



OUR NEWS

the e-newsletter for Neighbourhood Watch supporters

OCTOBER 2018 EDITION

What makes a good neighbour in modern Britain?

That's the question we've tried to answer in a fantastic new report that's got everyone talking this month!

We've worked with our sponsor Co-op Insurance to find out what really makes a good neighbour and together we've produced a fascinating insight into modern neighbourliness.

The report shows that more than half of UK homeowners surveyed (54%) know most of their neighbours by name and a quarter

(29%) of homeowners would trust their neighbours with a key to their home.¹

The report, ['A Neighbourly Nation: Through the Keyhole'](#), also reveals that it's not all quiet on the home front. Although 98% of people think they're good neighbours with almost a third (30%) saying they get on better with neighbours now than they did five years ago, two in five Brits (45%) have had a disagreement with their neighbours.

David Huse, OBE, Chair of the Neighbourhood Watch Network, said: "Being a good neighbour has

huge benefits and makes your community friendlier and safer too. By looking out for your neighbours, watching out for those who are elderly or vulnerable and sharing crime prevention advice you can help keep you and your neighbours safe and your homes secure."

Earlier this summer we asked Co-op and NW members to nominate their best neighbour for our **Neighbour of the Year 2018** award.

Thanks to everyone who nominated their neighbours – there were more than 400 people nominated which is fantastic. To read more and meet our Neighbour of the Year 2018 winner turn to page 2.

NO THANKS Trick or treaters

Please DON'T knock on this door as we do not wish to take part.



Our popular Halloween cut-out

Halloween is fast approaching and we know how popular the event has become for families across Britain.

But if you, or someone you know, isn't too keen on night-time visitors on October 31 - here's our popular cut out to stick up in your window or door. To download more of our resources [click here!](#)

Neighbourhood Watch is proud to be supported by ERA Home Security and the Co-op Insurance.

ERA **co**
Total Security

Through the keyhole

Our new report, '[A Neighbourly Nation: Through the Keyhole](#)' also shows that homeowners and renters approach neighbourly disputes differently, with homeowners admitting to complaining to their neighbour (16%) twice as much as renters (8%).

More than a quarter of UK homeowners and renters admit they have had a party and played loud music after 11pm (28%), acknowledging that common causes of neighbourly disputes including noise (10%), parking (9%), music (8%) and barking dogs (8%).

Over one in ten (13%) renters think they're a bad neighbour because they play loud music, compared to just 3% of homeowners.

Being Neighbourly – what you do

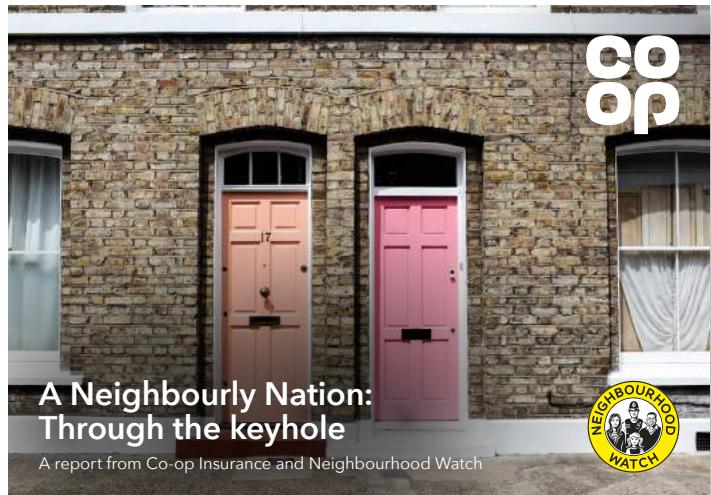
- 63% have taken in parcels
- 54% have dropped off deliveries
- 51% say they are quiet and courteous
- 49% keep an eye on the property
- 38% think they are not nosey; the same amount are courteous where they park their car
- 31% of UK homeowners and renters would go outside to check all was okay if they hear an alarm
- 26% of people would look out of the window to see where an alarm was coming from

The findings have been revealed as Co-op Insurance and Neighbourhood Watch crown our **Neighbour of the Year – Paul Zeun**, 53, from Sheffield for his consistent caring and neighbourly behaviour over the past decade.²

While communities are looking out for each other by doing the day-to-day things, our report suggests more can be done to strengthen meaningful relationships that form the foundations of a close-knit community. Only one in seven people (15%) have invited their neighbours over to their home and almost a quarter (24%), think they're a good neighbour because they keep themselves to themselves.

