

Winchmore Hill Newsletter – April 2020

Dear Residents

The big change in how we interact with you due to Covid-19 is police contact points are cancelled for the time being. You can always reach us via social media, email & telephone.

To those of you abiding by the Covid-19 guidelines, we salute you!

Please welcome PC Luke Smith to our team. We now have a full complement of officers.

CRIME REPORT:

The following numbers reflect the number of reported crimes for January, February & March in that order.

Residential burglary: 10,4,4
Attempted burglary: 0,1,0
Distraction burglary: 0,1,0
Commercial burglary: 3,1,0
Theft from motor vehicles: 21,16,9
Theft of motor vehicles: 3,2,6
Vehicle interference: 1,5,4
Robbery of a person: 1,8,7
Theft of a person: 2,0,0

In relation to burglary, please make sure your windows and doors are

locked when you leave the house. Think about security around your home. Does your home have CCTV, security lights, an alarm and timer switches? Mail visible in the porch is a sure sign of nobody being home. Use a mailbox either inside the slot or outside so mail is hidden.

Remember to periodically check that your lights aren't turning on too early as the days increase in length. Never forget that, to a burglar, a dark house is an empty house.

LIFT - LOCK – REMOVE

Please remember to double lock your front doors whether you have a UPVC door or have a Yale and mortice. If you also have a UPVC porch door then double lock that too. If you have security devices installed, please use them.



PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE INSTRUCTIONS ABOVE FOR DOUBLE LOCKING A UPVC (THREE OR FIVE POINT LOCKING SYSTEM) DOOR.

If a UPVC door is not locked with a key the door handle goes down when tried from the outside. A door left like this (i.e. just pulled shut) is very weakly secured with ONLY THE ONE LATCH keeping it shut. This is



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the point on the doorframe where the suspects target with their screwdrivers or crowbars and can pop your door open sometimes with very little effort. How do they know which doors to try? Simple: they try the handle. If it goes down, they know the door is not locked properly with the key and therefore will be easy to open.

We offer all residents a crime prevention visit carried out at their home. Simply contact us via the details on this newsletter to arrange an appointment.

In relation to motor vehicle crime please **PHYSICALLY CHECK YOUR CAR DOORS ARE LOCKED** before you walk away. I am still being made aware of cars being left open and items from within being taken by opportunist thieves. Also, number plates are being taken from vehicles. If you would like tamper proof screws please call your local Safer Neighbourhood Team on 0208 721 2681.

Carpark Scam

Someone has been approaching shoppers as they leave in their cars. They say 'Did you know you now have to pay to park here? You'll get a fine. Follow me in my car.' The shopper then follows the fraudster to another location (often the Palmers Green BR car park) to 'pay' in another machine.

Catalytic converters

Many catalytic converters continue to get stolen. Honda Jazz, Lexus, and Toyota Prius are most commonly targeted. If you have one of these please speak to your vehicle manufacturer for advice on protective devices that can be fitted around the catalytic converter. Also consider a car alarm that activates when the car is lifted or tilted.
<https://www.garageservicesnorthlondon.co.uk/catalytic-converter-thefts-prevention-tips/>

ATM crime

Barclays cash point on Station Road continues to be a favourite spot for criminals. It's best to avoid this particular ATM. It's always safer to enter a bank or store and use the machine inside. Don't withdraw large amounts of cash as thieves follow the elderly to steal the money from their handbags in the next shop they enter.

Elderly victims who have parked near ATMs have been approached by criminals who convince them they're about to get a parking ticket and to avoid it all they need to do is put their card into the ATM and you can guess the rest! Please warn your loved ones because this scam continues to occur.

Upcoming meeting points: ALL CURRENTLY CANCELLED

Park Run

Your local Winchmore Hill Police team partake in our local Grovelands Parkrun event every 5th Saturday. Come and 'run with a copper' or come talk to us. CANCELLED FOR NOW.

Farmers' Market

Your local Winchmore Hill Police Team will be at the Farmers' Market on CANCELLED FOR NOW. So come talk to us there if you can't make any of the other contact points or running isn't your thing.

Use this link to see where we will be in the future if you want to come see us in person:

<https://www.met.police.uk/a/your-area/met/enfield/winchmore-hill/?tab=Overview&introducingyoursaferneighbourhoodsteam=meetingandevents>

We will now occasionally be at Baskervilles Tea Shop on Aldermans Hill. Keep an eye out using the link above and Twitter and Nextdoor.

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For more detail regarding crime committed in Winchmore Hill Ward, follow us on Twitter @mpswinchmoreh for the updates or visit www.police.uk

Faraday Pouches & Boxes

For those of you who have keyless ignition cars (stop/start button), it is ESSENTIAL for you to purchase 2 Faraday pouches to keep your fobs inside. One is for your everyday car fob and the second is for the spare fob. These will stop thieves from stealing your vehicle using a method known as relay-attack. A metal tin box does NOT work and neither does wrapping the fobs in aluminium foil. Be sure to periodically test your pouches to make sure they function and the Velcro is still good. There are Faraday boxes too which many find more convenient.

Owners of new Mercedes: double clicking when you lock using the fob powers down the fob negating the need for using a Faraday pouch. Just remember to power off the spare fob too. Again, test the method first.

Team Members

Based at Southgate Police Station, your Dedicated Ward Officers (DWOs) for Winchmore Hill Ward are:

Sergeant Matt BLOOMFIELD
PC Andrew LAZARI
PC Luke SMITH
PCSO Antony RIVAS

We can be contacted on the dog & bone: 0208 721 2681

Or email us:

WinchmoreHill.SNT@met.police.uk



Twitter

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter for daily updates, crime prevention advice, local events and meetings.

@mpswinchmoreh

@metcc

@mpsenfield

DO NOT report crime on Twitter. In emergencies always call 999. The police Twitter account is currently staffed from 8am-10pm. Issues that you'd normally report by ringing the police non-emergency number 101 CAN be reported using Twitter. Make sure **@metcc** is included in the tweet. Follow **@metcc** too.