



CROYDON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH E-BULLETIN

April 2018

Welcome to your new monthly e-bulletin from Croydon Neighbourhood Watch where we will aim to update you on local news, crime and events in your area.

FUNDRAISING APPEAL 2018

Thank you to those of you who have made donations and or have helped others to make a donation to your local Neighbourhood Watch. We are pleased to say that thanks to your generosity, we are safe from closure for the next 12 months. The donations are still coming in and we will continue to endeavour to secure long term funding to keep us 'in action' longer term. We will of course keep you updated.

NEW WEBSITE

We have a new website. You can still find us on www.cbnwa.com but it looks very different! Please do take a look and let us know your feedback.

TWITTER

We are becoming more active on social media. We are slowly growing our number of followers and posting more updates. If Twitter is your thing, please follow us on @CBNWA as we regularly post updates on local crime as well as updates from our partners such as Trading Standards, the Met Police and Action Fraud.

CRIME IN CROYDON

You can see a monthly breakdown of crime in your ward, including where the crime was committed and how many crimes were reported, online at www.police.uk.

Crime Prevention Advice: CAR KEYLESS THEFT

We have had local residents and police alert us recently of a relatively new phenomenon called car relay theft or keyless theft. Unfortunately, it would seem that the number of these thefts is rising. Please read the information below from the Met Police and to prevent your car from being stolen this way.

What is keyless theft?

The thieves work in a team and can open a victim's car without the use of force. One thief will stand near the car owner's house or driveway and use a relay amplifier to transmit a signal from the car owner's car key inside their house to an accomplice who is standing next to the car. If the car key is close enough to where the thief is standing, the amplifier will detect its signal, amplify it and send it to the accomplice's transmitter. This transmitter then effectively becomes the key, and tricks the car into thinking the real key is nearby, whereupon the thieves are able to open the car, get in and drive away. **The whole process can take as little as 60 seconds and can be completed in near silence.**

How to protect your car from keyless theft

- Always ensure your car is properly locked
- Keep keys far away from doors and windows
- You could also keep your car keys in a metal tin to block signals

Carmakers themselves are working on countermeasures to combat the issue of keyless theft, with new frequency technologies, software and keys among the developments taking place. If owners are worried about keyless theft, they can contact their dealer to see if the system can be disabled.

Recent Scams to be aware of

Action Fraud have alerted us to a scam regarding a false unpaid magazine subscription. Victims receive a telephone call from someone purporting to be a bailiff enforcing a court judgement, attempting to recover funds for a non-existent debt. The fraudsters state the debt originates from the victim not paying a magazine advertisement subscription. This type of fraud is nationwide. Since 2017, there have been 52 Action Fraud Reports relating to this fraud. From the reports received, there are a range of different businesses and individuals being targeted.

Protection Advice:

1. **Listen to your instinct:** just because someone knows your basic details, such as your name and address, it doesn't mean they are genuine.
2. **Stay in control: always question cold callers:** always contact the companies directly using a known email or phone number.
3. **Don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision:** a legitimate company will be prepared to wait whilst you verify information.

If you have been affected by this, or any other type of fraud, report it to Action Fraud by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Local news

Nuisance Tenant barred from property

A nuisance tenant in the Woodside ward who terrorised his neighbours, making their lives a misery with his persistent noise and anti-social behaviour, has been barred from his home by a court. [Read more.](#)

Council clampdown on littering hits 195 prosecutions

Dumping a fridge, fly-tipping fence panels and urinating in a car park are among offences that have landed another five people with Don't Mess With Croydon prosecutions. [Read more.](#)

Upcoming Local events

Sanderstead and Riddlesdown Crime Prevention Day

Sat 21 April Times tbc

St Edmunds Church, Mitchley Avenue, Riddlesdown, CR2 9HL

Please contact the Sanderstead SNT for more info Sanderstead.SNT@met.police.uk

In the next issue...

We will update you on:

- the latest GDPR data protection regulation and how this will affect NHW
- the new ward boundaries for Croydon which will come into place election day 3 May