Neighbours or good friends?

A third of people (31%) want to be friendlier with their neighbours with just one in 10 believing they have a worse relationship with their neighbours than



they did five years ago.

Those in Birmingham are most likely to be good friends with those next door (49%), while Cardiff residents were least interested in knowing their neighbour. Overall, 15% of UK homeowners and renters don't know if they'd recognise their neighbours in a line-up.

To determine what makes a great neighbour in today's society, Co-op asked its members to answer a series of questions to seek out the best qualities and the following **four** themes were revealed:

Traits of a good neighbour:

- Good neighbours **look out for each other**, for example keeping an eye on the house
- Good neighbours **are sociable and friendly** - happy for a chat or a party invitation
- They're **practically helpful** - from taking in parcels to offering help with the plumbing
- They're **kind, caring and respectful** - more specifically thinking about the impact they have on neighbours

What can we do to be a better neighbour?

Increasingly we all lead busier lives, and while often we think we are being good neighbours, how well do we really know our neighbours? For those who want to, taking a little extra time to build meaningful relationships with those around us, can help strengthen our communities and make them safer places to live. To help people become more neighbourly, Co-op Insurance has also created a [Good Neighbour Guide](#).

Finding our winner and grabbing the headlines!

Earlier this summer we spoke to members to find out more about what being a good neighbour means to them. This allowed us to create the **Good Neighbour Guide** and a judging criteria for the **Neighbour of the Year** competition. The campaign certainly got people talking this month – our NWN chair David Huse and Co-op's Head of Home Insurance Caroline Hunter gave dozens of media interviews about the report to news outlets up and down the country.



Meet our Neighbour of the Year 2018



Our winner Paul Zeun, 53, was nominated for **Neighbour of the Year** by his neighbour Abby Wilson, 38 for consistently helping her and the neighbours in the Bard Street flats in Sheffield. It was that consistency that really blew us away. Abby first met Paul when she locked herself out of her flat 10 years ago and he helped her to get back in. He has been helping Abby and the rest of the neighbours in the flats nearby ever since.

Paul has cared for terminally ill neighbours and looks after his other neighbours by doing the shopping for those who can't, shares his DIY skills and looks after people's pets, in addition to watering plants, inside and outside the flats, and he regularly puts out the bins and tidies away mess in communal areas.

Paul has created a real community spirit by organising communal themed BBQs and Christmas fancy-dress parties. As a result of the get-togethers the neighbours now celebrate birthdays with one another.

He has been instrumental in getting the community talking to each other and bringing everyone together. He plants flowers and makes the communal gardens look beautiful and from his allotment he shares out his vegetables, and produce including jams and pickles with the neighbours every year.

Paul is pictured right being interviewed about the award by his local TV station. >



Incredible welcome for our new Crime Toolkits

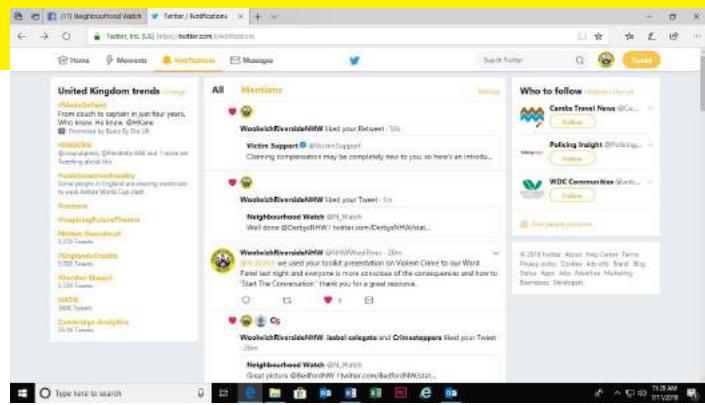
Our new crime prevention toolkits are proving incredibly popular!

