crime is when an individual is targeted because of their race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.

Our diversity makes Merton a wonderful place to live and we want to send a clear message that we stand together against all forms of hate.

This year we will be holding a week of virtual events to raise awareness of all forms of hate crime and encourage victims to report.

Please see the Merton Council events calendar to view the events and book a ticket.

<https://www.merton.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/events/events-calendar>

Safer Neighbourhood Team Contact Details

Please see below reminder of your local police team's contact details.

Mitcham

Ward Name	Ward Email	Ward Telephone
Colliers Wood	ColliersWood@met.police.uk	02087 212 743
Cricket Green	CricketGreen@met.police.uk	02086 493 576
Figge's Marsh	FiggessMarsh@met.police.uk	02086 493 603
Graveney	GraveneyVW@met.police.uk	02087 212 724
Lavender Fields	LavenderFields@met.police.uk	02087 212 744
Longthornton	Longthornton@met.police.uk	02087 212 742
Pollards Hill	Pollards@met.pnn.police.uk	02086 493 604

Morden

Ward Name	Ward Email	Ward Telephone
Cannon Hill	CannonHill@met.police.uk	02087 212 455
Lower Morden	LowerMorden@met.police.uk	02087 212 456
Merton Park	MertonPark@met.police.uk	07920 233 908
Ravensbury	Ravensbury@met.police.uk	07768 178 387
St. Helier	StHelier@met.police.uk	07843 065 908
West Barnes	WestBarnes@met.police.uk	02087 212 454

Wimbledon

Ward Name	Ward Email	Ward Telephone
Abbey	Abbey@met.police.uk	02086 493 584
Dundonald	Dundonald@met.police.uk	02087 212 450
Hillside	Hillside@met.police.uk	02087 212 458
Raynes Park	RaynesPark@met.police.uk	02087 212 459
Trinity	Trinity@met.police.uk	02087 212 453
Wimbledon Village	WimbledonVillage@met.police.uk	02087 212 457
Wimbledon Park	WimbledonPark@met.police.uk	02087 212 452