

Thank You

to all volunteers

from



Autumn 2020

Background to Thank You project

The country has been waiting to come out of full lockdown. Things are still not back to the original 'normal'. Our lives and our routines and feelings are different. Our communities are different.

The lockdown may have brought its challenges but we have noticed: -

- a strengthening of community relationships
- better contact between elderly residents and younger people established
- increase pride in the local community or area
- more effort to get to know our neighbours
- formulation of a newfound resilience
- increased communications between neighbours (Facebook and WhatsApp groups)
- improved professional partnership working across England and Wales

Members of NW who engaged in community volunteering during lockdown experienced

- Ø The need to have a sense of purpose
- Ø The need to engage actively with community members
- Ø The need to feel valued

The army of volunteers, who have supported those who were elderly, vulnerable, and isolated, have made a huge difference to the wellbeing in our communities.

Neighbourhood Watch Network has looked at how we can capture their volunteering enthusiasm and harness their energy and efforts and thank them for their hard work.

The project

We are simply proposing to say “Thank you” to all those wonderful individuals, groups and communities that have looked after us and continue to do so and to be able to signpost them to opportunities in our local networks.

We have prepared several social media posts for you to send out using your platforms, mainly Facebook and Twitter. The reason to focus on these two platforms, is because many community groups, mutual aid groups, volunteers used these during the pandemic to recruit and post their messaging on.

What we ask of you is that you post these graphics with the suggested wording across your networks and platforms, so that our unified message of thanks reaches as many people as possible.

If you aren't on social media, this is ok too, just send the message of thanks via your messaging platforms, emails etc.

The “Thank You” covers five main aspects:

- 👤 Generalised **thank you** for volunteering
- 👤 Thank you for looking after our **communities**
- 👤 Thank you for looking after our **wellbeing**
- 👤 We are in it for the **long haul** – acknowledging that the pandemic continues
- 👤 Consider **volunteering** in the future

Thank You for volunteering



This is our general “thank you” to people who have and continue to volunteer in their communities.

Click on the **type** of post, **static** or **animated** and the link will bring you to the image or mp4 video, save to your computer and use in your posts. The sizing has already been formatted for you.

FACEBOOK POST

[Static post](#)

[Animated post](#)

TWITTER POST

[Static post](#)

[Animated post](#)

Suggested wording

Facebook	Twitter
Thank you for making the difference and going that extra mile in supporting your community. To access more resources and continue your fantastic work, visit www.ourwatch.org.uk #thanksfromNW	As many vulnerable groups in our communities continue to rely on the work of volunteers, we just wanted to say thank you from us. #thanksfromNW

Thank you for looking after our communities



Thanking volunteers for looking after our communities is so important and we know there are many that are still looking after many vulnerable people.

You can use this graphic to: -

- thank volunteers who have helped during the lockdown,
- thank volunteers at any time when they have participated in or organised a community event or activity.
- acknowledge the work of a road, area, or ward coordinator, who has significantly changed the local environment or has united neighbours and residents in a local activity.

FACEBOOK POST

[Static Facebook post](#)

[Animated Facebook post](#)

TWITTER POST

[Static Twitter post](#)

[Animated Twitter post](#)

Suggested wording

Facebook	Twitter
Thank you for connecting and strengthening your community. It really has made a difference. To find out how to support your community further visit www.ourwatch.org.uk #thanksfromNW	Thank you for connecting and strengthening your community. It really has made a difference. To find out how to support your community further visit www.ourwatch.org.uk #thanksfromNW

Thank you for looking after the Wellbeing of our community



This graphic can be used to say THANK YOU to all those volunteers who have worked during lockdown by assisting as a member of a support group, running errands, collecting medicines, posting letters, etc. and/or have collected and distributed food parcels and boxes as part of the work of the local food bank.

These volunteers also provided essential support by providing emotional support, reducing isolation and preventing the loneliness of vulnerable individuals and groups.

FACEBOOK POST

[Static Facebook post](#)

[Animated Facebook post](#)

TWITTER POST

[Static Twitter post](#)

[Animated Twitter post](#)

Suggested Wording

Facebook	Twitter
Thank you for making people smile! YOU have made a real difference to the health and wellbeing of your community. Let's stay connected, visit www.ourwatch.org.uk to find out how! #thanksfromNW	Thank you for making people smile! YOU have made a real difference to the health and wellbeing of your community. Let's stay connected, visit www.ourwatch.org.uk to find out how! #thanksfromNW
Together we can build a community and a spirit like no other. Join the movement to make a change for the better. Visit www.ourwatch.org.uk #thanksfromNW	Together we can build a community and a spirit like no other. Join the movement to make a change for the better. Visit www.ourwatch.org.uk #thanksfromNW

We are in it for the long haul

**"We are in this together
for the long haul".**



**Staying connected
with our
communities
reduces isolation
and loneliness**

www.ourwatch.org.uk



As we are looking at a minimum of another six months, trying to curb the spread of this awful devastating virus, we appreciate that at some point volunteers within our community may be asked to step up and again go above and beyond for their neighbours.

Staying connected, reducing isolation and tackling loneliness in our communities makes our communities more resilient and stronger together.

We want our communities that we support them, for as long as it takes, we are in this TOGETHER!

FACEBOOK POST

[Static Facebook post](#)

[Animated Facebook post](#)

TWITTER POST

[Static Twitter post](#)

[Animated Twitter post](#)

Suggested wording

Facebook	Twitter
Staying connected, reducing isolation and tackling loneliness in our communities makes us more resilient, stronger and less likely to be a victim of crime www.ourwatch.org.uk #initforthelonghaulNW	Staying connected, reducing isolation and tackling loneliness in our communities makes us more resilient, stronger and less likely to be a victim of crime www.ourwatch.org.uk #initforthelonghaulNW

Volunteering



This is the final graphic in the series. It not only relates to the lockdown period where local Neighbourhood Watch organisations want to capture the enthusiasm and energy demonstrated during the lockdown by volunteers who wanted to support their local neighbours and communities, but can also be utilised at any time in the future to encourage new members to join in with local Neighbourhood Watch Associations activities or groups.

They might be offering their specific skills and knowledge in response to an appeal for help, or perhaps attracted to try volunteering to learn new skills.

FACEBOOK POSTS

[Static Facebook post](#)

[Animated Facebook post](#)

TWITTER POSTS

[Static Twitter post](#)

[Animated Twitter post](#)

Suggested wording

Facebook post	Twitter post
"It isn't what we say or think that defines us, but what we do" Join the Neighbourhood Watch movement today! www.ourwatch.org.uk #initforthelonghaulNW	"It isn't what we say or think that defines us, but what we do" Join the Neighbourhood Watch movement today! www.ourwatch.org.uk #initforthelonghaulNW

How to use this pack

You can use the graphics in this to say thank you to individuals or groups in your community.

The static images can also be used in emails.

To download an image or animation, simply go to the page relating to the image and select one of the four options (static or animated, Facebook or Twitter), these are linked to the image. Click on the link and save the image or mp4 file.

You can use the suggested wording, by simply using the copy option. To do this highlight the text that you want to copy and depending on your device, right click and select save, or highlight text and select copy option.

- 👤 Log on to your platform, ie Facebook.
- 👤 Start a new post
- 👤 Add a picture to the post and select either your static or mp4 (animated) graphic
- 👤 Paste copied text into the box
- 👤 Tag any groups, individuals you may want to thank into the post
- 👤 And post it to Facebook

Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to also acknowledge all the outstanding, selfless, dedicated work that you, our members, coordinators and Associations have done and continue to do in your communities to make them safer, stronger, resilient and not least a community where neighbours look out for neighbours.

During the lockdown and subsequent more localised lockdowns, Neighbourhood Watch volunteers have stepped up and shone in their communities, for example, in Hounslow, an army of volunteers, working night and day, pulled together to supply urgently needed face visors for NHS staff, care homes and doctor surgeries. In Mobberley, Cheshire, a community came together to provide essential supplies to vulnerable people in their community. In Sussex, a literal army of volunteers was recruited to make PPE, which was so urgently required.

In all of the uncertainty and chaos, volunteers held our communities together, whilst the NHS, retail workers and emergency services worked harder to support us. As a nation, the work of volunteers has never been so focused, determined and required in any other peace time effort. This has not gone unnoticed and we want to celebrate this and say thank you to you all.

Please remember to let us know about the work that you have done and continue to do to support your communities during this time <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/news/neighbourhood-watch-response-covid-19/share-your-community-response-stories>

Best wishes

Central Support Team
Neighbourhood Watch Network