Earlier this summer Neighbourhood Watch took a new approach to crime prevention with the launch of the series of online information packs and campaign toolkits, to help our volunteers run awareness and prevention campaigns in their own local communities.

Funded by the Home Office, the seven new Crime & Vulnerability Toolkits provide regional and local Neighbourhood Watch coordinators with various online and printable campaign resources that they can use to inform and educate their local members about the new and emerging crime types.

The project was devised in response to the changing nature of crime and vulnerability across England and Wales. All the crime types have been pinpointed by the government as high-priority, high-harm issues that require cross-sector action, involving communities and individuals as well as government, police, statutory services and charities.

The first seven campaign packs focus on Scams, Domestic Abuse, Serious Violence (including knife crime), Modern Slavery, Terrorism, Child Sexual Exploitation, and Loneliness & Vulnerability. Loneliness is clearly not a crime but is a problem that has been identified by the Government as increasing people's risk of falling victim to crime – particularly older people – hence its inclusion in the project.



Each online pack provides a brief, plain-English summary of the specific crime: what it is, how it happens, how prevalent it is, and who is most at risk. It also outlines the signs that may indicate the crime is being committed, what steps you can take to help prevent it, and what to do if you suspect someone you know is a victim or a perpetrator.

Each online pack is also accompanied by a campaign toolkit containing a selection of practical online and offline resources that can be circulated or distributed as part of an awareness-raising campaign. These resources include leaflets and posters that can be printed off and put through letterboxes or handed out at public meetings, as well as films, GIFs, and audio clips that can be forwarded by email or posted on social media channels.

The online packs and campaign toolkits can all be found [here](#) on our website and are freely available for anyone to use.

Neighbourhood Watch hopes that as well as our own local champions and coordinators, the resource will be useful for police officers, police community support officers (PCSOs) and anybody else that works to raise awareness of crime in local communities.

Everyone's talking about our Toolkits!

In Neighbourhood Watch Week in June we sent a special message out to hundreds of thousands of Neighbourhood Alert users to launch our new toolkits.

As well as having an incredible response from our Twitter and Facebook users here's what some *Our News* readers told us!

"I've been mightily impressed with the quality and breadth of info on hand. Having been burgled several times I wish I'd been more aware of what's available on the site."

"Whilst I'm unfortunately between jobs I'll be doing my best to keep up to speed and to take advantage of the help and advice on tap. Many thanks!"

"Almost too much to read and absorb in one sitting but a very worthwhile addition! Well done."

"Good e-mail. Good idea to include contact numbers for issues."

"Helpful to know names and addresses of charities or others that deal with the issues in the e-mail. I didn't know some of them even existed so very helpful."

"I did not realise your scope was so wide. The alert was appreciated; Like many I suppose, we hope we may never have to follow the links you provide, but at least, should we ever have the any need for such channels of help, they are there, SAVED! Thank you."

"Very good. Sent information to my sisters. Thank you very much. will be even more aware."

NWN Board welcomes new trustees

A new Board of Trustees was elected at the Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) AGM in August.

The 11-strong Board will lead the Neighbourhood Watch movement as it delivers our new forward-thinking, three-year *Into the Future* Strategy.

At the AGM, held in London, voting members (pictured) from across England and Wales elected the new Board members and gave further feedback and input into the new strategy.

David Huse, OBE, was re-elected as NWN Chair of Trustees, Rachel Griffin as Deputy and Joe Pearce will continue as Treasurer.

Derek Pratt, a long-serving and leading NW member from Sussex, becomes the Board's new Secretary.

David Huse, OBE, said: "I am delighted to welcome returning members of our Board who have served us so well and also to welcome three new trustees who will strengthen our Board with the additional skills and experience they bring to really help us move Neighbourhood Watch forward."



Award winning Trustees!

Two NWN Trustees have been recognised for their dedication to Neighbourhood Watch.

