



# NNWA News Watch

You're in good company when you're with Neighbourhood Watch

JUNE 2005

## ELECTIONS

### Elections get under way to appoint grass-root representatives to NNWA

**N**ominations papers have been sent out this month signalling the start of the democratic process to elect area representatives to be part of the governance of the National Neighbourhood Watch Association.



To ensure a fair distribution of representatives, the NNWA has broken down each police force area in terms of size and has allocated one NNWA representative per 500,000 head of population.

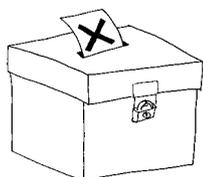
This gives a total of 111 area representatives. All nominees must have served as a Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for at least two years, live in the area they wish to represent and must have the backing of their local association. In cases where there is more than one nomination for a particular area and it is not possible to reach agreement on who should step aside, a postal ballot in that area will be conducted by the NNWA.

NNWA Chairman Roy Rudham said: "The area representatives are the life-blood of our organisation and I would encourage anyone who has the interests of the Neighbourhood Watch movement at heart to think about putting themselves forward.

"Our current crop of representatives do a fantastic job – on top of all their responsibilities of home, family and work commitments – but all organisations benefit from having fresh blood, so to speak. We want to hear from co-ordinators who are willing to come on board and help promote the NNWA and the Neighbourhood Watch cause."

The deadline for co-ordinators to put themselves forward for nomination is **22 July**. The election closes at the end of August and successful representatives will be informed at the start of September.

This then allows six weeks for the names of those wishing to serve on the NNWA Executive Committee to be put forward for nomination. Nominations for the Executive Committee close on October 17.

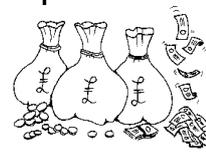


**The election of the Executive Committee will take place at the NNWA annual meeting (AGM) on Saturday October 29 2005 in Birmingham.**

### Complete our neighbour's survey and you could win

**£150**

The NNWA in association with its main sponsor the Post Office® has launched the Neighbours Survey 2005.



Every completed survey will go into a prize draw with £150 going to one lucky

Neighbourhood Watch member and £250 to their regional associations.

The NNWA is looking for as many Neighbourhood Watch members as possible to take part.

Take a look at our website [www.neighbourhoodwatch.net](http://www.neighbourhoodwatch.net) or contact your local associations for more information and a hard copy of the survey to complete and return by post. Closing date for entries is **Sunday July 3**.

### HQ on the move

The cost-saving move of NNWA to new premises outside London will take place on 7 July.



The new address is: National Neighbourhood Watch Association (NNWA), Hatfield

Annexe, 16 St Albans Road East, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL10 0EL.

Details of new telephone numbers will be circulated, but calls to the existing NNWA numbers will be re-directed for a short period following the move.

# Year of the Volunteer

THIS MONTH'S THEME



June is Recognition Month

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**The NNWA Board of Trustees has paid public tribute to the work of the many thousands of Neighbourhood Watch volunteers throughout the UK.**

Now, as part of Year of the Volunteer 2005 we are seeking nominations from regional and local associations to find five deserving regional associations or local groups to be awarded special Year of the Volunteer plaques.

If you think your group or association deserve to be considered then, don't be shy, tell us in 50 words, or less, the reasons for your nomination.

It could be because of a particular initiative that has been introduced, or maybe the hard work that has gone into recruiting new members, or the success achieved in reducing crime and the fear of crime in your area.

All nominations will be fully considered by your NNWA Board of Trustees when they meet in August.

You can email your nomination to [info@neighbourhoodwatch.net](mailto:info@neighbourhoodwatch.net) or send by post to NNWA, 18 Buckingham Palace Gate, London SW1E 6LB **by 5 Aug.**

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# Electronic Neighbourhood Watch tackles fear of crime

It's been dubbed the electronic version of Neighbourhood Watch and it's winning praise from local authorities and community safety groups around the country for successfully tackling crime and the fear of crime.

The AlertBox is a small easy-to-operate radio unit about the size of a paperback book.

It employs state-of-the-art technology to enable neighbours to contact each other instantly via electronic messages.

With a network of AlertBox units, a whole community can be warned of nuisance callers or anyone suspicious – at the touch of a button.

The system also allows neighbours to call each other for help in an emergency, such as fire or accident, making use of valuable minutes before the emergency services arrive.

The system has already proved its worth in service with a number of local authorities, including the London Borough of Barnet and Rhondda Cynon Taf Community Safety Partnership in Wales. The latter has AlertBoxes operating in a local primary school, magistrates' courts and a doctor's surgery.

The National Neighbourhood Watch Association has met with Alertbox managing director Peter Harris and his team to explore the possibility of how the two organisations might work together in the future.

Following a meeting earlier this month it was agreed that NNWA and Alertbox would look into a possible joint approach to various agencies for funding of Alertbox schemes.

NNWA Enterprise director, Nigel Davies, said: "It is early days but the idea of an electronic version of Neighbourhood Watch is certainly an interesting development and one we are tracking very closely at the NNWA.

At the moment it's a case of 'watch this space' but we will be reporting back later in the year."

To find out more about Alertbox, including what existing users say about it, go to [www.alertbox.co.uk](http://www.alertbox.co.uk).



## NNWA focuses on new forum

**National Neighbourhood Watch Association has been giving its views to Government on the proposals for a new forum to cover all the various Watch movements in the UK.**

NNWA Chairman, Roy Rudham, sits on the steering group that is working to set up the new forum which will embrace not just Neighbourhood Watch but other groupings such as Pub Watch, School Watch, Shop Watch, etc.

"Its important that we get across the views of ordinary Neighbourhood Watch members to the politicians and civil servants if this new Forum is to be a success," said Roy.

"We must wait and see to what extent the NNWA is likely to be involved but we're working hard to make our views known and understood."

