

# The Borough Bulletin

News from the Guildford Neighbourhood Watch

Fortnight  
preceeding  
15 December, 2008

## Don't worry, be happy... 363,214 angels are looking after you

This year, as the last, brought us a number of emails warning of the dire perils awaiting the unwary urban dweller, and the dread consequences of not passing on the warning. So thanks to whoever wrote this email, which kind of puts it all in perspective. That said, it's not paranoia if someone really *is* out to get you!

Dear Friends,

As we move closer to the end of another year, I wanted to thank you for all the e-mails you have forwarded to me over the past year.

I must send a big thank you to whoever sent me the one about the deeply unpleasant substances found in the glue on envelopes, because I now have to use a wet sponge with every envelope that needs sealing. Also, I now have to wipe the top of every can I open for the same reason.

I no longer have any savings because I gave them all to a sick girl who is about to die in the hospital for the 1,387,258th time. But that will change once I receive the £15,000 that Bill Gates and Microsoft are sending me for participating in their special e-mail programmes. Or from the senior bank clerk in Nigeria who wants to split seven million dollars with me for pretending to be a long lost relative of a customer who died intestate.

And I need no longer worry about my soul because I have 363,214 angels looking out for me. I have learned that my prayers only get answered if I forward e-mails to seven friends and make a wish within five minutes.

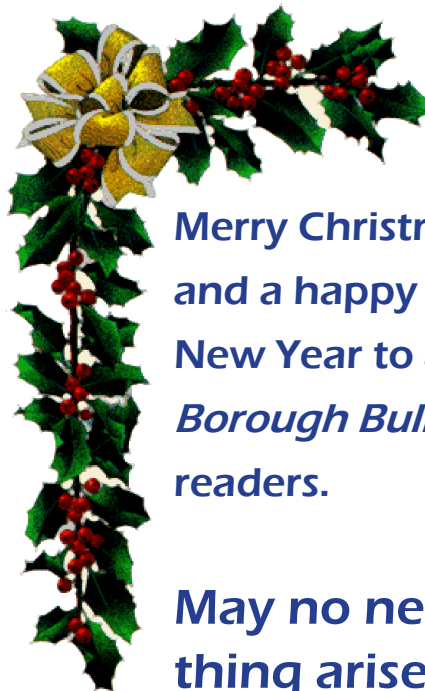
I no longer drink Coca-Cola because it can remove toilet stains. I no longer can buy petrol without taking a friend along to watch the car so that a serial killer won't crawl in my back seat when I'm filling up. I no longer go to shopping centres because someone will drug me with a food sample and rob me.

I no longer answer the phone because someone will ask me to dial a number and then I'll get a phone bill with calls to Jamaica, Uganda, Singapore and

Uzbekistan. I can't use anyone's toilet but mine because a big brown African spider is lurking under the seat to cause instant death when it bites my bum. I couldn't even pick up the fiver I found dropped in the car park because it was probably put there by a crazed axe murderer waiting under my car to grab my leg.

If you don't send this email to at least 144,000 people in the next 10 minutes, a large pelican with an acute case of diarrhoea will sit on your head, and fleas from 12 camels will infest your back, causing you to grow a most unsightly hairy hump. I know this because it actually happened to a friend of my next door neighbour's ex-mother-in-law's second husband's cousin's plumber - and it was on *Good Morning Australia*.

Regards,  
A friend



**Merry Christmas  
and a happy  
New Year to all  
Borough Bulletin  
readers.**

**May no new  
thing arise!**



SAFER GUILDFORD  
a partnership approach

### Crime Roundup

- Albury
- Artington
- Ash
- Bellfields
- Burpham
- Chilworth
- Compton
- East Clandon
- East Horsley
- Effingham
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- Park Barn
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- Shackleford
- Shalford
- Slyfield
- Stoughton
- Tongham

# Crime round-up

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

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.

This past fortnight featured an unusually large number of bicycle thefts... why this should be, in the middle of winter, is a mystery, but bike riders should perhaps take more care to chain their mounts securely to immovable objects when out and about in Guildford town. Break-ins and thefts from stables were also at an abnormally high level, and there is something of a rash of car thefts.