Alison McWhinnie (Kingston Upon Thames) was presented with this Community Champion Award at the Kingston Regatta Charity Lunch in the Summer.

The award is for Alison's work that includes, cybercrime and dementia awareness, first aid talks and installation of a community defibrillator and her wider crime prevention work.

New NWN Trustee Kardaya Rooprai (West Midlands) will receive a Chief Constable's Community Service Award from West Midlands CC David Thompson in December for his work as a tireless coordinator in Sandwell Valley.

Congratulations Alison and Kardaya!

INTO THE FUTURE!

After a thorough consultation period earlier this year NWN's new three-year Strategic Plan *Into the Future* has now been agreed.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of NWN, said: "The feedback I have received from members and associations has been overwhelmingly positive as it has been from partner organisations, the police and the Home Office. Obviously, the hard work starts now to ensure all the elements get completed! A comprehensive Delivery Plan has been developed and is being agreed by the NWN Board of Trustees."

NWN also consulted widely on our new *Strategy* at

a series of Development Seminars held for members from across England and Wales earlier this summer that were featured in the July edition of *Our News*.

As part of the delivery plan NWN's Central Support Team has been restructured and the new staff team is relocating from its office in Leicester to an office in central London to better support the aims of the *Into the Future* strategy.

There will soon be seven members of the new staff team headed by CEO John Hayward-Cripps to deliver the *Strategy* until 2021.

Email addresses and phone numbers for the Central Support Team will not change and the new address will be updated on our website.



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partnership

co
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* All new Co-op Insurance customers who are active members of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and purchase a home insurance policy directly from Co-op Insurance over the phone will receive a 10% discount for the first year of their policy. In order to claim this offer you will need to telephone our customer contact centre for a quote, and give the advisor the unique code. Minimum premiums apply. Calls may be monitored or recorded for security and training purposes. An active member of a valid Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is someone who is designated as such by Neighbourhood Watch. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts (including staff discounts, online discounts or Co-op Membership discounts). The terms and conditions of this promotion do not alter or vary the terms and conditions of any Co-op Insurance home policy which may be purchased. We reserve the right to decline any application for any insurance policy in our absolute discretion and we are not obliged to disclose any reason for rejection. The Promoter reserves the right to withdraw, modify or terminate this offer in whole or in part in the event that it is necessary to do so. Please visit www.ourwatch.org.uk/exclusions-and-limitations/ for Exclusions and Limitations for this offer. Promoter: Co-op Insurance.

Calls to 0800 numbers are free from UK landlines and from mobiles.

Home Insurance is underwritten by Co-op Insurance. Co-op Insurance is a trading name of CIS General Insurance Limited; registered in England and Wales with registration number 29999R. Registered office: CIS Building, Miller Street, Manchester M60 0AL.

What could you really lose in a hack? Important advice from our partner Cyber Aware.

As supporters of Neighbourhood Watch, you know the importance of us all keeping our homes safe. To protect them we fit locks to our doors and windows, don't share our keys with strangers and get our locks changed if we are burgled. We also look out for friends and neighbours. However we don't always apply the same care online, even though it can mean putting just as much, if not more valuable information at risk.

From Cyber Aware research, we know people's inboxes can be a 'treasure trove' for hackers – with access to bank details, passport photos and home addresses. Hackers are able to exploit a weak email password and this can leave us vulnerable to the risk of identity theft. There's also the sentimental value of our inbox – what it means to us personally. If someone took a look inside your email they might also see the more intimate keepsakes we often leave in our inboxes - emails from a loved one etc.

And what about what your inbox might say about those other things you'd be less keen to share with the world? Perhaps you have emails containing private information about your medical history or a job search.

It's worth remembering that this information is valuable to you but it's also valuable to hackers and cyber criminals.



CYBER AWARE 

Want to make your inbox as safe as your home? Here are 3 ways to stay safe online:

- Use a [strong and separate password](#) for your email account
- Activate a [two step authentication](#) on your email
- Use [password managers](#) to store passwords for your less important accounts

Consider the similarities between your home and your devices...

