

# Newsletter

# THE E-NEWSLETTER FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SUPPORTERS IN SUFFOLK

# Welcome to the February edition of our newsletter.

Preparations are underway to hold our first face to face Executive Committee meeting post COVID, and high on the agenda will be the need to fill a number of the vacant Executive Committee roles. Our meeting will also discuss and agree a plan of action to undertake a number of projects, made up of varying tasks. As always, the committee would welcome any new volunteers that might be interested.

#### Please get in touch if you would like to know more.

As always, please remember to check our "news" page on our website for updated news in between newsletter editions, and if you use social media, why not visit our <u>Facebook page</u>, follow us and give us a "like".

### The Executive Committee

# Scheme Coordinators: Welcome Packs

The national Neighbourhood Watch Network have recently created some "Welcome Packs" that new volunteers receive when they register with them.

You might find these useful as a point of reference, or to pass on to anyone in your community wishing to become involved with Neighbourhood Watch.

The <u>"Member Pack"</u> is aimed at individuals, and explains the concept of neighbourhood watch and how people can get involved with their local community.

The <u>"Coordinator Pack"</u> offers a guide for all scheme coordinators, including suggestions on community activities, using social media and more.

Please remember that Scheme Coordinators have the option to register their scheme by signing up to the national database. By registering, coordinators can then invite neighbours to join their scheme online, and use the built in ALERT message system as a method of engaging with their scheme members.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

All schemes registered on the national database are verified by the Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association through alignment with the Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association database.



## Suffolk PCC: Policing Precept

Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore has confirmed the policing element of the council tax will increase by 29p\* a week (\*based on a Band D property) for the 2023/24 financial year. <u>Read more</u>



**Suffolk Trading Standards** 





www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk

#### REPORT IT, HELP OTHERS! #RogueFreeSuffolk

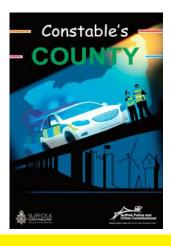
If you see a scam, an unsafe product, OR a Rogue Trader, report it via 0808 223 1133.

To find out about scams across Suffolk, <u>you can sign up to the Trading Standards email alert</u> on their website. Trading Standards can investigate and take court action against scammers.

By becoming a Consumer Champion you can help protect and build resilience within your local community against rogue traders and scams; and make Suffolk a safer place to live

You can also find out about <u>common financial scams</u> on the Financial Conduct Authority's website.

# Suffolk Constabulary: Latest Newsletter



The latest (January) newsletter edition of "Constables County" is now available, with updates from Safer Neighbourhood Teams across the East, West and South of Suffolk. <u>Find it here</u>



citizens

advice





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# Suffolk Hope Awards



Nominations are welcome for any young person aged between 11 and 18 years-old who has gone above and beyond and continued to demonstrate resilience, determination and team-working during 2021/2022.

Nominations close on Friday 24h February 2023.

Read more

# Suffolk Crimestoppers: Romance Fraud

# **CrimeStoppers.** 0800 555 111 100% anonymous. Always.

Romance fraud occurs when you think you've met the perfect partner online, but they are using a fake profile to form a relationship with you.

They gain your trust over a number of weeks or months and have you believe you are in a loving and caring relationship. However, the criminal's end goal is only ever to get your money or personal information.

Criminals are experts at impersonating people. They spend hours researching you for their scams, especially when committing romance fraud. <u>Read more</u>



# Could you spot a romance fraudster?

Click here to find out how to report it

CrimeStoppers. 0800 555111 100% anonymous. Always.





# **Coronation Big Lunch**

# How a Coronation Big Lunch can bring your community together



How do you celebrate an event that Britain hasn't seen since 1953? Connecting with your neighbours is a great place to start!

As part of a weekend of celebrations between Saturday 6th and Monday 8th May, His Majesty the King has invited communities to come together for a Coronation Big Lunch. This can range from a small gathering to a fullon street party. It is the perfect way to bring you and your neighbours together.

Whilst we recommend starting your planning three months in advance, organising a Big Lunch can be more straightforward than you think.

#### **Getting started**

**Order a Coronation Big Lunch pack**: Free resources will be made available online by the Eden Project's Big Lunch team at <u>CoronationBigLunch.com</u>. There you can sign up for your free pack, which will be released in mid-February. It will include editable invitations, posters, recipes, and activity ideas.

**Pick a date:** Sunday 7th May will be the most popular date, but you could consider <u>Neighbourhood Watch Week</u> which is 3rd - 9th June, during the Month of Community.

**Talk to your neighbours:** Try to speak to all the households on your street – that way nobody feels left out!

**Invites:** It is always a good idea to pop an invite or 'Save the Date' through each letterbox.

**Apply for a road closure:** If you plan on closing the road, you will have to apply early – see your council's website for more information.

### Planning

**Share the work:** One or preferably two months before your event, ask your neighbours for help sourcing tables, chairs, and decorations.

**Food:** You could ask odd house numbers to bring something savoury and evens could bring something sweet!

**Games**: Plan activities for all ages – these could involve a street quiz for grown-ups or a treasure hunt for children.

**Signage:** If you plan on closing the road for your celebration, you will need to source road signage. Some councils may lend signs to you and some will tell you where you can hire them.

**Decorations:** Plan how your street will be decorated. The Eden Project has some great ideas! Visit: <u>https://www.</u>edenprojectcommunities.com/make-it-happen/decorations

**Rain:** Of course, be prepared for rain! For ideas, visit: <u>https://www.</u>edenprojectcommunities.com/blog/weather-proofing-your-big-lunch

For more tips for the week before and the day itself, read the full article here.





# **Cyberhood Watch: Avast**

# Three major cybersecurity predictions for 2023

While these predictions might seem scary, there are easy ways to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your own business.



### Avast has three major predictions for 2023:

- 1. Ransomware will become an increasingly serious problem
- 2. Scams will continue to be a favourite method for cyber criminals
- 3. Cybercrime as a business will become even more sophisticated

For the full article, including top tips on how to protect yourself against ransomware, <u>click here</u>











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