

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IN ACTION

July 2024

Croydon Eye



Discover your future: Careers Fair at Trumble Gardens

Explore your opportunities, receive free information from local businesses and explore your career options hands-on on the 16th of August at Trumble Gardens - open to all!

Join us at the upcoming event where a wide range of local businesses, organisations and services will showcase the array of opportunities available to young people in Croydon. Don't miss this chance to gain valuable career information and network with your community. There will also be a variety of organisations in which young people can get involved; such as the Cadets, Scouts, Guides, other Youth Organisations, and of course the Neighbourhood Watch! Live music and food will be available throughout the day, so why not pop down and see what opportunities could be waiting for you in your local community and beyond.

We won't let bad weather get in the way, if needed, we will be relocating to the downstairs area of the Thornton Heath Library.

You can register your interest using the contact information provided:

07492761053

taglia@reachinghigher.org.uk

Find us at 79 Brigstock Road Thornton Heath, CR7 7JH, from 11am - 4pm

Engaging with the community - St Pauls' and the Macular Society

On Thursday, March 7th, our Chair Paul Voden visited St. Paul's Church to deliver an engaging talk to the Cassandra Group, which convenes weekly to provide meals for the elderly and vulnerable in our community. In July 2023, our treasurer, Julian Roche, also presented his talk to the Macular Society which is a charity that gathers to offer support and companionship to those affected by macular conditions.

They both discussed the purpose of the Neighbourhood Watch and explained the support provided by the CBNWA to the local community, with an emphasis on how important it is for everyone to stay vigilant, speak up about crime and not be a bystander, to keep the neighbourhood safe. They both provided tips on how to stay safe online. For example, they advised them to avoid online scams by not giving out personal information and not trusting everything they see. They also mentioned that legitimate businesses often incorporate your last name into what they write to you - and won't be calling - so you know you can trust them.

They explained what steps to take to protect your safety when out and about, such as not carrying all of your valuables in one place and keeping your bags close to your chest in front of you so that you can see them at all times.

Their talks were very well-received, and had gotten the groups engaging, with some people even signing up for our newsletter to stay updated on our latest news and activities!



Park Hill Showcase

On Saturday the 9th of March, Kate Clark and Paul Voden from the CBNWA attended the Parkhill Showcase in which they shared a table with Graham Lyon, the chair of the Parkhill and Whitgift Safer Neighbourhoods Ward Panel.

The day brought a lively atmosphere, with local groups offering refreshments to attendees. Each table had an animal-shaped toy, which attracted families to participate in a competition for their children to match the animals to each of the tables. The event was a great success and allowed us to connect with more people in the local community to share information about the Neighbourhood Watch and how we endeavour to keep Croydon safe. Kate and Paul distributed copies of the previous Croydon Eye to provide updates on our activities and relevant crime prevention advice.



Police Cadets

The Croydon Police Cadets have been working hard and shown exceptional dedication in the last 6 months!

In 2023, they won the fiercely competitive London-Wide Police Cadets competition, showcasing their parading and handling various crime scene scenarios, such as road traffic accidents. Their victory is truly commendable.

Recently, at St. Mary's School, the Police Cadets were engaged in a discussion about which areas of Croydon they would avoid, brainstorming potential solutions to improve these areas under the guidance of PC Pitt. In the upcoming months, they will collaborate with our CBNWA coordinators to bring their ideas to life, ensuring a safer environment for all in our borough!



Community Safety Success

In recent news, on the 5th of April, a car was stolen in the Sanderstead ward. With thanks to our Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras around the borough the driver was stopped on the 22nd of May and the car has now been reunited with its owner. One of the ward's key priorities is to reduce motor vehicle crime including theft, damage and anti-social driving. This is made possible with our ANPR cameras.

The Safer Neighbourhoods Teams (SNT) officers are also doing regular patrols in anti-social behaviour hotspots to deter this behaviour and promote safer driving. In the Norbury wards, officers are also taking action, to address concerns raised by locals by pulling over speeding vehicles in the specified areas. These collective efforts are aimed at creating a safer environment within our community.

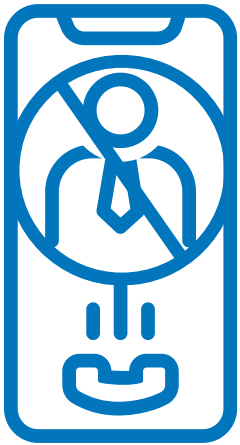


Protecting yourself from fraudulent activity

With a total of £1,516,880.41 being lost to those across Croydon due to fraudulent activity in May, it is as important now as ever to stay vigilant in protecting your money. There are many different types of fraud, and it's important to be able to identify them so we can do our best to avoid them in the future.

Rogue traders - otherwise known as “Cold Callers” - are currently on the rise in the Croydon Borough. These individuals may approach your door and use pressure tactics to convince you to pay large amounts for unnecessary work on your property, such as plumbing and guttering. Frequently lacking the necessary skills in their trades, they can end up causing more harm than good to your home

To avoid any unwanted damage to your property, do not engage with people who tell you about work that needs to be done. If in doubt, make sure to go through trusted sites where traders have their certifications - for example, ‘Trust Mark’, ‘Which? Trusted Traders’ and ‘Buy with Confidence’.