- You wouldn't have the same key for your car, house and bike lock - use a strong and separate password for your email account
- We upgrade TVs, washing machines and blenders as they become old and less effective or safe - install the latest software and app updates
- When we go on holiday or even to the corner shop we lock our front door - secure your tablet or smartphone with a screen-lock
- Home insurance is there in case the worst happens and our home is damaged - always back-up your most important data

The Cyber Aware #OneReset campaign is designed to make people really think about the emotional and financial value of our inboxes and treat them in the same way we treat treasured possessions in the offline world. We get the contents of our home valued, how much would we value the contents of our inbox? If we suffered a hack or were locked out of our email account we might feel a significant loss – both in financial and emotional terms.

It's time we mirrored our approach to security

offline in our online worlds. The Cyber Aware #OneReset campaign is encouraging the nation use #OneReset and take the simple step of having a strong and separate password for email accounts to help protect your identity. Your email account is a gateway to a vast amount of information and hackers can use it to access many of your other personal accounts, include your bank details.

For more advice on simple ways to be more secure online, visit the [Cyber Aware](#) website.

We can help secure your home this Autumn

ERA
Total Security

Did you know? You can purchase all ERA smartware products and some additional security devices such as cylinders and padlocks direct from Response Electronics online shop? The new website has a full range of alarms, doorbells, intercoms and Lightwave connected home items for any home. The website also has some easy comparisons guides, blog articles and a handy knowledge base too.

See, hear and talk to a visitor at your door

With the miChime CL3048 Video Intercom System

This wireless system has an outdoor waterproof camera with wide angle lens and night vision. Plus an internal handset with an LCD display and 'Auto Snap' feature.

**Buy CL3048 now for only £99.99.
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*The CL3048 offer runs from 1st - 31st October 2018 and applies to the purchase of part number CL3048 only. Order must be placed on www.responseelectronics.com and correct voucher code entered during the checkout process prior to entering payment details for the discount to apply. Please check the promotion has been correctly applied to the order prior to payment.

Can you help to change a child's life by supporting them with their reading skills?

Imagine receiving a prescription from the doctors and not being able to read the dosage and frequency with which you need to take the medicine. Imagine attending an event and not being able to find the room in which the event is taking place because you couldn't read the room names. Imagine trying to book a holiday and not being able to read the locations or hotels that you are being shown.

Imagine starting a new year at school being unable to read at the same level as your peers. Not engaging in class and not being able to read aloud with confidence. Sadly, for over 150,000 children leaving primary school, this is a reality. Starting secondary school with lower reading skills than their peers often means students will struggle to catch up. This impacts on their education and their future work life. The charity Beanstalk wants to help this issue by starting right at the beginning of a child's education.



[Beanstalk](#) is a national reading charity that recruits, trains and supports volunteers to work one-to-one with children aged 3-13 who need support with their reading skills. We instill a love of stories and books for those children aged 3-5 and provide vital support to children aged 5-13 who benefit from extra support on a regular basis.

If you're interested in volunteering with Beanstalk, would like to fundraise or can help the charity reach more children by introducing it to local schools, early years settings or businesses then please contact Beanstalk:

Beanstalk programmes operate across the country but please do check our handy [map](#) for details of where we have voluntary opportunities.

Crimestoppers is working to Protect your Post Office

Your local Post Office is the heart of your community; providing vital services that some customers rely on every day.

Crimestoppers has teamed up with the Post Office to highlight the issue of crimes against local Post Offices and their staff.

Whilst crime can happen anywhere, the effects on local communities can be serious and disruptive when Post Offices are targeted by criminals



committing branch robberies, attacks on cash-in-transit vehicles or ATM damage and theft.

"Post Offices play an invaluable role in the heart of the communities they serve. Research shows that the public see them as important as their bank, convenience store and local pub. We should all work together to help protect them," Pauline Hadley Crimestoppers West Midlands Regional Manager.

"We want to reassure local communities that the Post Office is working with our charity to help protect communities from the negative impact and consequences of crimes committed against them. We hope that by raising awareness, we will encourage people who know something about crime or criminals targeting the Post Office to speak up. We know some people are reluctant to go to the authorities, for a range of reasons. Crimestoppers charity is here to give you a voice whilst guaranteeing that you will remain 100% anonymous. Always."

