

# OUR NEWS



FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS ACROSS ENGLAND & WALES



Hello and welcome to our May newsletter.

We are so excited this month to celebrate **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK** from **30th May to 5th June**. Please send photos and

stories of your events to us via [enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk) or upload them to your social media accounts tag us and use the hashtag #NeighbourhoodWatchWeek. We can't wait to see your celebrations!

Last week we launched an interactive timeline of **OUR JOURNEY** highlighting the incredible journey we have been on over the past 40 years and beyond. If you haven't yet, do take a look at it on [ourwatch.org.uk/our-journey](http://ourwatch.org.uk/our-journey).

To see where opinions of Neighbourhood Watch differ and how we can adapt for different audiences, we launched our **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH INSIGHTS SURVEY 2022** on 25th April 2022. It is designed for both members and non-members, of all ages and backgrounds. We have had a good response so far but we are

especially interested to hear more from younger people. Please take a few minutes to fill in our survey and share it with your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours. More on page 3.

Lastly, but not least, we are looking forward to running a **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CRIME AND COMMUNITY CONFERENCE** with the theme of **REDUCING CRIME AND CREATING COHESIVE, RESILIENT COMMUNITIES** on 31st May in London. The conference morning and afternoon presentations will be streamed **live on our Facebook page** for anyone wishing to follow them live. A reminder will be sent closer to the date but for now, set some time aside on the morning and afternoon of 31st May and ensure you follow our Facebook page.

Keep safe,

**John Hayward-Cripps, CEO, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NETWORK**

## INSIDE:

### PAGES 2 -3

SHOULD YOU ACCEPT ALL COOKIES?  
INSIGHTS SURVEY 2022  
OUR JOURNEY

### PAGE 4

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK

### PAGE 5

PROTECT YOUR CAR  
KNOWLEDGE HUB

### PAGE 6

ENOUGH CAMPAIGN

### PAGE 7 & 8

PATLOCK OFFER  
CO-OP TRAVEL INSURANCE

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





**Renowned celebrity baker, Prue Leith, has teamed up with Avast to help educate Brits on cookies, both digital and chocolate chip ones.**

At Avast, we recently carried out research which found that more than four in five people (85%) have accepted cookies on a website without reading any of the policies, while more than a third (37%) said they've done so, only to later discover they had agreed to something they wish they hadn't.

Our research also revealed that people are more likely to agree to terms they don't understand online (62%) than they are when faced with a contract in real life (54%).

Three in ten Brits (29%) feel confused by cookie policies, and 70% even believe websites intentionally try to confuse people with the language they use.

In light of this, three quarters (75%) of Brits think internet users need to be better educated on what cookies actually are.

Prue Leith commented, *"While recent times have highlighted the importance of being connected online, it's also never been more important for people to feel safe while doing so."*

Prue continued, *"Many people of all ages, but particularly my generation, are not as familiar with certain aspects of the internet and this, of course, includes digital cookies. This can prove to be a barrier to embracing everything that being online has to offer so I am delighted to be working with Avast to help people understand what cookies are and how they work."*

Avast's mission is to protect digital freedom for everyone, which includes helping people understand more about what digital cookies are and, consequently, helping them navigate the internet as safely as possible.

**Achieve online privacy with our tips on cookies**

1. The first step to navigating digital cookies is understanding what exactly they are. Cookies are like identification cards made up of small bits of information in the form of text that help computers interact with websites. On the one hand, they allow websites to remember information, such as logins or items stored in an online shopping cart. On the other hand, they can record your browsing activity so advertisers can use it for targeted advertising.
2. If you want to limit the information websites can access, choose a browser that blocks third-party cookies (those created by websites other than the one you're visiting) by default.
3. It's good digital hygiene to clear cookies regularly. You can do so in the settings or preferences of your browser of choice. Deleting cookies helps to keep your browser running smoothly.
4. Some websites allow you to control what cookies to accept or reject via a pop-up window that appears before you access them. It is good practice to only accept the cookies required for websites to function, such as language and region, and reject those related to advertising and tracking.
5. For more privacy-conscious people, consider rejecting all cookies but expect website performance issues. Alternatively, choose a secure browser with anti-tracking technology to block web trackers, including cookies, to minimise companies' amount of online surveillance.



## Cyberhood Watch - what's it all about?



We have teamed up with Avast to create Cyberhood Watch. This is a UK Cyberhood Watch initiative that will help people learn more about the cybersecurity risks that exist every time you go online, and discover which regions of the UK are the most at risk.

From [phishing](#) to [viruses](#) to [ransomware](#), this community-led awareness programme looks at the **impact cybercrime can have on our everyday lives**, and provides **simple tips on the steps we can take to protect ourselves**,

our friends and family, and our local community.