There have also been a large number of ‘authorised push payment fraud’ reported in the borough. This is when scam callers pretend to be a part of an official organisation and may ask you to transfer your money into a “safe account” or try to obtain your bank details by asking you to confirm them.

If you receive one of these calls, ask the person for information such as their name, position and bank. Then end the call immediately to give yourselves time to confirm this information using a trusted independent source, such as your bank’s website. Remember, only criminals will try to rush or pressure you.

Never give out your bank details if someone is asking you to ‘confirm’ them, the Police, Bank or any other trusted organisation will never ask you to do this.



TAKE FIVE - Before parting with your money or personal information, you can always check with another person to discuss any concerns.

CHALLENGE - Could this be fake? It’s okay to take your time to verify any information. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

PROTECT - If you think that you have been a victim of fraud, contact your bank immediately, and report it to Action Fraud online at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling **0300 123 2040**.

To find out more information on how to keep yourself safe from various different types of fraud, you can visit:

www.met.police.uk/littlemedia



www.cbnwa.com



nhw@cbnwa.com



[@nhw @CBNWA](https://twitter.com/nhw)

Save the date! Crime Prevention Day, 12th October 2024

Following the success of the Crime Prevention Day last year, the Croydon Borough Neighbourhood Watch will be hosting another full programme of informative speakers at the Royal Russell School on the 12th of October.

Our speakers will include: the Mayor; Councillor Ola Kolade, Cabinet member for Community Safety; Superintendent Mitch Carr; The Boroughs SNT Inspectors; National Neighbourhood Watch Chief Executive; Croydon Community Against Trafficking; Trading Standards; Caspar Kennerdale, Managing Director, ClearCommunityWeb - with a talk on cybercrime; and Chris Philip MP (subject to election). A Q&A session will be held by the Safer Neighbourhood Inspectors to answer any questions you may have.

Crimestoppers will provide leaflets, available for everyone to take on the day. The Police Cadets will also be in attendance to offer support throughout the event.

This year's event will be free to attend due to proceeds from the Croydon Community Lottery tickets purchased by our supporters. If you would like to attend this event, please register with us by emailing nhw@cbnwa.com so that we can make the necessary catering arrangements.

Coffee and registration will start from 8:30 with the main event taking place from 9:00 am until 3:15 pm with the AGM following from 3:15 to 4:00 pm.

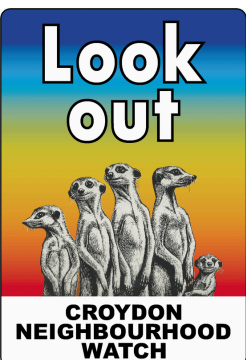
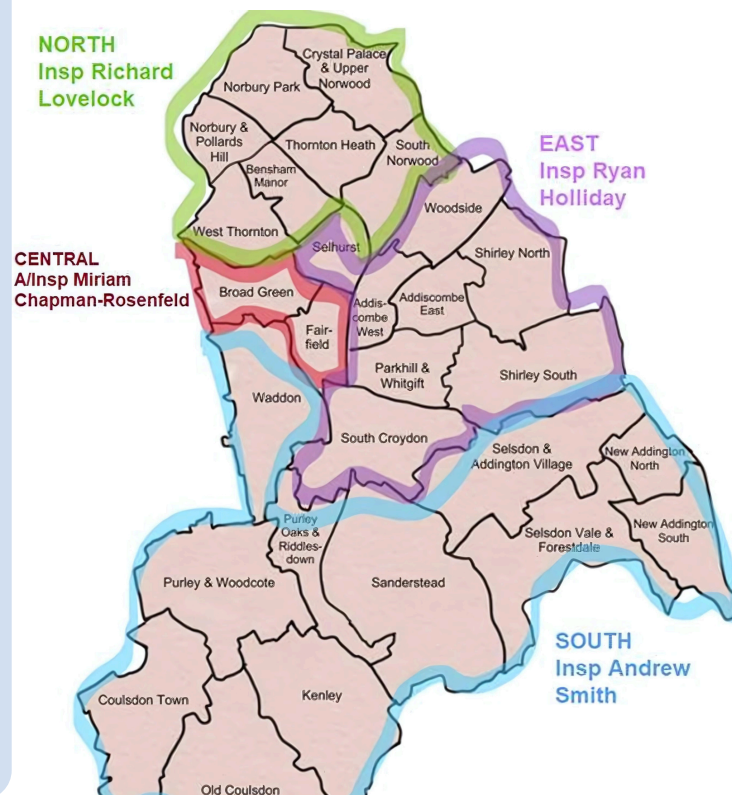
We hope to see you there for our most exciting conference yet!

Update on Neighbourhood Policing

Starting from Monday the 24th of June, there will be updates within the Croydon Neighbourhood Team. As a result of the Metropolitan Police's Strongest Ever Neighbourhood Policing (SENP) program expansion, there will be four instead of three Safer Neighbourhood Inspectors in Croydon. The SENP aims to enhance the neighbourhood policing program and will impact the entire Met policing area, not just the Croydon borough.

Furthermore, closer collaboration between schools and neighbourhood teams is expected in September. This collaboration is crucial as issues within a neighbourhood are often linked to events within schools.

To find out which areas will be handled by specific inspectors, please refer Croydon map shown.



Subscribe to our mailing list at www.cbnwa.com to get up-to-date communications from Croydon Neighbourhood Watch.

Your Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator's details:



www.cbnwa.com



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