If you have any information about any criminal activity in your community, please contact Crimestoppers 100% anonymously on 0800 555 111 or through the non-traceable [Anonymous Online Form](#).

Is your charity clothes collector genuine?

Northamptonshire Police has issued some useful advice that we thought we'd share with Our News readers.

Officers in Northants are aware that bogus, unlicensed charity clothes collections are taking place in the county and the issue affects most areas.

This type of fraud deprives bona fide charities of much-needed funds generated through the recycling of people's unwanted clothes, books and other items.

Taking a few simple steps will help you check whether the collection leaflet or bag you have received is for a genuine

charitable collection:

- Check to see if the collection says it is supporting a genuine UK registered charity. Look for the charity's registration number on the leaflet or bag – don't confuse this with phrases like 'company numbers' or 'export numbers'
- Check if the collection organiser is signed up to the Institute of Fundraising and the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Conduct or bears accepted kitemarks, such as the FRSB tick or the ACS/ IOF membership logo. Any of these could indicate that the collection is genuine
- Find out if the named collector is a member of the Textile Recycling Association – an up-to-date list of members can be found online [here](#)



Find out more about checking if collections are legitimate [here](#), and learn more about avoiding charity fraud in general [here](#).

New Ofcom rules aim to better protect consumers

Consumers will be better protected against nuisance calls, and vulnerable customers treated more fairly, thanks to new strengthened rules introduced this month.

Last year, Ofcom completed a comprehensive review of the General Conditions – the regulatory rules that all communications providers must follow to operate in the UK. The aim of the review was to update their rules and ensure that consumers have the protection they need against sharp practices, and to support Ofcom's enforcement work.

The resulting changes place tougher requirements on all UK communications providers, in a range of areas including nuisance calls, complaints handling and the protection of vulnerable customers.

In summary, the new rules will:

Help to better protect people against nuisance calls

- Phone companies will be banned from charging customers for caller

display, a service which helps people to screen unwanted calls;

- Telephone numbers displayed to people receiving calls must be valid and allow a person to call the number back;
- Phone companies must take steps to identify and block calls which carry invalid numbers – a feature of many nuisance calls – so they don't get through to consumers in the first place; and
- Ofcom will be able to take back blocks of numbers from communications providers if they are found to have been systematically used to cause harm or anxiety to people, such as to make nuisance calls or perpetrate scams or fraud.

Require telecoms companies to treat vulnerable customers fairly

- Communications providers must introduce policies for identifying vulnerable customers – such as people with learning or

communication difficulties or those suffering physical or mental illness or bereavement – to ensure they are treated fairly.

Help ensure that complaints and customer requests are handled appropriately

- All communications providers must ensure that customer concerns are dealt with promptly and effectively;
- Customers must be kept informed about the progress of their complaint and be allowed faster access to dispute resolution services in cases where the matter cannot be resolved by their provider; and
- Ofcom is issuing new guidance to providers on handling customers' requests to cancel their contract. This should include allowing customers to cancel by phone, email or webchat, and ensuring incentive schemes for customer service agents do not encourage poor behaviour.

New warning on pension fraud - £91,000 average loss

A new campaign to tackle pension scams has been launched as the latest figures reveal that pension scam victims lose an average of £91,000 each.

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and The Pensions Regulator (TPR) recently launched joint TV advertising campaign to raise awareness of pension scams and the most common tactics used by fraudsters.

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and The Pensions Regulator (TPR) have joined forces to urge the public to be on their guard when receiving unexpected offers about their pension and to check who they are dealing with. The two regulators have launched a new ScamSmart advertising campaign targeting pension holders aged 45-65, the group most at risk of pension scams. This comes as a new poll commissioned by the regulators reveals that almost a third (32%) of pension holders aged 45 to 65 would not know how to check whether they are speaking with a legitimate pensions adviser or provider.

