



# GREENWICH BOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

Committee Information Sheet for Coordinators SPRING 2009

## THE AGM

GBNWA held its AGM on Saturday, March 14 at a new venue, Devonport House, in King William Walk, Greenwich, a particularly apposite venue for our main topic, "Safety on the DLR".

Our guest speakers were Sergeant Kerry Chilvers and Daniel Bromley from British Transport Police, who are part of a specialised force comprising a team of 30 staff, based at Poplar with particular responsibility for the DLR. There will soon also be a second team based at the new station at Woolwich Arsenal. The DLR was originally constructed with built-in features to design out crime, for example it is deliberately light and airy, with plenty of glass. The stations and trains are all equipped with CCTV. There are passenger alarms and a mobile phone signal can be obtained at all points, except in the underground stations, which are Bank, Cutty Sark and Island Gardens. Surveys are currently being conducted to improve access to and from the stations to improve safety, for example by cutting hedges and improving lighting. Bikes are not permitted on the DLR, but the aim is to have bike racks at all stations covered by CCTV.

As well as British Transport Police, there are high-visibility officers employed by the DLR, known as Travel Safety Officers, who are accredited to the Police, and patrol the stations and trains.

Crime on the DLR is very low (there were only 5 robberies in the whole of last year from April to this March) and the emphasis is on crime prevention:

- Keep your handbag zipped and in front of you when you travel
- Avoid having your mobile and iPod or other electronics on show
- Register your possessions at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) where you can record their serial numbers or telephone the helpline on 08701 123 123. The Police cross-refer to this website, when stolen property is recovered
- Never go on the line. The DLR has an electric current running through it and the automated trains have no driver at the front. There are also electrified overhead lines, so be careful with umbrellas

A leaflet will shortly be available on the GBNWA website.

Inspector Nick Crowe, our Police Liaison Officer, then addressed the meeting with a plea to link up with your Ward Panel and your SNT. If you have had no contact with either, please could you email Jane Richards on [Roxyncyrano@aol.com](mailto:Roxyncyrano@aol.com) (Tel: 8858 3452) and she will arrange for your SNT to contact you. You may be aware of recent adverts on local radio, explaining the Ward Panel's vital role in setting regular priorities for its Ward. You can make an important contribution to this as a NW coordinator.

The members of the GBNWA Committee for 2009-2010 are now: Felix McLymont, Richard Cains, Jane Richards, Toni Hale, Pat Gillard, Annie Hart, Susan Mead and Janet Best, together with Inspector Nick Crowe as our ex officio member. If you wish to be co-opted onto the Committee, please contact Jane Richards.

## WE SEEK YOUR VIEWS

Our AGMs are fairly well attended, but we would like to encourage more of you to come. If you are someone who has not attended an AGM, or has stopped coming, please would you let us know why by emailing or telephoning Jane Richards (see contact details above). We would like to improve our communications with all NW coordinators.



**For free local  
advice and  
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## NHW NEWS UPDATES AND ALERTS

SATURDAY, JULY 11; EAGLESFIELD PARK NWS are holding a Community Event at Eaglesfield Park, Shooters Hill from 1-4pm. ALL welcome!

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

GBNWA has renewed for a further year from 1 April 2009 - 31 March 2010 the public liability insurance made available to NW Associations/Schemes, which have been formally registered with and approved by their local police authority as an authorised scheme. This insurance scheme is made available by the Home Office and is managed by the National Council for Voluntary Organisation, working in conjunction with CaSe Insurance. Cover is underwritten by Ansvar. The NCVO Helpline is: 0800 2798 798. Enquiries regarding other insurance requirements, including claims, should be referred to CaSe by email to [NHW@caseinsurance.co.uk](mailto:NHW@caseinsurance.co.uk) or by telephone to the CaSe Helpline 0845 2252288 or, in the case of an emergency, direct to Ansvar on 01323 737541.

### GBNWA January Conference

At the Greenwich Neighbourhood Watch Association Conference on 17th January, Sergeant Andy Bayes from Territorial Policing gave an excellent presentation under the title, "Neighbourhood Watch - Its time has come!"

Starting with the premise that Neighbourhood Watch (NW) exists in its own right, belongs to its "members", is supported by the Police and other Partnerships and enjoys the full support of Territorial Policing the unit in charge of the Safer Neighbourhoods initiative, Andy went on to talk about ways in which NW could expand and seek funding.

He asked the audience to consider how NW might move on from "defined Watch schemes" towards more general "common interest" groupings, not necessarily restricted to a row of houses all in the same or adjacent streets. This could include Residents' Associations, Social Clubs, Church groups etc.

On the subject of funding, Safety Partnerships were established in the London Boroughs as a result of the 1998, Crime & Disorder Act. The Crime & Disorder Reduction (3 year) Strategy led to Local Area Agreements which in turn spawned the National Indicator Set in April 2008 with 198 measurable "Indicators", 30 or so of which are seen as key. Processes and sums available may differ from Borough to Borough but Neighbourhood Watches or Neighbourhood Watch Associations seeking funding from the Local Authority need to firstly establish their credentials. A "group" seeking funding will normally need to have a Constitution, a bank account and a Treasurer. Once you have established your credibility, target a specific area in one of the "measured" activities and propose a project plan with real objectives, milestones and your own measures of success.

Gavin Gaskain, Sergeant, Safer Neighbourhoods Support, also offered suggestions for alternative sources of funding, which require the same level of credibility as described above, including the Safer London Foundation and the Lottery where bids of up to £1,000 will be considered for projects that "improve your local area".

If you are thinking of seeking other sources of funding try looking at [www.j4b.co.uk](http://www.j4b.co.uk) or [www.grantfinder.co.uk](http://www.grantfinder.co.uk)

Gavin also gave a working example of how, with Government Office for London funding, Greenwich Police are currently focusing on chosen local areas, which have specific problems of a kind which can be analysed and targeted, to design out and tackle particular problems the locality is encountering.

Gavin also drew our attention to THE POLICING PLEDGE – Our promise to the People, which concerns the standards of service provided by the Police to people in London. For further information, go to [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk) or telephone 7230 4737

Ask your SNT Sergeant for further information. Your SNT will also be able to apply for physical help on projects from the Community Payback Scheme.

GBNWA's Postal Address is now: G.B.N.W.A., PO Box Number 56453, London SE3 3AH

Visit GBNWA's website at: <http://www.gbnwa.org>