Although the price of petrol has come down, this fortnight's crime reports featured many cases of motorists driving away from petrol stations without paying for the gas they'd put in their tanks. And in what may be another sign of the times, there were also incidents of people enjoying a meal in a pub or restaurant - and then legging it without paying.

Naming names ... in the previous issue, the Bulletin promised to revert to listing crimes under the old borough wards and parishes. Unfortunately, it hasn't been possible to meet this promise because the editor hasn't been able to find quick-and-easy-to-use maps showing the boundaries. The search continues...

Finally, remember that thieves and pick-pockets will be after your cash and Christmas presents over the holiday period, so do be careful with your purses, wallets and handbags - particularly when taking money from a cash till - and don't put presents on display in your front window. Burglars also go window shopping.

**For more comprehensive advice about stopping thieves from spoiling your Christmas, please read the attached 'Cold Shoulder' document.**

## Albury

Powered garden tools were nicked from a detached wooden garage on the caravan park in **Farley Green** on Tuesday, 9 December. The very determined thief cut off no less than five bolts and padlocks to get inside.

## Artington

A three storey town house in **Artington Walk** was almost burgled on Wednesday, 12 November. The villain damaged a patio door frame and also tried to jemmy the kitchen window, but failed to get inside.

## Ash

It was a busy fortnight for criminals in and around Ash. Starting in **Ash Close** on Saturday, 6 December, when a thief broke in to a terrace house, stole the keys to a Suzuki Swift, and drove away in the car.

*The suspected thief is described as about 6ft tall with a slim build, and wearing a light coloured hoody top and pale or light coloured jeans.*

Different day, same street: a two-bedroom end-of-terrace house was burgled on Tuesday, 9 December. The thief got in through the living room window, then picked up a laptop computer, three storage boxes - one of which contained a digital SLR camera - a wallet from the kitchen table... and an eight pack of yoghurt drinks. A burglar with a health fetish? Stranger and stranger. He also took the key to a vehicle parked near the garage... but not, apparently, the vehicle itself.

Same day, different place: **Drovers Way**, where the tack room of a private stable was burgled, gaining the thief a variety of equestrian equipment and some £60 pounds in cash. One hesitates to recommend a bank, these days ... perhaps under the mattress would have been safer.

In **Potters Crescent**, on Monday, 1 December, the garage attached to a two-bedroom house was hit, the thief getting away with various tools and items of computer equipment, while the thief who stole a Renault Scenic from the driveway of a house in **Fairview Road**, on Thursday, 4 December, also got away with a satellite navigation system and a computer games console.

In **Lynchford Road**, on Monday, 1 December, a leather bag was stolen from the passenger-side footwell of an Audi A4, and overnight on Sunday, 7 December, in **Wharf Road**, the owner of a Fiat Panda who left his satnav kit on the dashboard returned on Monday morning to find a window smashed and the satnav gone.

Damage to cars... where to start? Why not on the **Blackwater Valley Relief Road**, on Tuesday, 9 December, where someone - or some people - stood on a bridge just before the **Aldershot Road** exit and entertained themselves by throwing rocks and stones at the cars passing beneath.

More prosaically, cars were also damaged in **Manfield Road** on Saturday, 29 November; on Sunday, 30 November in **Chester Road**, where a gang of eight hooligans attacked a Ford Focus; in the same street on Tuesday, 2 December, a Ford Escort was broken in to in an attempt to steal it; and on Thursday 4th, a front window of a Hyundai coupe was smashed in **Lakeside Road**.

On Sunday 7th, a pack of between 10 to 15 'youths' were seen throwing things at passing vehicles in **Ash Street**, and it may have been the same gang who were throwing stones at cars in **Ash Church Road**, the same day... when an Alfa Romeo 147 in a public car park in **Ash Hill Road** was also damaged.

A bunch of three louts aged between 16 and 17 were responsible for damaging a house in **Grove Road** on Saturday, 29 November, while a gang of four teamed up to pull over some fence panels around a house in **Fairview Road** on Monday, 1 December.

