

July 2023

# OUR NEWS



FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS ACROSS ENGLAND & WALES

Give a little to our crowdfunder and get a little something back!

## Our crowdfunder is go! Be a part of it and claim one of our great rewards!



**We are excited to be steaming ahead with our first-ever crowdfunded project, raising £30,000 for our innovative work with 16-24 year olds.**

We've raised **over £7,100** so far, but we urgently need your support. Your donation, large or small, will support the next generation of community leaders to be heard, active, and involved in crime prevention, safety initiatives, and community improvement in the ways that matter to them.

We have been gifted some amazing rewards to giveaway by our partners, including **5 x £100 vouchers for ERA products**; becoming a **Patlock Fairy** by donating a Patlock to someone in need; **15% off LockLatch products**; **3 x Simplisafe alarm systems**; and **discounts in NW's online shop**. We will also be launching a prize draw to win a **pair of tickets to Reading, Leeds or Creamfields festival**, kindly donated by Coop!

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Nominate for the Volunteer Recognition Awards

**P4**

Cyberhood Watch  
Find out more and join this growing group

**P7**

Neighbourhood Watch Week  
Find out how it went:

**P2**

ASB Webinars

Find out more and sign up:

**P3**



Follow us... [ourwatch.org.uk](https://ourwatch.org.uk)





## How we celebrated:

The Month of Community is all about coming together to celebrate everything that makes our communities great.

Millions of people took part this year to connect with their neighbours, welcome refugees, support carers, raise awareness of loneliness, or simply to say 'thank you'. Our fantastic volunteers ran information stalls at community events, coffee mornings, recruitment drives and more - we've a small selection of photos to help illustrate the work that has been done.



We've also been given £250 worth of charity shop gift cards to distribute which we'll use to support vulnerable communities.



Bedford NW Association



Tracey  
Eden Project Communities



John Hayward-Cripps



Darlington NW Association



# Safe as houses

Why a secure gate and fence are your first line of defence

- Install a quality fence system with **trusted** gate hardware
- A locked gate will raise the difficulty to deter attempted burglaries
- Lockable gates with self-closing hinges ensure perimeter security
- Gates help to keep loved ones safe from busy roads and strangers
- Make sure the gate closes reliably and is maintained regularly
- Choose premium gate hardware, tested to function in all environments

**Latches, locks and hinges that are guaranteed to last!**



**D&D Technologies**  
World's most trusted gate hardware [www.ddtech.com](http://www.ddtech.com)



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\* Quote reference NW23



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- [enquiries@ddtechglobal.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ddtechglobal.co.uk) • [www.ddtech.com](http://www.ddtech.com)

\*Warranty conditions vary according to gate or door application & usage. See full Warranty details & limitations on D&D Technologies' website.

# Get involved with the Summer Webinars

Recognising, recording and reporting ASB

Monday 3 July - 12-1pm

**[Sign up now!](#)**

[Our right to have our ASB complaints reviewed explained](#)

Tuesday 4 July - 6-7pm

**[Sign up now!](#)**

Antisocial Behaviour on Public Transport

Wednesday 5 July - 12-1pm

**[Sign up now!](#)**

How does the Community Safety Charter help you to reduce ASB?

Thursday 6 July - 6-7pm

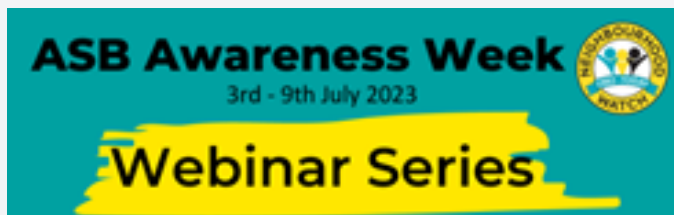
**[Sign up now!](#)**

We've brought back our ever-popular Summer Webinars this time with a focus on Anti-Social Behaviour.

ASB is a kind of 'catch all' term to categorise a huge number of offences including noise nuisance, littering, fly-tipping, and bad behaviour to mention just a few.

We want to equip you with the knowledge to tackle it - from reporting it in the right way to the right agencies, to addressing it and even having old cases opened up and reviewed.

Want to read more? We have further details on our [website](#).



# Volunteer Recognition Awards



## Nominate now!

You can nominate a specific Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator or a group by completing the form on the link above. This is the last week for nominations (entries close on Friday 7 July). You can nominate yourself if you are a Neighbourhood Watch volunteer and wish to be recognised. Those who have been shortlisted will be contacted in July.



### INNOVATION AND REACH

This category celebrates the diversity of ways we work within communities and increase our reach.



### CRIME PREVENTION

This category celebrates volunteers who support their neighbours to be stronger, more resilient, and safer by raising awareness of crime prevention.



### COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING

This category celebrates Neighbourhood Watch groups and Coordinators who have gone the extra mile to look out for the needs of their neighbours and neighbourhood.



## Call Blockers - Cyberhood Watch Case study

Keeping our older, vulnerable neighbours safe, is something we can all get on board with, but for Cyberhood Watch Ambassador, Aaron Cain, and his wife, Jennifer, their partnership working led to a fantastic result.

Jennifer works with Guide Dogs for the Blind, supporting blind people in the community who don't have Guide Dogs in their lives. In her work, she found that one of the people she was helping was being targeted by scammers. As with most visually impaired people who are in their later years, they rely on landline phones to keep in touch with family, friends and local services, but with the use of a landline comes the continual nuisance of scam calls leaving many worried about picking up the receiver.

Jennifer and Aaron were able to jump on an email from one of our partners - Friends against Scams - who offer free call-blockers to those at risk. The blockers are given on a case-by-case basis, but the couple's compelling case ensured that a call-blocker was packed up and posted almost immediately for evaluation of its potential in-situ.

Aaron explains: "Using my role as a Cyberhood Watch Ambassador, I quickly completed the online application and received an answer almost immediately that a unit had been approved and dispatched. The unit with the accompanying documentation allowed us to evaluate its capabilities and assess the benefits and potential considerations of its use in the household.

"The benefits of providing the security of a blocker, for any vulnerable person, including those enrolled with Guide Dogs for the Blind, adds peace of mind and allows them to enjoy their lives more fully without being targeted by scammers."



### About the Call Blockers

These units can block up to 99% of scam and nuisance calls, giving consumers peace of mind and more time in their day.

To find out more visit:  
<https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/callblocker>

# Amazon scams are on the rise - protect yourself

**It's not surprising that Amazon phone scams have become so common: Amazon is a retail giant. Plus, the more people who shop on the site, the more opportunities there are for criminals to con them out of their financial information.**

There are several versions of the Amazon call scam. But in all of them, a scammer's goal is to steal your personal and financial information. A con artist might call you to say that someone has used your Amazon account to order an expensive item and because the purchase was so large, the representative says, Amazon needs to verify that you made the order.

When you tell the representative that you did not make the order, the scammer will ask for your Amazon account log-in information and credit card number. The scammer will explain that this information is necessary to cancel the order and protect your account from further fraudulent activities. If you provide this information, the scammer can later access your Amazon account to run up illegal purchases in your name.

Red flags to watch for - Amazon itself provides several warning signs of a call scam:

1. It's about an order you never placed
  2. The caller asks for your personal information
  3. The caller is vague about what you ordered
  4. The caller is pressuring you to act quickly
  5. The call is a recorded message
- If you've fallen victim to an Amazon call scam, act quickly to limit the financial damage.
  - First, check your bank/credit card statements. Look for any suspicious purchases that you know you didn't make, and contact your bank if there are.
  - Consider downloading credit reports, check them for any new loans or credit card accounts that you know you haven't opened. Report any fraudulent loans or accounts to the credit companies.