Highly sophisticated scammers lure people into transferring their pensions into fraudulent schemes, stealing an average of £91,000 per victim. Victims of pension scams can lose their life savings, and be left facing retirement with very limited income.

The FCA and TPR are increasing the public's attention to the tactics used by pensions scammers. One of the most common tactics is to offer a 'free pension review'. Research reveals that one in eight 45 to 65-year-olds surveyed (12%) said they would trust an offer of a 'free pension review' from someone claiming to be a pension advisor.

Cold calling is currently by far the most common method used to initiate pension fraud.

It is believed that only a minority of pension scams are ever reported. The FCA and TPR are urging anyone who believes they may have been targeted to come forward.

Mark Steward, Executive Director of Enforcement and Market Oversight at the FCA, said: "The size of individual pension pots makes pensions savings an attractive target for fraudsters. That's why we're urging anyone who is thinking about transferring their



pension to check who they are dealing with and only use firms authorised by the FCA. Pension scams can cause victims significant harm – both financially and mentally. If you are ever in doubt about a pension offer, visit the ScamSmart website."

The FCA and TPR are urging the public to be ScamSmart with their pension and always check who they're dealing with.

The regulators recommend four simple steps to protect yourself from pension scams:

1. Reject unexpected pension offers whether made online, on social media or over the phone
2. Check who you're dealing with before changing your pension arrangements – check the [FCA Register](#) or call the FCA contact centre on 0800 111 6768 to see if the firm you are dealing with is authorised by the FCA
3. Don't be rushed or pressured into making any decision about your pension
4. Consider getting impartial information and advice.

If you think you've been a victim of a pension scam, report it. Visit www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart to find out more.



ITV1's "Caught On Camera" programme is looking for clips filmed in or around the home, or your local community.

If you've filmed something funny, scary, or interesting, please email Joe.Allen@itnproductions.com or call 0207 430 4482.

ITNproductions
create something amazing, today.

LEICESTERSHIRE



L to R. Jackie Saunt and Helen Cobley.

Two Neighbourhood Watch Development workers from Leicestershire have been recognised for their hard work.

Helen Cobley, Neighbourhood Watch Development Worker for Earl Shilton, and Jackie Saunt, Neighbourhood Watch Development Officer for Central Hinckley and a Police Volunteer, received Highly Commended awards in the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council "Making A Difference Awards 2018".

Helen said: "It is brilliant that NW is recognised in this way and highlights not me but all my 52 NHW coordinators and the excellent work that they do to create a caring, helpful and safe community. NHW is all about communities and I am delighted to receive this nomination on behalf of all my coordinators and wish to thank them for all their hard work and for making Neighbourhood Watch such a success in our town."

Jackie said "I feel privileged to have been nominated for this award. I also want to thank my 54 coordinators for their invaluable contribution they have given over the years to Hinckley NHW. Without their support it would not have made it so successful and it truly shows that many residents do care about the community they live in."

ESSEX



Volunteers in Essex will be easy to spot thanks to some new hi-viz vests.

Essex Police has funded the new vests for volunteers to wear to help raise the profile of local groups and Clive Stewart Chairman of ECNWA is pictured alongside Essex Police ACC Andy Prophet.

Clive said: "We're also had a number of Districts who have placed for our popular Wheelie Bin Neighbourhood Watch Stickers. Many members are delighted to know that these stickers promoted the local Neighbourhood Watch very effectively even if it is just once a week!"

"I'm also delighted to say we have renewed the Partnership Agreement with Essex Police and the Office of Police Fire & Crime Commissioner for Essex, plus signed a Partnership Agreement with Victims Support working together to reduce the opportunity of crime."

LONDON

Our News readers may be interested in the BBC [update](#) on the burglary arrests made as part of Operation Genie in London.

Unfortunately the offences have started again and are likely to continue as the nights draw in. The modus operandi is often first floor entry with properties backing on to open spaces. Garden furniture is used to gain access.

