



OUR NEWS

the e-newsletter for Neighbourhood Watch supporters

SEPTEMBER 2019 EDITION

Search on for UK's best neighbour and community champion

Nominations have opened for the Neighbour of the Year Award 2019.

Following on from the success of last year's inaugural award, Co-op Insurance and Neighbourhood Watch are looking once again for people to nominate their neighbours who go above and beyond to help their community.

Additionally, this year sees the introduction of a new category to crown someone the '2019 Community Spaces Champion'. The new award will celebrate someone who has shown commitment to either save, improve, or use a local space for the good of their neighbours.

The 'Community Space Champion' comes as Co-op partners with charity, Locality, to launch an Endangered Spaces campaign to protect, support and improve 2,000 at-risk community spaces by 2022.

Winners will be announced in November. Regional prizes are also up for grabs.

Last year, Co-op members created a criteria for what makes a good neighbour resulting in four traits which entries for Neighbour of the Year will be judged on:

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



Meanwhile, the Community Spaces Champion Award will be judged on how people have used a space in their local area to make a difference. This will be things such as setting up a sports match for neighbours at a local park; creating a community garden; setting up a support group in a community; or even helping to save a space from being shut down.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of Neighbourhood Watch Network, said: "With so much focus recently on what divides us as a society, it's good to be reminded of the ordinary people who make our nation great.

"The kind, every-day deeds of neighbours help create safe, secure and happy neighbourhoods where people, families and communities thrive. That's something we can all unite behind. I look forward to seeing the nominations to be reminded just how wonderful people can be."

Nominate your neighbours at:
coop.co.uk/neighbour2019

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COMING SEPTEMBER 2019

TOGETHER FOR GOOD

THE BIG CURRY
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Neighbours and Soldiers are coming together for good

Neighbourhood Watch and ABF The Soldiers' Charity have announced a fundraising initiative that will bring neighbours together to share a meal and raise money for both charities.

Together for Good: The Neighbourhood Watch Big Curry will run for the month of September with supporters of both charities coming together to share a meal, swap their stories and build new friendships.

Each meal will be a chance for supporters to give to each charity through small individual donations as well as getting neighbours talking to one another.

Events can be held on a small scale, taking place in someone's living room with a handful of supporters to bigger events in a community hall where everyone in a street is invited, for example.

The important thing is that people come together to get to know

their neighbours over some lovely food to raise money for two well-loved charities.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of the Neighbourhood Watch Network, said: "We're known as an organisation that focuses on crime prevention and reporting but getting neighbours talking and interacting positively with one another is a huge priority for us.

"Communities are most resilient to crime when neighbours look out for each other. There's no better way to get to know your neighbours than by sharing a meal with them."

The Big Curry is an ongoing fundraising initiative from ABF The Soldiers' Charity that encourages neighbours to share a meal and raise money for soldiers, veterans and their families.

Brigadier (Ret'd) Robin Bacon, Chief of Staff at ABF The Soldiers' Charity, added: "We are incredibly proud to be working with Neighbourhood Watch and

Are you interested in hosting a Neighbourhood Watch Big Curry?

Visit [The Soldiers' Charity website](https://www.soldierscharity.org/bigcurry/neighbors) for more information or email bigcurry@soldierscharity.org to find your local Soldiers' Charity representatives.

are looking forward to bringing people together over the Army's long-standing tradition of a love of curry. This tradition originates from the British Army's long service in India and elsewhere in the Asian sub-continent, particularly during the days of the British Raj under Queen Victoria.

"We hope that everyone taking part will thoroughly enjoy themselves. Whether they will be eating together in someone's home or sharing with the wider community, they can have the satisfaction of knowing that they are helping the Army family. We very much appreciate all the effort put in by everyone to make this special project happen."

Cyberhood Watch campaign set to launch

Neighbourhood Watch is launching a campaign in partnership with cyber security firm Avast and the University of Birmingham called Cyberhood Watch. We need your help.

Cyber security and online fraud are key areas of concern for Neighbourhood Watch members. So that's why we have teamed up with cyber security firm Avast for a campaign known as Cyberhood Watch.

Avast want to learn more about how people are affected by cybercrime as well as help local communities decipher the vast array of information and advice out there about protecting yourself online. The partnership, which will initially span 12 months, will launch at a special event at the Science Museum in London on October 15.

Cyberhood Watch is focused on helping people get the information and tools to better protect themselves. Avast will offer training to a group of Neighbourhood Watch representatives who will become 'Cyberhood Watch Ambassadors'. They will help members understand the risks and get advice to protect themselves from cybercrime.

We will be talking to the media to help spread the Cyberhood Watch message, and as part of that activity we are looking for local representatives and members who have been personally affected by cybercrime (or know someone else who has) and are willing to share their experiences to help others.