As well, the front door of a flat in **May Crescent** was attacked on Saturday, 6 December; a length of garden hose was cut at the back of house in **Brook Close** on Tuesday, 9 December; and the next day, someone threw rocks through the bay windows of a house in **Cross Road**.

### Bellfields

Some kids have a warped idea of fun: a twisted fire starter put firelighters on top of a phone box in **Woking Road** on Tuesday, 9 December, and set them alight.

Earlier, overnight on Monday, 1 December, in **Hazel Avenue**, a Volkswagen Golf was stolen from a disabled person's bay in the childrens' centre car park. As well, power tools were taken from a padlocked steel tool box welded to the tray of an Iveco pick up truck in **Larch Avenue** on Friday, 14 November.

### Burpham

A house in **Briar Way** was burgled on Wednesday, 3 December, after one or more thieves climbed over the side gate and jemmied open the back dining room window. They got away with a small haul of audio/visual equipment.

### Chilworth

Normally sleepy Chilworth caught up on crime over the fortnight.

First, a Volkswagen Transporter van was stolen from the car park of the Percy Arms in **Dorking Road** on Friday, 5 December, and in **Halfpenny Close**, the same day, someone broke into a Vauxhall Astra in what sounds like an attempt to steal it.

The next day, a Nissan Sunny was pinched from **New Road**, and in the same street the day after that, an Ifor Williams horse box was stolen. And a cement mixer. In New York, they'd say "Go figure".

### Compton

Two cars, a Mitsubishi Pajero and a Land Rover Freelander, were damaged in **The Avenue** on Sunday, 7 December, when their windows were smashed.

### East Clandon

Overnight on Sunday, 7 December, sacks of feed and rugs were taken from stables belonging to a house in **Blakes Lane**.

### East Horsley

Three burglaries in East Horsley over the fortnight, beginning in **Ockham Road North** on Wednesday, 3 December, when burglars stole watches and jewellery from a detached house after breaking in through the back doors.

In **Lynx Hill**, on Wednesday, 3 December, thieves got in to a large, unoccupied detached house using tools taken from the garden shed. Taking their time, they made a careful search and found two laptop computers and digital camera to take away. Two days later, in **High Park Avenue**, another large unoccupied house was targeted: the thief or thieves (more likely) got away with a large flat screen TV.

### Effingham

Both number plates were pinched from a Ford Focus parked in **The Street**, on Saturday, 29 November.

### Fairlands

Overnight on Wednesday, 3 December, tack was stolen from a building in **Holly Lane**.

### Gomshall

Two pizzas and a large tub of Ben and Jerry's ice cream: that's what thieves took from a freezer in a garage in **Goose Green**, on Wednesday, 10 December. Judging by the dollop of ice cream found on the garage floor, they couldn't wait to tuck in!

Overnight the same day, in the same street: someone smashed the nearside front passenger window of a parked Vauxhall Zafira.

### Guildford

There was surprisingly little crime in the environs of Guildford Town over the past fortnight. However, a laptop computer, a mouse and several computer disks were stolen from the back of a Jaguar estate car parked outside PC World in **Woodbridge Road** on Thursday, 4 December.

As well, cars were damaged in **Foxenden Road** and **Tungate** on Sunday, 30 November, and in Walnut Tree Close on Saturday, 6 December, while houses or property were targeted in **Josephs Road** on Thursday, 4 December, and in **Dapdune Road** on Monday, 8 December.

### Holmbury St Mary

Someone broke into a Ford Transit mini bus that was parked outside **Felbury House** on Sunday, 30 November. After smashing a front window, he pulled the wires out from under the steering column, then opened the bonnet and stole the battery. There was also an attempt to break into one of the workshops on the ground floor of building.

### Merrow

In **Collingwood Crescent**, two newly-built, unoccupied houses were hit on Tuesday, 9 December. In one, the thieves (surely, a gang of them) took the brand new stainless steel oven and hob, the dishwasher and a collection of tools. Then climbing over the fence to the house next door, they took the boiler, packs of wooden flooring and more tools.

One of a block of flats in **Pit Farm Road** was burgled on Thursday, 11 December. The thief got in through the back

door into the kitchen, searched the flat and got away with an odd collection that included some bottles of spirits, a copper mortar and pestle... and a Tesco shopping bag.