If you have been a burglary victim, do check out these photos to see if any of the items shown belong to you: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/metropolitanpolice/albums>. If you recognise anything as your property, please contact Louise.Holman2@met.police.uk

News from across our network

CAMBRIDGESHIRE



Following a spate of car crimes residents living in the new 200 home estate Hempsted, off London Road, Peterborough have established their first Neighbourhood Watch. More than 90 residents signed up immediately once invited.

Sean Milton, the new area coordinator said: "Having experienced our cars being attacked we have now brought the community together. It should lower the risk because our community is now closer and talking to each other." Each street and close will have its own coordinator who will remind their neighbours to take basic crime prevention measures as a matter of routine.

Toni Cray, Chair of Neighbourhood Watch Peterborough, said, "This is good news for Peterborough, this new Watch development will take the numbers of Watches to almost 340 now. Well done Sean and everyone."

Anyone who would like more information on the Watch networks can email: info@peterboroughnhw.co.uk and request a Welcome Pack.

The Watch scheme in the Peterborough area was established in 1983 and there are now more than 40,000 members across Cambridgeshire.

BEDFORDSHIRE



Volunteers from across Bedfordshire welcomed visitors to the Bedfordshire Police Fun Day in September.

Chief Constable Jon Boutcher visited the stall and spent time chatting about the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch and how local schemes can make a difference in the community.

MERSEYSIDE



Here's the second meeting of Wimborne Road NHW!

Lourdes Salgrado is the coordinator and is persevering with her work to establish a successful NHW group in Huyton, Liverpool. Lourdes is a lecturer in languages at three education establishments but still finds the time to pursue her vision of a close-knit community. She is supported by the local council in Knowsley and the PCSO Steve Molloy.

Pictured from left, Jan Owens, Lourdes Salgado, NHW Coordinator, Wimborne Road, Neighbourhood PCSO Steve Molloy, Knowsley Community Engagement Manager John Mashford, and a member of Wimborne Road, NHW.

HAMPSHIRE



Basingstoke and Deane NW hosted its annual coordinators meeting last month. The popular event gave 75 coordinators from the area a chance to hear four guest speakers, meet with local officers and share information and good practice.

The event was organised by John Dick, chair of Basingstoke and Deane NW that has 640 local NW schemes, said. "This year we have started a number of new larger-area schemes and it's encouraging that it's the younger residents who are now getting involved and understand the value that NW can add to their communities.

HERTFORDSHIRE



In September, HertsWatch held a conference for NHW county volunteers and associated Police leads at HQ in Welwyn Garden City.

Delegates came from as far afield as West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and West Mercia, and there was a good representation from the adjacent London Boroughs.

The day was organised by Sue Thompson, chair of Hertswatch and special guests included the Lord High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, and the Chief Constable.

The agenda for the day included the official presentation of the Queens Award for Voluntary Service by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Penny Williams.

The morning session also included an explanation of the successful “recipe” used in Herts to demonstrate how partnership working between NW volunteers and police has helped to raise household NW membership to 140,000! During the afternoon session, Brian Walters (London Borough of Hillingdon) gave a presentation on the introduction of CCTV Watch. The final part of the day gave everyone an opportunity to share their own best practice ideas.

SUSSEX

The first Community Resilience Conference was hosted by West Sussex County Council at the Capitol Theatre, Horsham, West Sussex earlier this month.

Among ten speakers who presented papers throughout the conference was John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of NWN. He covered the changing role of NHW volunteering and the way the organisation is changing under its three-year strategy to re-energise and be more relevant and diverse.

Other speakers were the Cabinet Office Community Resilience Policy lead, West Sussex County Council Resilience and Emergencies team, Cornwall County Council’s Emergency Planning Officer, the Sussex Community Foundation, the Sussex Chamber of Commerce, Public Health – West Sussex Resilience & Emergencies and the event co-sponsor Southern Water.

There were lively Question and Answer panel sessions throughout the day with questions and discussions from the audience of around 150 responders,



volunteers and local community members.

Three representatives from Crawley NHW Association and three representatives from Horsham NHW Association attended the conference (pictured here with John Haywood-Cripps and Derek Pratt – Trustee Secretary NWN). Four of these also attend the Sussex NHW Federation to represent their towns.