



Hillingdon Neighbourhood Watch

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



Ruislip Police Station: 020 82461825

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

MAY 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

The warmer weather is hopefully with us to stay and with it comes the annual increase in **unsolicited doorstep sellers/charity collectors**. Readers need to be aware that such callers need to be in possession of a Met. Police licence. This year's Christian Aid Week runs from 12-19 May and we have been informed that the annual street collection will NOT be taking place. Therefore, anyone purporting to be collecting on behalf of this organisation will not be genuine. When someone unexpected appears at your front door, remember to:

- **LOCK** - make sure that all doors are locked. Some bogus callers might distract you at the front door whilst an accomplice is at the rear of your property.
- **STOP** - are you expecting someone? If not, look through the peephole or window to check who is there.
- **CHAIN** - before answering the door, put the door chain on (if you don't have one, they are inexpensive to purchase).
- **CHECK** - with the door chain on, ask for an identity card. Take the card and check that the number is correct by comparing it with the number you have to hand. It is a very good idea to keep contact details for *utility companies (gas, electricity, water) handy for this very reason.

*You need to be aware that gas/electricity meter readers calling in the evening are likely to be genuine – E-on and others work during the hours 8.00am to 8.00pm. Always check ID, etc. as above before inviting them into your home.

To contact your ward Local Neighbourhood Police Team, phone:

Barnhill	020 8721 2554
Botwell	020 8721 2757
Brunel	020 8721 2551
Cavendish	020 8721 2550
Charville	020 8721 2552
E'cote & ERuis	020 8721 2548
Harefield	020 8721 2544
Heathrow Villages	020 8721 2557
Hillingdon E	020 7161 8171
Ickenham	020 8721 2543
Manor	020 8721 2549
Northwood	020 8721 2545
Northwood Hills	020 8721 2546
Pinkwell	020 8721 2556
South Ruislip	020 8721 2011
Townfield	07483 291091
Uxbridge North	020 7161 8170
Uxbridge South	07717 733782
West Drayton	020 8721 2018
West Ruislip	020 8721 2547
Yeading	07766 991019
Viewsley	020 8721 2713

A recent newspaper headline highlighted the fact that **contactless payment cards** are becoming a magnet for thieves, almost £27.00 per minute being stolen without the owner's knowledge. Advice to prevent this theft herewith:

- **DO NOT** keep a contactless, or any other type of card, in an easy to access pocket or bag. Consider taking just one card on a night out to limit the risk of loss.
- **NEVER** hand over a card to a cashier or waiting staff – ask them to bring the card reader to you. This reduces the risk of the card being skimmed and cloned.
- **ALWAYS** check the amount you have been charged and ask for, and keep the receipt. Checkout staff do not automatically issue one for contactless transactions.
- **BE AWARE** that when using contactless cards at a vending machine or on bus or train, no receipt is issued. Check the statement to ensure the correct payment has been taken, also your bank statement.
- **GUARD** against a card's details being skimmed whilst still in your possession by lining a wallet or cardholder with tinfoil, thus blocking radio-frequency identification signals to and from your card. Consider buying a custom-made anti-fraud wallet, purse or similar.
- **CONSIDER** asking your card provider for a non-contactless card if you prefer to avoid the technology.



Reporting a crime to the Police – 999 or 101? Just a reminder that if you are witnessing a crime taking place or something very suspicious occurring, e.g. persons climbing over garden fences whilst you are walking the dog at 10.00pm, 999 is the number to ring. If you need to report a crime that has already taken place then 101 is the number to call.



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

	January	February	March
Barnhill	9	5	7
Botwell	8	4	6
Brunel	9	6	1
Cavendish	3	0	6
Charville	4	11	5
E'cote & ERuis	8	9	10
Harefield	1	2	3
Heathrow	14	6	5
Hillingdon East	7	5	1
Ickenham	4	4	3
Manor	1	3	4
Northwood	4	12	11
Northwood Hills	8	8	10
Pinkwell	15	6	11
South Ruislip	3	7	6
Townfield	10	2	6
Uxbridge North	1	9	3
Uxbridge South	6	8	3
West Drayton	8	2	8
West Ruislip	5	4	5
Yeading	3	8	9
Yiewsley	8	4	6
TOTALS	139	125	129

Most of us have, at some time, needed the services of a **locksmith**. Here is some very sound advice for future use if you need to call a locksmith:

- **Don't** assume that the locksmith industry is **regulated** – it is not and anyone can set up as a locksmith.
- **Don't** pay more than the **agreed price** – the price should not increase during the job.
- **Don't** easily accept your lock being **drilled and replaced** unless the reason is explained – This is a common tactic rogue locksmiths use to overcharge customers.
- **Do** choose an **MLA** (Master Locksmiths Association) approved company or a recommendation from someone you know – there are genuine non-MLA locksmiths but choosing MLA offers reassurance of qualifications, CRB/DBS checks and regular vetting.
- **Do** ask for a **price up front** and check if it includes VAT – there should not be a call-out charge to quote.
- **Do** check that the locksmith is a genuine **local** locksmith – not all locksmiths advertising as being “local” are genuinely local.
- **For further information** look at www.locksmiths.co.uk

The **Telephone Preference Service** is the only official UK “do-not-call” register for opting out of live telesales calls. It is **FREE** to sign up at www.tpsonline.org.uk. Do not deal with fraudsters who ring up offering a similar service for a “one-off” charge. Having acquired the victim’s bank details, monthly direct debits are set up which they have not authorised. On occasions when the victims have tried to call back, the fraudster was unable to be reached. If you have been a victim, call Action Fraud on the number overleaf (top of page).

FIFA World Cup 2018 Ticket Alert: Action Fraud has been alerted to several websites which are offering World Cup tickets for sale, some at highly inflated prices. FIFA regards the illicit sale and distribution of tickets as a very serious issue and it has been reminding all football fans that FIFA.com/tickets is the only official and legitimate website on which to buy 2018 FIFA World Cup tickets. FIFA has also warned that any tickets obtained from any other source, such as ticket brokers, internet auctions or unofficial ticket exchange platforms, will be automatically rendered void and invalid. Action Fraud offers the following advice to protect yourselves from fraud:

- Don't take the risk. Tickets for the World Cup can only be purchased directly from FIFA. For further information, visit www.FIFA.com/tickets.
- A FAN ID is required for fans to be able to enter the 2018 World Cup stadiums. Exercise much caution if using a third party to obtain your FAN ID for you. You may be charged inflated costs for the service and your personal details may be compromised. For further information, visit www.fan-id.ru
- Visit the Take Five website for the latest guidance on how to avoid becoming a victim of fraud.
- For useful advice and guidance on the World Cup visit the Government Guidance Pages: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/be-on-the-ball-world-cup-2018>

Sellers on on-line marketplaces are falling victim to bogus buyers who contact the seller to advise they will be sending the money via PayPal or similar organisations. The seller then receives an official looking E-mail stating they have been paid more than the stated amount and need to send the difference back to the buyer's account. In reality no money has ever been sent to the seller. Advice:

- Don't assume an e-mail or phone call is authentic – criminals can imitate any address. Use trusted online payment method.
- Don't be rushed or pressurised into making a decision – always verify you have the payment before completing the sale.
- Listen to your instincts – criminals will try to make unusual behaviour like overpaying, seem like a genuine mistake.

Welcome to new watches in: Foxdell (Northwood), Bluebell Terrace, Spring Promenade (W Drayton), Ickenham Road – part (W Ruislip).

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