

The Borough Bulletin

News from the Guildford Neighbourhood Watch

Fortnight
preceeding
12 January, 2009

Crime round-up

Surrey Police would greatly appreciate any information about these crimes. To contact the Police Crime Reporting Centre, phone 0845 125 2222 (and please tell them you are a member of Neighbourhood Watch). Only dial 999 when you have a genuine emergency requiring the police to attend, such when as a crime in progress or someone is in immediate danger.

Featuring a selection of crimes reported over the fortnight preceeding the puublication date.



SAFER GUILDFORD
a partnership approach

Ash

In a bizarre case of identity theft, someone cut the bolts holding a pair of signs to the sides of a Ford Transit van, and took them away from where it was parked in **Foreman Park**, on Sunday, 28 December.

A group of hooligans entertained themselves on Tuesday, 6 January, by throwing eggs and a chunk of wood at a Fiat Punto passing along **Ash Street**. The police have the names of at least three of the miscreants, which illustrates the disadvantages of being repeat offenders.

As well, cars were damaged in **Winchester Road** on Friday, 2 January, and in **Longfield Road** on Monday, 5 January; and houses or property was attacked **Winchester Road** on Tuesday, 30 December, and **Manfield Road** on Thursday, 1 January.

Christchurch

In **Howard Gardens**, an up-and-over electric garage door was kicked in on Monday, 29 December, by an unknown assailant.

Clandon & Horsley

Two men knocked on the door of a flat in **St Martins Close**, on Tuesday, 30 December, claiming to be 'water board' employees. After conning their way into the house, they distracted the occupant while one of them searched the place and pinched money and a wallet.

Both the distraction burglars were described as white, 'British', aged in their early 20s and about 5ft 6in tall. Both wore dark clothes under a fluorescent jacket.

Distraction burglars prey on the old and the infirm... if you have any idea who this pair might be, please tell the police so that they can stop them

A locked garage was broken in to in **The Street**, on Wednesday, 7 January, and the thief stole a mobile phone that had been left in the unlocked vehicle packed inside, and in **Ockham Road North**, on Wednesday, 31 December, someone through a stone through the back window of a Lexus RX400 4x4 parked in front of a house.

Friary & St Nicholas

It was a busy week for burglars, who seem to have targeted Friary and St Nicks for special attention. Getting in through the ground floor kitchen window, a burglar stole two laptop computers from a flat in **London Road** on Wednesday, 31 December.

Then on Friday, 2 January, an unoccupied ground floor flat in **Rookwood Court** was hit. The crooks jemmied a uPVC window into the kitchen, and after searching the flat, got away with about £60 in loose change.

At about the same time, a one bedroom ground floor flat in **Mary Road** was burgled. The thief or thieves got away with a large screen TV set and - this shows what kind of people these thieves are - a child's piggy bank.

Crime Roundup

- Ash
- Christchurch
- Clandon & Horsley
- Friary & St Nicholas
 - Holy Trinity
 - Lovelace
- Merrow & Burpham
 - Normandy
 - Onslow
 - Pirbright
 - Stoke
- Stoughton
- The Pilgrims
- Tillingbourne
- Westborough
- Worplesdon

A day later, on Saturday, 3 January, two flats in the same building were burgled in **York Road**. In the first, the thief got inside through the back door - while the elderly lady who lived there was in lounge at the front, watching television.

He carefully and quietly locked the front door before taking cash from her handbag and from a container in her bedroom - however he left behind some jewellery he found there.

The second burglary was a forced entry through a ground-floor uPVC back door. With no one home, the thief made a thorough search and escaped with cash and - this time - a selection of jewellery.

The same day, there was another burglary in **Rookwood Road**. The thief got in to a ground floor flat and carefully put the chain on the front door to prevent interruption. Although he found some jewellery, nothing appears to have been taken.

Finally, there was an opportunistic theft (technically, not a burglary) in **Wherwell Road** on Wednesday, 7 January. The thief simply picked up a laptop computer that had been left - albeit temporarily, probably - outside the front door of a detached house.

Holy Trinity

A tool box full of... well, tools, as stolen from an unattended Citroen Picasso parked in **Pewley Way** on Sunday, 28 December. The next day, a Mini Cooper convertible was keyed in **Quarry Street**.

Lovelace

There was an extraordinary (not a word the Bulletin uses lightly) series of burglaries at a mobile home site in **Papercourt Lane** overnight on Friday, 2 January. At least five sheds on the site were hit, and the thieves getting away with a variety of goods including a chainsaw, more than £1,000 worth of fishing equipment from two different sheds, a motorcycle... and a padlock from yet another.

That same night, in the same road, a burglar used a garden fork to force a shed door, but left without stealing anything.