**Get 70% off Avast**  
**One today.**



# Safer Summer

Summer is upon us, and it's time to get excited about the warm weather and longer days! However, it's also the season when burglars are on the lookout for unguarded homes.

It's alarming to know that the police record over 500 burglaries every day in the UK. So, it's a good idea to take a moment to think about your home security during this time of the year.

[Take a look at our top security tips to help you relax and enjoy the beautiful weather without worrying about your home's safety.](#)

If in doubt, seek advice from a trusted and experienced professional. MLA locksmiths are independently vetted and inspected, and many will be able to perform a complete security assessment of your home free of charge.

**[Find your local MLA approved locksmith at locksmiths.co.uk](#)**



**Expert tips to help secure your home this summer.**  
SECURE YOUR HOME. PROTECT YOUR WORLD.



Visit [locksmiths.co.uk](https://locksmiths.co.uk)  
**TO FIND YOUR LOCAL MLA APPROVED LOCKSMITH.**

## Want to join Cyberhood Watch?

If you've never heard of our Cyberhood Watch Ambassador scheme, you're in for a treat. These volunteers support their communities by offering advice and skills to avoid scams and navigate their way safely online.

Our Ambassadors are given training and access to materials to use for presentations or social media collateral. There is also a fantastic community of friendly, knowledgeable and supportive ambassadors who meet up regularly online to share issues and improve things.

Want to find out more? [Have a read of our web page](#) and register your interest.



“

The vision for this program is truly inspiring, and it is an honour to be a part of such a vital initiative.

I look forward to collaborating with you and the other ambassadors to make a meaningful impact and help create a safer online world.

”

Nazrin, Cyberhood Watch Ambassador

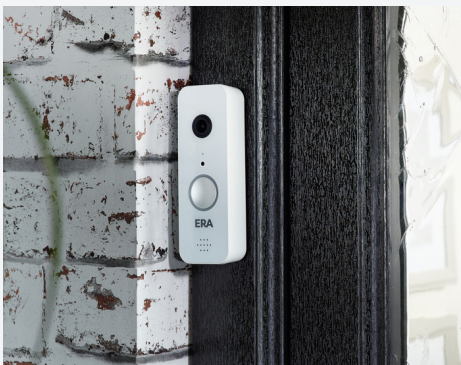
# Smart security solutions this summer



Now is the time of year we are most likely to leave our homes for holidays and day trips, and when at home, open windows and doors to enjoy the warmer weather and lighter evenings. Empty properties and unsecure doors and windows present opportunities for burglars, so we've compiled our top three smart security solutions for protecting your home this summer:

## 1. Alarm systems

ERA Protect's range of alarm kits are the number one solution for deterring burglars. With seven different alarm kits available, ranging from the 5 to 14-piece bundles, you can choose the perfect system to suit your budget and property size. You can also connect up to 96 accessories to a single smart hub, allowing you to create a security system that works for you.



## 2. Video doorbells

The ERA Protect Smart Home Video Doorbell, is a great way to keep an eye on your property, allowing you to record footage from your front door and talk to any visitors remotely. The perfect solution for ensuring packages be delivered to your safe place, whether you are home or away.

## 3. Security cameras

By installing security cameras around your home, you can monitor the outside of your property day and night including the main doors to your home, as well as outbuildings and sheds where high value gardening and sports equipment is often stored. Motion detection technology will alert you to any activity via an app, prompting you to check the live camera feed and see if any action needs to be taken.



**For more information on ERA smart security products and to find the right solution for you, visit [eraprotect.com](https://eraprotect.com)**



# Community Safety Charter - one year on



**We are proud to support the COMMUNITY SAFETY CHARTER**

*We pledge to:*

- PROMOTE**  
Promote a culture that does not tolerate antisocial behaviour, harassment, intimidation and hostility towards others
- ENABLE**  
Enable others to identify and take an active stance against these crimes and incidents
- REPORT**  
Actively encourage and support those who experience or witness these crimes and incidents to report them to the relevant authorities
- SUPPORT**  
Support those affected and signpost those who need further support to agencies who can help them

[ourwatch.org.uk/charter](http://ourwatch.org.uk/charter)

**#BETHECHANGE**

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, 1071284

Although it feels like the Community Safety Charter has been part of Neighbourhood Watch for much longer, it has only just been a year since its launch in July last year.