We are looking for:

- Representatives in the East of England who are interested in taking part in a pilot Cyberhood Watch training programme. A selected group of reps from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex will gain accredited ambassador status so that they can help, support and educate local members on the prevention of cyber crime
- Members across all regions who are interested in being a local media spokesperson for this campaign. The requirements would vary according to media interest, but typically it would involve you providing a quote for a press release giving your thoughts and potentially speaking to local journalists about your involvement with Cyberhood Watch
- Case studies of members who have been affected by cybercrime. We appreciate it can be a sensitive matter, but we are keen for those who have fallen victim to share their stories as it can help prevent

it happening to someone else by spreading awareness. If you have experienced cybercrime and are willing to talk about it publicly please get in touch. (If you wish to do this anonymously, this is not a problem).

To take part please email: Amy.Mawby@ourwatch.org.uk

Cyberhood Watch survey

Over 14,000 members completed the Cyberhood Watch cybercrime survey over the summer. The data will prove invaluable for the campaign helping Avast create tailored resources and content for you and ensuring you feel better equipped to protect yourselves against cybercrime. It will also be used in an academic report from the University of Birmingham to be published later this year. Thank you to those who responded. As part of our ongoing partnership with Avast and the University of Birmingham, we may run further surveys and ask for your input and opinion as we continue to shape the support available to you.



Karin Lucker (pictured above), a co-ordinator in Hampshire, was the lucky winner of the £50 Marks and Spencer gift card. The win coincided with her birthday so she'll now be treating herself to not just any shopping spree but an M&S shopping spree.



Working in
partnership



Making great thing happen.

Co-Op pioneers help bring people together to increase co-operation in local communities.

If there's something that matters to your Neighbourhood Watch group, like improving a shared space or getting something started to help local people, or you just want to get involved in something in your community, then why not connect with your local Co-Op pioneer.

Pioneers are Co-Op members of staff who get paid for the four hours a week to make great things happen within their community. By bringing together Co-Op members, colleagues and local causes, they hope to make their community a better place to work, play, live and learn. Find your local Pioneer [here](#) today.

We are also looking for people to look after our Pioneers - Pioneer Coordinators - who will get paid for 18 hours a week to recruit, develop and co-ordinate a team of 12 - 15 Pioneers. Since many Neighbourhood Watch volunteers will already be doing something similar within their communities, we thought you might be interested in applying for these roles. Apply [here](#) today.

When you choose Co-op, you support a business that funds good things like Member Pioneers who help organise community projects and events.



Tributes paid to board member

Rachel Griffin, who until recently was a member of the Neighbourhood Watch Network (NWN) board, has died following a nine-month illness.

Ms Griffin was the CEO of the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, an anti-stalking and violence reduction charity, and previously worked at Victim Support where she managed projects and policy relating to domestic violence, police and crime commissioners and partnership working.

Before going into policy and development, Rachel was a fundraiser for five years, first at the National Deaf Children's Society and then at The Prince's Trust. She was a trustee of

Prisoners' Education Trust from 2003 until 2011 and she began her career as vice-president (women) at Oxford University Student Union, after graduating in Modern Languages.

David Huse, chair of the NWN board of trustees, led the charities' tributes to Ms Griffin. "Rachel was one of my first appointments and my Vice-Chair and in the time we worked together I came to value her support, insights, perspective and experience on a number of matters," he said. "I know fellow Trustees and the staff team benefited in the same manner.

"Even when she started to feel unwell she still found time to give the charity and that said so much about her values and motivation for being involved. All our thoughts are with her immediate and extended family."

Ms Griffin's family has asked for charitable donations in place of flowers. [Click here](#) to donate.



Neighbourhood Watch volunteers continue to inspire

Neighbourhood Watch Inspiration has been updated to include new areas of work.

The database of good practice examples has been accessed more than 8,000 times with users using the system to facilitate conversations between coordinators across the nation. For example, resources used on a knife crime education project in South London have been shared with reps in Manchester after coordinators got in touch using the system.

The most popular piece of inspiration so far is the Good Neighbour Guide: Production and Distribution which was submitted by Croydon NW having been viewed 182 times. This was closely followed by Tacking Knife Crime Through Education (180) from Greenwich NW and Personalised Watch Help and Advice (153) from Dorset NW.

Get inspired at: www.ourwatch.org.uk/inspiration



Member steps in to save animal sanctuary

If Together for Good didn't already prove that Neighbourhood Watch and the army make natural bedfellows than a collaboration to save an animal sanctuary in Yorkshire must surely seal the deal.

Run by twin sisters Pat Hartley and Jane Wright, both aged 77, Mill House Animal Sanctuary in Yorkshire has for decades been taking in unwanted animals. They pride themselves in never turning any away. That was until crumbling walls and dilapidated stables threatened the sanctuary with closure.

Shaun Kendall, an ex-Royal Engineer who volunteers at the farm, asked his veteran squaddies, members of the voluntary organisation 'Spuddies and Spudettes' to volunteer to do £100,000 worth of work to rebuild the walls and stables for free.

"Jane and Pat have struggled all these years to keep that place going, and it's amazing what they've achieved, especially when you consider they're now in their 70s," he told the *Sheffield Star*. "Imagine your grandmother shovelling out stables at the age of 77.

"This work will make a huge difference. When I told Jane, there was a tear in her eye and she grabbed me and gave me a hug, which shows what it means to her."

So, with army veteran volunteers on board, all that was needed were the building materials for the first phase of the huge project, which had not yet been donated right up to the eleventh hour, nor accommodation found for the veterans.



