



**Hillingdon  
Neighbourhood  
Watch**

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



Ruislip Police Station: 020 82461825

**Police Non Emergency: 101**  
Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111  
ActionFraud: 0300 123 2040

**MARCH 2018**

Winners of Hillingdon's *Volunteer Team of the Year Award 2017*

**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](http://www.hillingdonnhw.co.uk)

To contact your ward Local Neighbourhood Police Team, phone:

<b>Barnhill</b>	020 8721 2554
<b>Botwell</b>	020 8721 2757
<b>Brunel</b>	020 8721 2551
<b>Cavendish</b>	020 8721 2550
<b>Charville</b>	020 8721 2552
<b>E'cote &amp; ERuis</b>	020 8721 2548
<b>Harefield</b>	020 8721 2544
<b>Heathrow Villages</b>	020 8721 2557
<b>Hillingdon E</b>	020 7161 8171
<b>Ickenham</b>	020 8721 2543
<b>Manor</b>	020 8721 2549
<b>Northwood</b>	020 8721 2545
<b>Northwood Hills</b>	020 8721 2546
<b>Pinkwell</b>	020 8721 2556
<b>South Ruislip</b>	020 8721 2011
<b>Townfield</b>	020 8721 2009
<b>Uxbridge North</b>	020 7161 8170
<b>Uxbridge South</b>	07717 733782
<b>West Drayton</b>	020 8721 2018
<b>West Ruislip</b>	020 8721 2547
<b>Yeading</b>	07766 991019
<b>Yiewsley</b>	020 8721 2713



**Inspector Rob Bryan (HNW's Link Officer) writes:**

"As you may know, the management structure within local policing is changing this summer. At PC and PCSO level everything remains unchanged but there will be fewer bosses to boss them around. The only impact Neighbourhood Watch will see is that I will no longer be your police link, that role falling to a sergeant. I am sure you will all make him/her feel as welcome as you did me. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with your steering group and local co-ordinators and I know that Neighbourhood Watch will get even better in the coming years. A strong community, with a strong neighbourhood Watch at the centre really does make our job a lot easier, so thank you for all the hard work you do in keeping your neighbourhoods safe."

More information about the changes to the police management structure in Hillingdon may be found in Inspector Bryan's Mid-February issue of "The Communicator", available to read and download from our website.

**Vehicle security:** No matter how many times we highlight the need for vigilance when leaving vehicles unattended, we are still hearing weekly of incidents where cars have been left unlocked on driveways or on the street, and the contents stolen. **Do check that the vehicle is securely locked before leaving it.** Should the worst happen, despite the car having been locked, it is crucial that anything of value (golf clubs, laptops, portable sat-navs, expensive sunglasses, etc. are **removed** before the vehicle is left. It is well known that devices to override car electronics are available; therefore it is recommended that a **Thatcham approved steering wheel lock** is also used to make theft of the vehicle itself more difficult.

**Bin-a-Knife campaign:** Hillingdon Council runs a "Bin-a-Knife" campaign which enables unwanted knives to be disposed of safely in large sealed, steel containers. If you need to use the bins the unwanted knives need to be securely wrapped up and package(s) sealed with adhesive tape, before disposing them at any of the following locations:

- Devonshire Lodge Car Park, Eastcote HA4 1JP
  - Pump Lane Car Park, Hayes UB3 3NB
  - Judge Heath Lane (Barra Hall Circus), Hayes UB3 2NU
- Further information is obtainable from [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bin-a-knife](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/bin-a-knife)

Many of our readers are now in the throes of booking the annual holiday and will be booking flights on-line. **Flight Ticket Fraud** is something to be aware of: Having booked tickets via websites or a ticket broker, victims find that after payment by bank transfer or electronic wire transfer, the tickets/booking references received are counterfeit. Prevention advice:

- Beware if payment is to be made to a private individual's bank account. Always pay by credit/debit card.
- Conduct research on any company – check reviews but don't rely on one-do a thorough search online to check company's credentials.
- Check website thoroughly for spelling mistakes/errors. There should be a valid landline 'phone number and full postal address. Avoid using if only PO Box address is shown.
- It is risky to purchase via a third party via social media, etc.
- If price looks too good to be true, it probably is!
- Look for the logo. Check whether the company is a member of ABTA or ATOL by consulting [www.abta.com](http://www.abta.com)

# Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch



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

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018
Barnhill	11	12	9
Botwell	4	9	8
Brunel	5	6	9
Cavendish	6	3	3
Charville	10	11	4
E'cote & ERuis	6	8	8
Harefield	7	2	1
Heathrow	5	4	14
Hillingdon East	5	7	7
Ickenham	7	7	4
Manor	5	2	1
Northwood	4	4	4
Northwood Hills	9	9	8
Pinkwell	14	9	15
South Ruislip	4	4	3
Townfield	8	6	10
Uxbridge North	4	3	1
Uxbridge South	9	4	6
West Drayton	20	7	8
West Ruislip	3	4	5
Yeading	10	6	3
Yiewsley	8	16	8
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>139</b>

### Securing front, side and rear boundaries – to keep the burglar away:

- Front boundaries should not exceed 1m in height unless they are metal railings which let in natural light. Any tall trees/hedges will afford a burglar “cover” whilst effecting entry to your premises.
- Side and rear boundaries should be at least 1.8 m in height (planning permission may be required if height exceeds 2m). An additional diamond style trellis is difficult to climb and provides a frame for spiky defensive plants – holly, climbing roses, etc.
- Side and driveway gates should be the same height as boundary fences and level with front building line.
- Metal gates allow good surveillance but need careful design to eliminate climbing points.
- Wooden side and driveway gates should be secured on the inside with strong locks. Always keep the gates locked.
- Barbed wire, carpet gripper, broken glass, etc. on top of gates/fences may cause serious injury to any perpetrator, for which the homeowner could be legally responsible. Alternatives include safe plastic strips with rows of pointed cones on top which make it difficult to grip the top of fences/gates, but will not cause injury. A warning sign is a very good idea.
- Gravel driveways and paths prevent a silent approach.
- Wheelie bins should be stored behind secure side gates until collection day, to prevent them being used as climbing aids.
- Invest in motion-sensitive security lighting and/or CCTV to cover vulnerable areas. See website for CCTV offer to Watch members.

It is likely that some of the burglaries listed in these statistics could have been thwarted had the victims taken some of these simple measures.

**Identity theft** is a risk we all constantly face. However, there are measures that can be put in place to minimise these risks. Remember that fraudsters can use your identity to **open bank accounts, obtain credit cards, loans and state benefits, order goods in your name, take over existing accounts, take our mobile phone contracts, obtains genuine documents such as passports and driving licences in your name.**

Recommended measures to lessen the risk include:

- Ensuring that you **shred** anything that reveals your name, address or personal/bank details before putting it out for recycling (addressed envelopes/delivery notes/invoices/bank statements, etc).
- Reducing the number of scammers writing to you by contacting the Mailing Preference Scheme
- Contacting the Telephone Preference Service to reduce the number of scammers trying to obtain your details
- Removing your name from the open (edited) electoral register by contacting [electoralservices@hillingdon.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@hillingdon.gov.uk)  
This will not affect your right to vote.
- Reviewing the details you are sharing on social media and ensuring that only known contacts can see the information – a simple posting for a contact that says “happy birthday” immediately reveals your date of birth if your information is publicly accessible. Also review what your family and friends are sharing publicly via social media.

**Latest scam:** Text message from DVLA received by one of our Team offering a credit of £45.00 for overpayment on last year’s car tax. DVLA will never do this nor will the Inland Revenue or LBH Council Tax Department.

**EASTER WEEKEND CLOSURE:** Please note that HNHW’s Office will be **closed on Good Friday, 30 March**. It will be open as usual on **Friday 6 April**. The Team wishes all our readers a happy and crime-free Easter holiday period.

**Welcome** to new watches in: Barnhill (E’cote & E Ruis), Bayhurst Drive (Northwood), Evergreen Ave ( W Drayton), Gibson Rd (Ickenham), Hallowell Road A & part B (Northwood), Snowden Road (Hillingdon E).

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