In **Great Goodwin Drive**, Monday, 1 December, a wing mirror was ripped off a parked Ford Fiesta, and following night the same thing happened to a VW Beetle.

### Normandy

Three cars, a Renault Scenic, Vauxhall Corsa and a Citroen Berlingo were damaged in **Glaziers Lane** on Sunday, 7 December, while a white van of indeterminate make was hit in **Flexford Road**.

### Onslow

Cars were damaged in **The Oval** on Sunday, 30 November, and **Manor Road** on Sunday, 7 December.

### Park Barn

A SYM DD 50 scooter was pinched from the front of a house in **Southway** on Sunday, 30 November.

### Pirbright

Bags of wood shavings and horse food were stolen from two properties in **Aldershot Road** on Thursday, 4 December and Monday, 8 December.

### Puttenham

A window of a BMW 525 was smashed in **The Street** on Friday, 5 December, and on Tuesday, 9th, a car's audio equipment was nicked while it was parked outside a pub in **Puttenham Heath Road**.

### Ripley

A large detached house in **Heath Rise** was burgled on Tuesday, 2 December, when thieves jemmied open the conservatory window. The crime report does not mention what, if anything, was stolen.

The padlock failed to stop a thief breaking in to a shed on Monday, 8 December, although he found nothing to steal in the building behind a house in **Georgelands**.

A Nissan Navarra, parked in **Portsmouth Road** near Burnt Common Lane on Saturday, 6 December, had both sets of plates stolen.

### Seale

Determined thieves chipped away at a wall and stole 20 concreted down coping stones from outside a house in **Binton Lane** on Tuesday, 9 December, and on the 11th, in **Botany Hill**, burglars were interrupted when the owner returned home.

### Send

At some point during a four-day period around Monday, 1 December, thieves got into a house in **Heath Mews** and stole an MP3 player. As well, three cars were broken into: on Wednesday, 10 December, in **Danesfield**, a digital camera and golf clubs were taken from a VW Passat, and satellite navigation system was nicked from a Citroen Picasso. The same day, tools were taken from a Peugeot 206 parked in **Sandy Lane**.

### Shackleford

In what must have been a major undertaking, a large number of York stone slabs were lifted from the front of a house in **The Street** on Sunday, 30 November.

### Shalford

A detached three bedroom cottage in **Chinthurst Lane** was hit on Monday, 8 December, but the thief failed to get in. One for the good guys!

### Slyfield

On Friday, 5 December, burglars who broke in to a semi-detached house in **Woodlands Road** by jemmying open the back door got away with some jewellery and an MP3 player. The day before, there was a garage burglary in **Slyfield Green**: the thief cut through the padlock but, once inside, could find nothing worth stealing.

Someone pinched the spare tyre from the boot of a Mitsubishi l200 parked in **Woking Road** on Saturday, 6 December, and the next day in **Woodlands Close**, on a tennis ball filled with stones as thrown at a Volkswagen Polo, smashing the driver's window. As well, someone trashed plants and shrubbery in the back garden of a house in **Woodlands Road** on Tuesday, 2 December.

### Stoughton

A house in **Barrack Road** was burgled on Sunday, 30 November, and an electronic cash box holding several thousands of pounds was taken away.

Someone smashed one of the offside windows of a locked and alarmed Volkswagen Golf in **Cumberland Avenue** on Saturday, 29 November, and cars were also damaged in **Worplesdon Road** on Monday, 8 December (in what seems to have been a road-rage incident) and on Wednesday 10th.

### Tongham

A laptop computer was nicked from a two bedroom flat in **Kings Avenue**, on Monday, 8 December, and the next day a number of electrically-powered tools were pinched from a barn in **Poyle Road**.

In **Newton Way**, on Saturday, 6 December, several sheds, accessible from the alleyway at the back, were broken into. Two mountain bikes were taken from one of the sheds. The day before, several of the communal garages in **Lambourne Way** were left in a sad state, with damage to the locks and door frames, and many garage doors left half off.

## 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.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH