

Greenwich Borough Neighbourhood Watch Association



WISHING CO-ORDINATORS A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PROPEROUS NEW YEAR

GBNWA NETWORKING EVENT/AGM

As a registered Principal Co-ordinator in Greenwich Borough, you and your fellow street co-ordinators are invited to join the GBNWA Committee on **Saturday 21 January 2012, from 10am to 12noon**, to meet the people who help make Greenwich Borough a safe and secure place to live and work. The Committee has arranged for a special guest speaker from the Anti Terrorism Team to give a presentation about the current threats, including a video and questions and answers session.

This is your chance to meet representatives from the Safer Neighbourhoods Police Teams, other service providers in the borough, the GBNWA Committee and other Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators from the 180-plus registered schemes in an informal, relaxed environment.

The event takes place at Charlton Park RFC, 60a Broad Walk, Kidbrooke SE3 8NB. Free onsite parking is available and the 286 bus service from Greenwich, Blackheath and Eltham stops in Rochester way near the foot of Broad Walk. We're going to keep the formal AGM business to a minimum and we've scheduled additional time so you've got the chance to network with fellow Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators. We aim to close the event at 1pm. Refreshments will be provided. **Please confirm your attendance no later than Saturday 14 January** by emailing the GBNWA Secretary Jenny Penn at: vicechair@gbnwa.org or call the Chair on 07984 777572. We look forward to seeing you then!



MESSAGE FROM BOROUGH COMMANDER RICHARD WOOD

"It has been a very challenging year for officers in Greenwich, particularly during the summer when we have faced widespread disorder across the borough. Our response to the vandalism and disorder has been extremely robust, with over 3,000 offenders charged across London so far. The investigation continues and there will be further arrests and prosecutions. You might have seen media coverage of people arrested and sentenced in Greenwich in your local papers and in the national press.

"I fully support our Commissioner's vision; you might have seen increased policing activity in your neighbourhood recently, with operations such as Hawk and Cubo which have targeted anti-social behaviour, illegal drivers and neighbourhood criminals.

"As always, you play a pivotal role within your Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in making your communities safer. I often hear accounts of how vigilance from our Neighbourhood Watches has lead to arrests for crimes such as burglary and theft. Working together like this does bring results and I thank you for your continued support.

"For the New Year we will continue to strive to provide you with a good police service on which you can rely on and that you rightly deserve. We will focus on your priorities, tackling criminals and taking swift and decisive actions against them.

"I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and safe New Year."

Richard Wood, Borough Commander

The Greenwich Borough Neighbourhood Watch Association working in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators, the Metropolitan Police and Greenwich Council to build and maintain safer communities throughout the borough

GBNWA WEBSITE

Over 1,323 people have visited the site and viewed nearly 5,000 pages since the relaunch of the website on 8 April 2011. The site has attracted visitors from as far away as the United States, Indonesia, and Russia, with news stories and our newsletter the most popular pages visited. The site includes step-by-by guidelines on setting up a new scheme, tips on how to recruit new co-ordinators, latest crime prevention news including problem solving ideas and key contacts to help co-ordinators network with each other. To find out more visit www.gbnwa.org

LOOKING BACK OVER 2011 AND FORWARD TO 2012

With the recruitment early this year of Jenny Penn in the roles of Vice Chair and Secretary and Graham Penn as Webmaster, the GBNWA Committee is now eight members strong. The focus of the Committee has been on improving communications and a new look and feel newsletter was launched with the spring edition in March. Closely followed by a new and improved website which was launched on 8 April.

The Committee replenished its stocks of Neighbourhood Watch Street signs, with replacement/additional signs available to purchase at £2.50 per sign - this goes towards the production costs.

We're in the process of submitting bids for funding to help cover the production of signs and 'No Cold Callers' stickers, as well as our quarterly newsletters and website. It's an ongoing challenge to ensure sufficient funds to support the running of the association, so if you'd like to sponsor the website or street signs, or know someone who might, we'd like to hear from you!

We've also submitted a bid to the Home Office's 'Community Action Against Crime Innovation Fund' to help finance our proposal to create two videos – one on how to set up a scheme and the other on how to maintain an effective scheme. Hopefully we can provide an update on our bids at our Networking Event/AGM on 21 January.

We continue to attend as many face-to-face meetings where schemes are starting up, and hosted a stand at the Great Get Together Festival on 25 June. In recognition of all the hard work and support the Safer Neighbourhoods Team provide, the Committee Chair hosted a summer event at his home as a way to thank the teams.

Looking forward to 2012, we're going to add tools to the website including a template to help co-ordinators produce their own newsletters as well as a flyer you can customise to help set up a scheme and recruit co-ordinators.

NEIGHBOURHOOD LINK

A new community messaging service has been developed by the Metropolitan Police called Neighbourhood Link. This free service enables you to receive information from your local Safer Neighbourhoods Police Team, Greenwich Borough police or, in the event of a major incident or event affecting the whole of London, from other Met teams about crime and safety in the areas where you live and work. Messages will normally be sent by email and you can register any home or work email addresses and/or phone numbers to which you would like to receive broadcast messages. Register at www.neighbourhoodlink.met.police.uk/registration

KEEP INFORMED AND KEEP IN TOUCH

For up-to-date news, information and tools visit www.gbnwa.org

TOP TIP

Be a good neighbour: During the winter months, please look out for those neighbours who are elderly or vulnerable. Where you have any concerns regarding the well-being of someone who may be in need of urgent assistance, contact the police on 999. Be prepared: Even an average winter is likely to include cold snaps, snowfalls, ice, storms, high winds, heavy rain and fog. The GBNWA website will be updated with information.

YOUR CALL COUNTS

- In an emergency dial: 999
- Non-emergencies dial: 101
- Crimestoppers anonymously: 0800 555 111
- Anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321
- Report community issues to your local Greenwich Borough Safer Neighbourhoods Police team.