

LOCAL UPDATES

Security awareness meeting

A security awareness meeting was held in the Greenwich Communication Centre at 164 Trafalgar Road on 6th June.

The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness of the measures which can be implemented to prevent local business people becoming victims of crime. Lorraine Turton, the Director of Greenwich Communication Centre opened the meeting and invited five security professionals to speak: Andy McVicker from the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team; Jerry Collier from Fast Systems; Richard Whitbread a crime prevention design adviser from the Met; Sebastian Clifford from Box Security; and Ian Cheshire an emergency planning and resilience officer.

Andy McVicker told the assembly about several suspects who had been apprehended in the area for burglary. He said: "The police have a role to play but you need to take responsibility yourselves, too."

Crime Prevention Design Adviser Richard Whitbread said: "Each business has its own issues in terms of security and I can provide a review of your site to advise you on the measures you can take."

Sebastian Clifford from Box Security

advised the audience on the deterrent value that monitored alarm systems have.

Ian Cheshire talked about a number of incidents including the Cutty Sark fire, and explained how risk management procedures had been followed. He also suggested checking on online resources that Greenwich Council has recently made available on the council website to assist businesses with contingency planning.

Jerry Collier spoke about contingency planning and said: "There is a benefit to thinking about disaster before it happens - proactively thinking about your business.

"Look at what you use in your business and make a list of what resources you can keep off-site." He also advised keeping computer back-up files off-site: "The three most important parts of IT preparation are back-up, back-up, and back-up."

Lorraine Turton encourages businesses to review their IT procedures and to contact the technical team at Greenwich Communication Centre for any assistance on computers, maintenance, backing up, data recovery etc Full details of all the IT services offered can be found at www.greenwichcc.com or phone 8269 2103.



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