

Greenwich Borough Neighbourhood Watch Association



Improved newsletter

This spring edition of the GBNWA newsletter has a new look, feel and focus which we hope you find useful. The new format newsletter includes information to support you in your role as a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. Each issue will contain a message from the Borough Commander and top tips for you and your scheme members.

To help manage costs more effectively and reduce the impact on the environment, paper copies will no longer be posted out. The newsletters will be available from the GBNWA website to download and all registered co-ordinators who have provided an email address will receive the newsletter via email. And if you don't have ready access to the Internet or a printer, please contact your local Safer Neighbourhoods Police team who can print off copies for you. The newsletter aligns with the new look and improved website coming soon.

Invitation to the GBNWA Annual General Meeting

You're invited to take part in the GBNWA Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday 9 April, from 10am to 12 noon. You can meet the GBNWA Committee, other Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators across the borough and key members of the Met Police. This is your chance to:

- learn more about what the GBNWA can do to help you, including the 2011 aims
- hear from special guest speaker SO15 Counter Terrorism Command
- hear about the association's new website
- take part in the raffle to win a prize.

The AGM is open to all registered Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and will be held in the Briefing Room, Greenwich Borough Patrol Centre, Unit 9 Mellish Industrial Estate, Warspite Road. The entrance for the AGM is from Ruston Road, SE18 5QZ. Due to limited parking on the surrounding roads (yellow lines are in force on Saturdays) please use public transport. Woolwich Dockyard train station is a short walk away and buses 161, 177, 180, 472 and N1 all stop at Warspite Road. Attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis. **Please respond by Monday 28 March.** Email: chair@gbnwa.org or call 07958 382494.

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



"The Metropolitan Police Service, along with many other agencies, is striving to continue to deliver the high standards of service the public expect and deserve, and in ever more challenging financial times. Greenwich Borough Police is no exception to this and that is why I am working hard, not only with my own staff, but also with our partners such as Greenwich Council to uphold these standards. Key to this delivery is the support of the public and in particular voluntary associations such as Neighbourhood Watch. I have been at Greenwich for nearly two years and in that time I have seen the excellent support Neighbourhood Watch has provided to my officers. This has resulted in many excellent arrests including serious offences such as burglary. By working together we can continue to drive down crime in our neighbourhoods, making them a safer and better place to live for all our communities. Thank you for your invaluable support and I look forward to working with you in the future."

Richard Wood, Borough Commander

More news from the GBNWA committee

There's been lots of change on the GBNWA committee over the last few months. Jane Richards stepped down in December 2010 and we thank her for the years of dedicated support and enthusiasm in her role as Secretary – she will be a hard act to follow. And we say goodbye to Toni Hale in her role as Acting Secretary and thank her for providing support. Jason Bannister joined the committee in October 2010 to try and make a difference in Greenwich borough, his local community and to support and learn from other Neighbourhood Watch schemes. Jenny and Graham Penn joined the Committee in February 2011 bringing a wealth of expertise in communication along with their experience in running the very successful Eaglesfield Park Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Jenny has been voted on as Vice Chair and Graham as Webmaster.

The committee is now eight members strong and is currently recruiting for the role as Secretary. If you're interested please contact Chair Felix McLymont by email: chair@gbnwa.org or call 07958 382494.

Training session a hit

More than twenty co-ordinators from across the borough attended the 'How to run a successful scheme' training session on 29 January. One of three training sessions planned this year, members of the GBNWA Committee and special guest speakers spoke about their experiences in running schemes. Inspector Ivor Gwyn and Sergeant Justin Taylor from the Eltham West Police Ward discussed the Met Police project to implement a standard operating procedure for

helping to support Neighbourhood Watch schemes across Greenwich Borough in conjunction with the GBNWA. The procedures are currently being trialled across the Eltham Safer Neighbourhoods Ward and if successful will be rolled out across the borough. Keep on checking the GBNWA website for information about future training sessions.

Surf for success

The GBNWA website at www.gbnwa.org is being redeveloped and an improved site will go live in April. The redesigned site will include step-by-by guidelines on setting up a new scheme, tips on how to recruit new co-ordinators, information on how to produce effective newsletters including a template, latest crime prevention news including problem solving ideas and key contacts to help co-ordinators network with each other. Co-ordinators will be invited to showcase their individual schemes including success stories and focus areas to help promote sharing best practice across the borough.

Visit www.gbnwa.org for up-to-date news, information and tools Email: chair@gbnwa.org vicechair@gbnwa.org or webmaster@gbnwa.org Phone: Chair on 07958 382494

Top tip

When communicating with your scheme members, remind them about the benefits of an active Neighbourhood Watch Scheme including contacting their insurance provider to see if they are eligible for a discount on their building and contents insurance.

YOUR CALL COUNTS



1: In an emergency always dial: 999

2: Non-emergencies dial: 0300 123 1212

**3: Crimestoppers anonymously on:
0800 555 111**

**4: Report community issues to your local
Safer Neighbourhoods Police team**