Click [here](#) to see cybercrime insights and a cybercrime toolkit with a wide range of easy to follow, useful guides.

*If you think you'd be a good fit for the Cyberhood Watch Ambassador volunteer role, email [enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk) for more information.*

## Share our INSIGHTS SURVEY 2022 with young people

Our [NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH INSIGHTS SURVEY 2022](#) is designed for both members and, perhaps more importantly, non-members from a range of ages and backgrounds. The goal is for us to see where opinions of Neighbourhood Watch may differ and how we may need to adapt for different audiences.

**Please spread the word - we would like to gain the broadest possible range of responses representing the diversity of England and Wales, especially young people and those in cities and high crime areas.**

Please help us by completing the survey and sharing it with your friends, family, neighbours, colleagues and other networks.

We have put together some copy in the right hand column for you to copy and paste in emails, your social media groups or your local WhatsApp groups.

### TAKE PART IN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH'S INSIGHTS 2022 SURVEY

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/InsightsNW>

What do you think about Neighbourhood Watch? To find out, they're running a short survey across England and Wales for members and non-members alike.

Your answers will be anonymous and help them identify positives they can build on and areas they may need to do better. **To add to this, you could be in for a chance of winning £25 by completing the survey.**

The survey will only take a few minutes to complete and will be open until 15th May!

**Thank you so much for your support.**

## Join us on a journey through the past 40 years

Did you know? We were founded in 1982 with our first groups set up in Mollington (Cheshire), Harpenden (Hertfordshire), Chorleywood (Hertfordshire), Bedford (Bedfordshire), and South Wales.

The past 40 years has seen the introduction of the internet, the opening of the Channel Tunnel, the first women priests in the Church of England, the introduction of civil partnerships for same-sex couples, and seven different prime ministers.

Throughout this time, we have remained relevant by adapting and responding to the

changing needs of communities and crime.

Today we are proud to say we are an active, inclusive movement set on building safer and more inclusive communities across England and Wales.

To celebrate our achievements, we have launched an interactive timeline on our website reflecting our rich past, strong present position, and future ambition of being the authoritative voice on community-based crime and first step in connecting communities.

[Explore OUR JOURNEY](#)

“**JOIN US IN CELEBRATING**



**40** YEARS OF  
**BUILDING  
STRONGER  
COMMUNITIES**”

**30TH MAY - 5TH JUNE**

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales. CIO No. 1173349

It's nearly here! From 9th May we will begin a weekly countdown on social media to our annual NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK. How will you be celebrating?

We have heard from Coordinators across England and Wales who are planning a wide variety of events. To inspire you to get connected with your community during NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK, here are some of the things Neighbourhood Watch groups have told us they will be getting up to between 30th May and 5th June:

- street parties, tea and cake garden parties, family fun days, picnics and galas
- colouring-in competitions and bake-offs
- dance shows and street parades
- litter-picks
- creating crime prevention calendars
- making a large 40th shape on the lawn
- promoting youth work
- opening a community wildlife park, updating church gardens, tree and hedge planting, and giving nature a helping hand whilst including a Neighbourhood Watch 40th Anniversary plaque
- installing a new community notice board
- uniting communities with board games
- sharing Neighbourhood Watch leaflets with estate agents

- distributing personal alarms to women
- running events to recruit more volunteers, upskill volunteers with workshops, and connect volunteers across different wards
- introducing a welcome wagon
- running a personal safety awareness campaign
- distributing emergency grab bags
- installing a speed indicator sign

**FOR MORE IDEAS  
DOWNLOAD OUR  
40 YEARS,  
40 ACTIONS  
PACK**

Remember to share what you get up to with us by uploading your photos to social media with hashtag #NeighbourhoodWatchWeek, or emailing them to [enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@ourwatch.org.uk).

## Protect your car with our top tips

We can't always prevent car crime but there are simple steps we can all take to reduce our chances of becoming a victim of it.

### PROTECT YOUR CAR, LEAVE IT:

**1. LOCKED**  
LOCK YOUR CAR WHEN YOU LEAVE IT

**2. LIT**  
PARK IN A WELL-LIT AREA

**3. EMPTY**  
HIDE ANY ITEMS ON SHOW

SHARE THESE 3 STEPS  
WITH 3 FRIENDS



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

Neighbourhood Watch Network is a charity registered in England & Wales, CID no: 1173349

Following those three simple steps will help to keep your car safe, but there are further steps you could take:

- Store **car ownership information at home**
- Secure number plates with **anti-theft screws** available from car accessory stores
- Keep your car keys out of sight at home
- Use a **Sold Secure** [oldsecure.com](http://oldsecure.com) approved anti-theft device on your car. You can search for suppliers on [securedbydesign.com](http://securedbydesign.com)
- When parking in a car park, look for a **'Park Mark'** [parkmark.co.uk](http://parkmark.co.uk) indicating the car park meets recognised security levels
- Fit **locking, anti-tamper wheel nuts** to secure alloy wheels

- **Secure items outside of your vehicle.** Anything left on roof-racks, tailgate racks, holiday top boxes or in tool chests are easily stolen when the vehicle is parked. The use of cable locks, padlocks and self-locking tools chests, which are secured to the vehicle, makes them more secure, but still, don't leave things in them if you can avoid it.

### BUT WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PREVENT CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT?

Catalytic converters are targeted because of the precious metals that they are made with, namely rhodium, platinum and palladium. Thieves simply cut the catalytic converter from the exhaust pipe of a parked car and sell them on to scrap metal dealers. Taller vehicles are more vulnerable as the catalytic converters are easier to access.

### To reduce the risk of having your catalytic converter stolen you could:

1. Purchase **anti-theft products** such as [Catloc](#) - a [Sold Secure](#) approved product (find out more about [Catloc's Secured by Design's Police Preferred Specification](#))
2. **Park to restrict access** to the underneath of the car
3. Ask your dealer to **weld the catalytic converter** to the car
4. **Fit a tilt alarm**
5. **Register your converter and mark it** with a forensic marker, which will make it harder for thieves to dispose of

For more information on catalytic converter theft, have a look at this [BBC One Inside Out Catalytic Converter Theft video](#).

Visit [ourwatch.org.uk/protectyourcar](http://ourwatch.org.uk/protectyourcar) for more car crime prevention information.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH KNOWLEDGE HUB

### Our volunteer support platform

The Knowledge Hub provides Coordinators, Associations and other Neighbourhood Watch volunteers with:

- specific volunteer role support
- the opportunity to connect with other volunteers on forums
- a range of resources, including crime prevention campaign materials
- access to training to support your role
- early access to events such as webinars
- unique volunteer offers

[Click here to join the Hub](#)



I'VE HAD **ENOUGH.**  
OF MY MATE  
HARASSING WOMEN  
ON THE STREET,  
SO I CALL IT OUT.

**STREET HARASSMENT IS ABUSE.**

**We can stop violence against women and girls.**

Get information and support at [gov.uk/enough](https://www.gov.uk/enough)



HM Government

Only intervene if safe to do so.

## Neighbourhood Watch Community Grants secured by Patlock



### Recommended by Neighbourhood Watch

Since being introduced to the security market in 2014, Patlock has come a long way.

They have gained the accolade as the only specific French Door security lock to achieve the Police preferred Secured by Design accreditation and the recommendation of police forces throughout the country.

With Patlock being the French Door security 'go-to product', their work with Neighbourhood Watch is more important than ever as more people leave their homes unattended to return to the office.

Patlock and Neighbourhood Watch have worked together since 2015. Patlock is keen to continue this partnership to support the great work that Neighbourhood Watch provides to local communities.

Not only has Patlock retained the original discounted rate of £42.50 for Neighbourhood Watch supporters, but they have also contributed £7.00 from each purchase back to Neighbourhood Watch Network. **This contribution has totalled an amazing £34,846.00**, increasing the funds in our popular Neighbourhood Watch Community Grants scheme.

To order a Patlock at the Neighbourhood Watch discounted rate of £42.50, visit [patlock.co.uk/neighbourhood-watch](https://patlock.co.uk/neighbourhood-watch).



**Want to protect your home? Think WIDE(N)  
(WINDOWS, INTERIOR, DOORS, EXTERIOR, (NEIGHBOURS))  
to have the best possible protection against burglary.  
Find out more on [ourwatch.org.uk/burglary-WIDEN](https://ourwatch.org.uk/burglary-WIDEN).**



See ya  
restrictions,  
hello holidays

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- ✓ Cover for Coronavirus related medical expenses<sup>^1</sup>
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<sup>^1</sup> If the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office does not advise against all or all but essential travel to your intended destination, our policies will cover medical costs and cancellation where you or a member of your family/travelling party are diagnosed with Coronavirus, or are personally instructed to quarantine because of Coronavirus by an NHS service or healthcare professional. If the FCDO advises against all but essential travel to your destination because of Coronavirus, there will be no cover for any Coronavirus-related claims, including emergency medical costs, but you will be covered for all non Coronavirus-related claims in line with the usual policy terms and conditions. Cover for Coronavirus related claims applies only if you have had the recommended vaccination(s) or were medically unable to have the vaccinations as evidenced by your medical records.

<sup>^2</sup> Customers will receive an email with instructions on how to register for this service, after purchasing their policy. Available whilst travelling on a trip that is covered by the policy.

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