We can report that the Charter has been a massive success, with the initial second year target of 2,500 sign ups being surpassed in the first year!

Amongst those who have signed up are:

- 27 Members of Parliament
- 4 Police & Crime Commissioners
- 2 Prominent Universities
- 1342 Individuals
- 135 Community groups
- 103 Businesses

Among the many organisations that support the Charter, we were delighted that the bus network in Plymouth, as a result of our Project Manager, Kevin Sproston's work in the South West agreed to advertise the Charter for FREE across their network. We recently secured sponsorship from our partners, ERA who are supporting the Charter.

Recommended by Neighbourhood Watch



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**PATLOCK**

**Neighbourhood Watch Member Discount**  
order a Patlock for £42.50 from  
[patlock.co.uk/neighbourhood-watch](http://patlock.co.uk/neighbourhood-watch)

SECURED BY DESIGN



# Leavers

In May and June we waved goodbye to the following staff members (from top left):

Deborah Waller was our Head of Comms & Digital for nearly four years, and will be sadly missed. She leaves us to take up a role with the Pulmonary Vascular Research Institute.

Simeon Earnshaw, our Young People's Engagement & Development Manager, leaves us for a new role with Redbridge Council.



Sonia Joseph kindly stepped in to provide maternity cover for our Head of Fundraising, Amy Mawby, who has made a welcome return!

# Returner

We are delighted to announce the return of Amy Mawby, our Head of Fundraising, from maternity leave. Amy is now proud mother to daughter, Lilah.

She is currently on a phased return but will be working 4 days per week once fully returned.



# Starter

We're giving a warm welcome to Ruby Smart who joins us as the new Head of Communications & Digital, replacing Deborah Waller.

Ruby comes to us from the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, where she headed up internal communications. She starts in late June and will be a full-time member of staff.

# GROUND-BREAKING POLICE FRAMEWORK

Neighbourhood Watch has worked with the National Neighbourhood Policing Leads to produce a 'Framework.' The Framework acts as a building block for better relationships and working practices between our volunteers and Police at a local level.

This work began in response to the many requests from Police Officers, Neighbourhood Watch Associations, and volunteers, for nationally agreed guidance on good practice, liaison and working together.

The Framework contains commitments from both Police and Neighbourhood Watch to work together to share information, to encourage communities to join their local neighbourhood watches, or to create their own. Importantly, it also commits them to

get involved with both crime prevention and community support activities – sharing advice and information with residents to help them keep themselves and their property safe.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of Neighbourhood Watch says: "This was a very important piece of work and one that we are extremely proud of – it strengthens our connection with Police Forces and demonstrates our commitment to tackle crime to achieve safer more connected communities."

**Find out more about the Local Police Neighbourhood Watch Framework, here**



## help me Angela

Everyone has a story. A moment when they've felt unsafe. Often we don't talk about it and try our best not to think about it.

help me Angela is doing something about it – using technology and live Personal Safety Specialists they help you to feel more confident, safer and better supported in your everyday life.

The help me Angela App is a Personal Safety app that connects you to a 24/7 live Personal Safety Specialist who will provide you with the assistance you need to help you feel safer. The aim is to help you from becoming a victim of crime by offering personal safety education and advice.

### **What is the Incident Recovery Programme?**

If you were to become a victim of a personal assault or abuse, the Incident Recovery Programme is designed to help you recover and get back to being yourself again. Treatments include counselling, rehabilitation therapies, scar repair, and the replacement of lost or damaged personal effects.

**Find out more**