A few days earlier, during the night of Tuesday, 30 December, in **Newark Lane**, a man knocked on the door of a terraced bungalow and told the male occupant that he was cold and needed a cup of tea.

Generously but, it has to be said, foolishly, the home occupier let him inside and, yes, made him tea. While this was going on, the intruder managed to steal more than £50 from a wallet and two cash tins.

Merrow & Burpham

Overnight on Wednesday, 31 December, hooligans threw eggs at an occupied three bedroom mid terrace house in **Fitzjohn Close**. Why? The mind boggles.

Normandy

A twin axle trailer was stolen from the car park of a detached house in **Hunts Hill** on Wednesday, 7 January.

Onslow

Four plastic garden chairs were set alight in the back garden of a house in **Elmbank Avenue** on Friday, 2 January.

Pirbright

A Daihatsu vehicle was pinched from the back of a house in **Mill Lane**, overnight on Sunday, 28 December.

Stoke

There was an attempted burglary of an unoccupied semi-detached house in **Fir Tree Road** on or about Sunday, 4 January. The thief tried various means to get inside, but failed. The next day, in **Hazel Avenue**, a sticky liquid was poured over a Rover 25: whatever it was, the dousing didn't do much for the paintwork.

Elsewhere around the area, houses or property were damaged in **Lime Grove** on Saturday, 27 December; in **Old Farm Road** on Sunday, 28 December; **Lock Road**, on Thursday, 1 January; and in **Old Farm Road** again on Tuesday, 6 January

Stoughton

It was a busy fortnight for crooks in Stoughton, starting in **Manor Road** on Wednesday, 31 December, where a ground floor flat was burgled.

The thief forced the kitchen window, systematically searched each room and stole electrical items and cash from a wallet. He was seen getting into a dark coloured saloon car and speeding off towards the Wooden Bridge pub.

A two storey semi detached house in **Rydes Hill Road** was hit on Thursday, 8 January, but despite repeated attempts to force a way through, the thief failed to break in. As well, one of a block of four garages in **Fairborne Way** was broke into on Friday, 2 January, but nothing was stolen.

In **Cardswell Keep**, on Wednesday, 7 January, a Honda 125cc motorbike was stolen, and cars were damaged in **Whitfield Close** and **Grange Road** on Saturday, 27 December; in **Barrack Road** on Monday, 29 December; and **Fairborne Way** on Tuesday, 30 December.

There was also damage to houses or property in **Saffron Platt** on Sunday, 28 December; **Shepherds Hill** on Thursday, 1 January; and in **Somertons Close** on Sunday, 4 January.

The Pilgrims

Fussy thieves raided an unoccupied detached bungalow in **Suffield Lane** on Wednesday, 31 December. After removing a security sensor from front, they jemmied the uPVC front door to get inside, where they selected a brand new pair of leather boots, two ski jackets, and a 6ft-long, heavy leather sofa and a matching arm chair... and the scatter cushions.

Oddly, they left behind another arm chair, a large flat screen LCD television, high value ornaments, a computer and flat screen monitor, and a camera.

Tillingbourne

At some point during the week of Thursday, 8 January, a semi detached cottage in **Jesses Lane** was burgled. After forcing wooden doors, the criminals tool away a laptop computer, coins, a carriage clock and a porcelain figurine.

A Volkswagen Touran was broken into while it was parked outside Blubeckers at the **Gomshall Mill**, and two bags containing spare parts for scientific instruments were stolen. What will the thief make of them? If only we knew...

Westborough

A Ford Escort was pinched from the parking area of a house in **Caxton Gardens** overnight on Saturday, 27 December.

Worplesdon

A large, four bedroom detached house in **Lyons Drive** was hit on Monday, 5 January. The thieves tripped the Yale lock to get in through the front door, which they locked behind them.

Then, leisurely, they searched the building to find a tidy haul including jewellery and a spare set of keys to the owner's BMW 330 convertible... but not, fortunately, the car itself.

Getting in touch

Contacting the police

If you have information about a specific crime or incident, you can phone the Police Crime Reporting Centre on 0845 125 2222. Please tell them you are a member of the Neighbourhood Watch.



If you wish to trace the progress made following your call, ask for the collar number of the officer you spoke to, or request an ICAD number (a reference number beginning with 'P').

Contacting the Watch Manager

If you have concerns about crime and disorder in your area, or want to report suspicious activities, you can contact the Neighbourhood Watch Manager by phone on 01483 653014 or by sending an email to WSGfordNeighWatch@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Contacting Crime Stoppers

You can also report confidential information (and perhaps claim a reward) by calling Crime Stoppers: 0800 555 111.