Step forward Eileen Jones-Hill, the Neighbourhood Watch Regional Co-ordinator for Sheffield Central Region, which encompasses the Fulwood suburb of the city. She happened across the sanctuary's website and their 'Big Build' Appeal at that serendipitous moment, while looking for a rescue dog.

"I just could not let the veterans' incredible generosity go to waste because of a lack of building materials", she said. "Not on my regional watch, so I decided to stump up the money myself". "This was on a Monday and they were all due on site by Friday. It was the catalyst they all needed to start the project on the trajectory it is now on, which has gathered momentum."

Ms Jones-Hill, an experienced renovator of property herself, wasted no time in ordering the list of materials, totalling about £1,000. She even put up seven squaddies overnight, including a cooked Yorkshire breakfast, over that long weekend, in her own newly renovated home in the area. "That's a Yorkshire welcome" she told us.

Jones-Hill had been renovating a property nearby and so added the

building materials to her own order, totalling about £1,000. She even put up six squaddies overnight in the renovated property as they completed the work.

"I'm so impressed by these two ladies who have dedicated their lives to looking after the animals there. It would take a heart of stone not to be moved by their story."

It just goes to show you what can be achieved when Neighbourhood Watch and the army work together.

You can donate to the sanctuary's Big Build second phase at animalsheffield.co.uk or visit their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/animalsheltersheffield



ERA are offering all Neighbourhood Watch members a **20% discount** on all items from their online shop until the end of December.



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How it works?

Members use the discount codes above at checkout to claim the 20% discount. Each force area has a separate voucher code and at the end of the three month campaign, the Force Association or London borough with the largest number of collective sales, having used the codes above, will win £1,000 worth of ERA equipment which can be auctioned off to raise money locally.



SHOP ERA ONLINE TODAY AT
responseelectronics.com

The campaign closes 31st December 2019. Members must enter the correct discount code at checkout to receive discount. 20% discount applies to all products on the above website. T&C's apply.

We're all going on a summer... seminar tour

In August the Neighbourhood Watch Central Support Team (CST) decamped from their office for a whistle-stop tour to deliver the seminars in Leeds, Cardiff and London.

Over 150 coordinators turned out to the three events to hear from specially invited speakers, participate in workshops and network with other co-ordinators.

John Hayward-Cripps, CEO of NWN, outlined three behaviours Neighbourhood Watch will use to clarify and talk about as the core of what the movement does. The first, and most basic, was too simply know who your neighbours are. The second is being neighbourly. This could mean a multitude of things to different people (the famous Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart phrase comes to mind, "I know it when I see it") but examples could be taking in a parcel for a neighbour, checking in on an older neighbour during a heatwave or even lending a hand in the garden. The third behaviour, which co-ordinators will already be doing, is being active within the community.

Armed with a plethora of thought-provoking statistics (63% of neighbours would pop next door for a cup of tea... if only they were asked) and a fair share of hugs was Tracey Robins. The delivery manager for the Big Lunch revealed that a staggering annual £32bn cost to the UK economy was a result of disconnected communities. Working together, the Big Lunch and Neighbourhood Watch could help tackle that problem by getting neighbours to share lunch, encouraging more contact and connections between citizens.

Robbins spoke of the 'permission of snow' - the idea that when a freak weather event occurs neighbours help each other out (shovel driveways, donate warm clothing, etc) but as the snow melts, so does that permission to engage with one another. Our shared challenge is to recreate that outward-looking community spirit in normal times. At every seminar, members made commitments to hold Big Lunches where they lived and to contribute to this mission.

Find out more about the Big Lunch and how to get involved [here](#).

Each seminar involved three workshops for co-ordinators that were delivered by members of the CST. Looking at innovation and good practice within NW was Robin Newman, Jayne Pascoe demonstrated an impact measurement tool and Amy Mawby and Wil Murphy explored the types of activities co-ordinators could undertake within their watches. Overall feedback was positive with volunteers at each event talking about the ideas, support and enthusiasm they felt. Some were already planning events, talks and projects they intend to instigate as part of their NW work.

John Hayward-Cripps told Our News: "It was wonderful to see co-ordinators who had been supporting their local watches for a few years without any contact with other co-ordinators who were now able to link up with other NW colleagues and leads. They were particularly delighted to be able to talk with others about their successes and issues and gain support."

At the Leeds event, attendees were delighted to hear from Chris Joyce of South Yorkshire Police who gave examples of approaches that could deliver real, tangible results for communities. For example, there were fewer instances of an electrical box being defaced with graffiti after an artist had painted a decorative, eye-catching design on it. One attendee said they were going to bring that approach to where they lived.

In Cardiff, the CST's very own Kathleen Cunningham stepped in at the last minute to speak about the Co-Op's partnership with NW including the Neighbour of the Year competition that achieved 161 pieces of national media coverage last year. The competition returns this year (read about it on the front page). Finishing up the week, more than 70 volunteers squeezed into a central London location with speakers from Crimestoppers and Avast, the software security firm who partnered with NWN on a recent cybercrime survey.

All in all, it was a positive few days on the road!

