



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**



**SAFER
NEIGHBOURHOODS**
LOCAL POLICE, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk
Email: all@hillingtonnhw.co.uk
Tel: 020 8246 1869



Police Non Emergency: 101
Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

Ruislip Police Station: 020 82461825

OCTOBER 2017

To contact your ward
Local Neighbourhood
Police Team, phone:
0208 721 followed by:
2554 - Barnhill
2757 - Botwell
2551 - Brunel
2550 - Cavendish
2552 - Charville
2548 - E'cote & ERuis
2544 - Harefield
2557 - Heathrow
2553 - Hillingdon East
2543 - Ickenham
2549 - Manor
2545 - Northwood
2546 - Northwood Hills
2556 - Pinkwell
2011 - South Ruislip
07483 291091 Townfield
2782 - Uxbridge North
2758 - Uxbridge South
2018 - West Drayton
2547 - West Ruislip
2733 - Yeading
2713 - Yiewsley

**Hillingdon
Neighbourhood
Watch** is supported by
Hillingdon Community
Trust and the London
Borough of Hillingdon

Keep in Touch
Co-ordinators and
neighbours, please
keep in contact on the
HNW telephone
number above, via
email or write to us at
Ruislip Police Station, 5
The Oaks, Ruislip HA4
7LE. Our website also
contains further
information on topics
in this newsletter
www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk



Inspector Rob Bryan, returning as HNW's Link Officer and Inspector in charge of the Northern Sector SNT writes: "After 15 months away covering a vacant post, it is good to be back as your dedicated police link for Neighbourhood Watch. Whilst HNW remains the same (although we could always use new co-ordinators, if you know of anyone who may be interested), policing is seeing a number of ongoing changes. You may have heard that our police buildings are being reduced – Hillingdon will be left with one police station, possibly in Hayes although this is still being discussed. The reality is that not so many people use police stations anymore and that feeling most of us have of "needing" a station nearby cannot be justified financially. At a recent public meeting a MOPAC representative (Mayor's Office for Police and Crime) said that it was a choice between buildings and cops. A stark reality I know but I would prefer cops!

Other changes that have or are taking place will, I hope, be seen more positively. There are now two PCs and a PCSO on every ward in Hillingdon dedicated to local policing. They will not be abstracted to other duties and are there in the wards to build ties and deal with local issues. Alongside the other 400+ cops who also work in Hillingdon, this is good news. Also, officers will all soon be receiving tablet devices which means that they can do all their report writing on the go, no longer having to return to the police station wasting valuable time (and handy, bearing in mind my first point)."

Darker nights are already upon us, and with them comes the greater risk of residential burglary and the need for everyone to focus on home security in an attempt to discourage the would-be perpetrator. We make no apology for repeating previous advice:

- If you are away from home do ensure that your home looks occupied – leave lights on, preferably in rooms other than/in addition to the hall. Use timer switches to operate your lights automatically.
- Install exterior lights, ensuring that they are positioned high enough to deter damage by potential intruders.
- Securely close and lock all external doors and windows before leaving the house. If you are at home in back rooms, ensure that all the front doors/windows are secure. If you have UPVC doors and other multi-point locking doors, always throw the door handle upwards to engage the locks and always use the key to secure the lock, removing it after locking. Remember **LIFT, LOCK, REMOVE**.
- Leave a radio tuned into a talk station, perhaps operated on a time switch.
- If you have an alarm, use it! Ensure that the siren boxes are clearly visible from outside. CCTV is an added deterrent - see details of offer to HNW members elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Ensure that side and back gates are locked and secure. Repair broken fences and secure any easy route to the rear of your property. Prickly bushes against garden fences are an added means of deterrence.
- Check and ensure that garages and sheds are securely locked.
- Gravel paths and driveways are also very useful – burglars will avoid them.

The **Autumn Celebration** period will soon be here – this is when anti-social behaviour and general crime such as burglary and criminal damage tend to increase. Children's activities during **Halloween** should be closely supervised by responsible adults and should never knock on the doors of strangers unaccompanied. Be aware that elderly and vulnerable neighbours are likely to be very anxious when unexpected callers ring their front doorbells. Organised public displays are proven to be the safest way to enjoy **fireworks**, but don't forget that as in most crowded situations, the pickpockets will be out in force. Follow the **firework safety code** if you are holding your own private display and remember to abide by the Borough's by-laws.

Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch



Residential burglary figures for Week Ending as shown – figures supplied by MPS Hillingdon

	JUL 30	AUG 6	AUG 13	AUG 20	AUG 27	SEP 3	SEP 10	SEP 17	SEP 24	TOTALS
Barnhill	1	2	5	4	1	2	1	3	0	19
Botwell	3	3	1	3	1	0	0	0	1	12
Brunel	1	2	3	3	3	1	0	1	3	17
Cavendish	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	5
Charville	4	3	6	3	0	2	0	1	3	22
E'cote & ERuis	4	1	3	2	1	3	0	1	2	17
Harefield	1	2	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	8
Heathrow	1	3	1	1	2	0	1	3	0	12
Hillingdon East	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	7
Ickenham	1	3	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	11
Manor	7	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	13
Northwood	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Northwood Hills	3	3	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	12
Pinkwell	6	2	0	3	0	3	1	1	3	19
South Ruislip	0	4	2	0	3	0	0	5	1	15
Townfield	2	2	1	4	1	1	2	1	1	15
Uxbridge North	3	1	1	0	0	0	4	2	2	13
Uxbridge South	3	0	3	2	0	0	3	1	0	12
West Drayton	1	0	1	2	5	3	0	2	3	17
West Ruislip	0	2	2	6	0	1	1	2	1	15
Yeading	1	2	1	0	7	2	3	0	1	17
Viewsley	1	0	0	3	1	2	3	0	0	10
TOTALS	44	37	32	40	32	26	24	31	25	291

It is not only your home that is at risk from burglary, but your **vehicle** is also vulnerable, particularly at this time of year when the Christmas shopping period begins to take off. Some measures you might like to consider:

- Don't leave **anything on display** – even an old coat or plastic bag can tempt a thief. Put shopping out of sight in the boot.
- Install a Thatcham approved **alarm or immobiliser**, also a **steering wheel lock**.
- Property mark your **satnav** with the vehicle registration number. Make a note of the serial number and make, and register with www.immobilise.com
- Don't keep **driving documents** in the vehicle - they could help a thief to sell the vehicle or provide a cover story to the police if stopped.
- Secure **alloy wheels** with locking wheel nuts, likewise **number plates** with one-way security screws.
- Some thieves break into homes to steal **car keys**. Always keep your keys in a safe place - don't leave them in the hallway or kitchen as these are obvious places for a thief to look.
- If you have a **garage**, use it for your vehicle. Otherwise, **park in a well-lit place** or choose a car park with the Police approved 'Park Mark'.

Telephone scamming: Over the past few weeks we have been informed by members in the Ickenham area that they have received calls purporting to be from the Inland Revenue, offering tax rebates. Fortunately, the intended victims realised that the Inland Revenue would never approach taxpayers in this way and were not caught out. It is worth noting that the London Borough of Hillingdon will never 'phone to offer council tax rebates nor will banks and other financial institutions contact you in this way. If in any doubt, put the receiver down and inform ACTION FRAUD on 0300 123 2040 or via www.actionfraud.police.uk

Missing HNW lamp-post signs: In the June newsletter we asked to be informed of instances where old concrete lamp-posts bearing our meerkat signs, having been replaced with metal posts, but minus the signs. A big "thank-you" to all Co-ordinators who reported in. We are hopeful that the missing signs will be replaced in the very near future. If you have not yet told us of this problem in your watch area, please do so as soon as possible via E-mail.

HNW Newsletter: This newsletter constitutes the end of our three-issue trial of the bi-monthly publication. Of the readers who have contacted us, only three have expressed a preference for the monthly issue to continue. Assuming there is no significant change to this trend this month, we intend to implement a bi-monthly schedule in 2018 – January, March, May, July, September, November. In order to keep you up to date with events prior to this Christmas, we will be producing a one-off monthly "festive" edition in November 2017.

HNW money-saving offers: CAMSEC Security Ltd has enhanced its CCTV offer which now constitutes a 20% reduction on orders received from members of active watches. Smartwater continues to offer a discount of £25.00 to members of active watches – useful for those of you not eligible for the MetTrace scheme. Full details are available on our website.

FOR YOUR DIARY – SAT 9 DECEMBER 2017 – RUISLIP POLICE STATION FAMILY FUN DAY - details in next month's newsletter.

Welcome to new watches in: Hoylake Crescent (Ickenham), Brand Avenue, Nicholson Walk, Willoughby Avenue (Uxbridge North), Rockingham Parade (Uxbridge South).

**BE AN ACTIVE GOOD NEIGHBOUR,
BE ON WATCH AND
BE ON A WATCH!**