

HILLINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER for JANUARY 2013



E-mail: all@hillingdonnhw.co.uk Web site: www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk HNW Office Ruislip - Tel: 0208 246 1869

Ruislip Police Station – Tel: 0208 246 1825 Age UK Uxbridge – Tel: 01895 231841



Contact your ward Safer Neighbourhood Police Team if you have issues regarding local crime or require security advice. Their Tel. Nos. are 0208 721 followed by the No. in the left hand column below.

Reported Residential Burglary figures for October and November 2012

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Ruislip & Northwood		Oct	Nov
2544	Harefield	2	4
2545	Northwood	3	14
2546	Northwood Hills	8	8
2547	West Ruislip	5	7
2548	Eastcote & E. Ruislip	8	3
2543	Ickenham	9	13
2549	Manor	11	10
2550	Cavendish	11	7
2011	South Ruislip	8	17
Uxbridge			
2782	Uxbridge North	5	11
2758	Uxbridge South	10	8
Hayes			
2553	Hillingdon East	11	21
2552	Charville	21	15
2554	Barnhill	8	8
2733	Yeading	13	7
2757	Botwell	11	11
2009	Townfield	7	6
West Drayton			
2551	Brunel	6	9
2713	Yiewsley	7	8
2018	West Drayton	4	5
2556	Pinkwell	5	15
2557	Heathrow Villages	33	25
Totals for Months		206	232

The above burglary figures are those current for the months shown (Source – MPS Crime Mapping). Later reassessment can lead to a revision of these figs. Please note that the Police take into account both recent and long term trends when deciding how and where to prioritise resources and operations.

All SNTs hold Crime Prevention 'surgeries' at various sites and premises in their ward to offer CP advice and items such as timers to residents. For details of times and locations see www.met.police.uk/teams/hillingdon.

MPS Non-emergency Tel. No. 101 Crimestoppers Tel. No. 0800 555 111

Junior Citizen - Stranger Danger

Do you have a spare morning or afternoon or two during the 4 - 22 March 2013 (weekdays) to help out with the Junior Citizen Scheme? Junior Citizen is an annual project which takes Hillingdon's year-6 children through 10 safety scenarios at Hillingdon Fire Station.

We need volunteers for the Stranger Danger scenario.

For further details, contact John Thirkettle at johnthirkettle2000@yahoo.co.uk

or Tel: 020 8868 6897.

A NW Co-ordinator recently advised us of a Crimestoppers message which reported a <u>new wave of incidents</u> that can be illustrated as follows. There are now gangs and thieves devising various ways of tricking drivers (mostly women) to stop and get out of their vehicles at the roadside.

One method is by placing a car seat containing a fake baby by the road and waiting for a passing motorist to stop and check on the 'abandoned' child. The location is usually a minor road close to a field or wooded area where the victim can be beaten, robbed or raped. Also, if you are driving at night and eggs are thrown at the windscreen do not stop or operate the wipers or use wiper wash. Water and eggs become milky and worsen visibility, forcing you to stop and become a victim of criminals.

Do not immediately stop for any strange or suspicious circumstance. Always drive on to a safer location and report the incident via 999. Similarly, beware of being stopped by supposedly 'unmarked police cars' especially in rural areas. A flashing blue roof light is not difficult to obtain or fabricate. Again, it is recommended that you drive on to a safer area and report the incident; a genuine police officer will always be sympathetic to your dilemma.

Yet another <u>credit card scam</u> to be wary of, with the following m.o. A telephone call from 'Express Couriers' asked if the resident will be at home because there is a package which will be delivered in about one hour. Roughly an hour later a courier arrived with a gift of flowers and wine. Since there was no occasion which merited a gift the recipient asked who the sender was. The courier replied that he was only the deliverer and did not know, but believed a card message would be sent separately.

An accompanying consignment note stated that since the gift contained alcohol there was a delivery charge of £3 required as proof that the package had been delivered to an adult. A cash payment was not acceptable for accounting reasons and payment was made by credit/debit card on a small mobile card machine by swiping the card and entering the PIN. A printed receipt was produced.

A few days later it was discovered that large amounts had been charged/withdrawn to/from the card account. Apparently the card information recorded on the courier's machine was able to be used to devise fraudulent access to the card account.

Be wary of accepting any package which you neither expected nor ordered if it involves any payment as a condition of receipt. The only time you should tender any personal credit/debit card details is when you initiated the purchase transaction.

A <u>recent scam</u> involves fraudsters impersonating an **Action Fraud** representative to trick people into sending money. The caller states that they are from Action Fraud and that the person they are calling is entitled to compensation from a recent incident. The scammer then asks for money to be sent via a Ukash voucher in order to process the compensation claim. The amount requested is usually in the range of £200 to £400. Do not to pay these bogus telephone callers; there is no way to retrieve Ukash payments as they are in effect cash transactions. This is a scam. You will lose your money.

Action Fraud is in no way affiliated with these scammers and would never be involved in processing claims for compensation. The genuine **Action Fraud** is the UK's national fraud reporting centre where consumers can report if they have been scammed or defrauded.

You can report fraud online using Action Fraud's reporting service.

Criminals target crowded shopping areas in the winter months resulting in a rise in **pick-pocketing**. Take care with expensive presents and purchases. Keep bags closed and tightly held. Do not put down phones.