

Cllr Barbara Jones-Williams

June 2021

The Malvern Hills Good Neighbour Network (GNN)

This is a pilot scheme in my Ward, because it's been recognised that Martley, Kenswick and Wichford and surrounding areas have been a very caring community, particularly during the pandemic, it is felt that we can build on what already exist.

The heart of a GNN is 'neighbours helping neighbours'

It's a voluntary ran initiative where residents within a community have the opportunity to help their neighbours in times of need.

GNNs come in all shapes and sizes in order to best support their own community. It could be a small group of residents who live in the same cu-de sac, Hamlet or a whole village, it's up to you!

From collecting or delivering essentials, creating community fundraisers, responding to an emergency to walking a neighbour's dog once a week, these are all areas of practical support that can make a huge difference within our neighbours' life. A GNN can also help tackle hidden challenges such as loneliness and isolation which can be referred to local services or organisations.

No matter your age or past experience, everyone has the potential to help. It's about helping with what you're comfortable with and able to commit to.

We may already have existing voluntary groups in our community who support in a specific way such as neighbourhood watch or befrienders. GNNs is about bringing all of these volunteers together to create a pool of support for our neighbours.

There are over 21 GNN's across the district who operate in different ways but all make a significant impact within their own community.

How to begin?

It starts with having a conversation with others from our community asking - What is good about our community? This is a great starting point which enables us to see if a GNN can help strengthen this and take it forward.

We are gathering locals from Martley, Whichenford and kenswick to start asking these questions. Please see below for more information:

Bringing neighbours together

We are delighted to invite you to an evening where residents from Martley, Whichenford and Kenswick can virtually gather.

The purpose of this get together is to celebrate and reflect on the wonderful support you have shown your neighbours throughout the pandemic. We will also have an opportunity to discuss how we can continue supporting our neighbours as we ease out of restrictions.

Thursday 1st July

7pm - 8pm

Via ZOOM

We hope you can come along to our virtual get together.

You can contact Fi Petts on fi@ageukwmh.org call 01684 560666 to receive your zoom link or if you have any questions.

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