



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Working together for a safer London

Please join to get updates on the ward and any events that are coming up!

TWITTER = Search Harold Wood Police (@MPSHaroldWood)

Please do not report any crime via social media!!!!

Come and meet us

A chance to gain advice, have your say about local policing issues, and help make a difference to your neighbourhood.

What:	Surgery/Contact Point
When:	20/12/19 @ 1100-1200hrs
Where:	Harold Wood Library, Arundel Road, Harold Wood
What:	Surgery/Contact Point
When:	04/01/20 @ 1300-1400hrs
Where:	The Co-op on Station Rd, Harold Wood
What:	Surgery/Contact Point
When:	12/01/20 @ 1700-1800hrs
Where:	The Co-op on Station Rd, Harold Wood
What:	Surgery/Contact Point
When:	16/01/20 @ 1800-1900hrs
Where:	The Co-op on Station Rd, Harold Wood
What:	Surgery/Contact Point
When:	23/01/20 @ 1300-1400hrs
Where:	The Co-op on Station Rd, Harold Wood
What:	Surgery/Contact Point
When:	29/01/20 @ 1200-1300hrs
Where:	The Co-op on Station Rd, Harold Wood

London Borough Havering

Harold Wood SNT

0208 721 2509

Haroldwood.snt@met.police.uk

Twitter: @MPSHavering



News from your local police

DECEMBER 2019

Your dedicated police team are - We are your local Safer Neighbourhoods police team and are tackling the issues that matter to you by working with partner agencies to find lasting solutions. Please contact us with any concerns you have, or visit the above website for more information. Please also contact us if you are interested in Neighbourhood Watch in your street.

Harold Wood team members

PC Lizal Scott (DWO)

PC Cameron Dunn (DWO)

PCSO Natalie Parrott (DWO)

Cocooning - After a burglary has taken place your local policing team complete 'Cocooning'. We will visit the victim and then complete door to door enquiries, ask the residents if they had seen or heard anything during the time frame of the burglary. We also provide crime prevention advice and check the vicinity for private CCTV and gather any further information to assist us.



Christmas Security Tips



The Harold Wood Neighbourhood team would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year as this will be the last newsletter until the New Year.

Please have a read of our security tips and stay safe over the Christmas period. But most importantly, enjoy yourselves!!



Christmas holidays are a special time when families and friends come together to celebrate the season. It is also the time of year where families and friends are most generous and practice the tradition of gift giving. It should be a joyous and happy time for all of us.

Unfortunately for us, burglars view the holiday season a little differently. For them, it is a time of opportunity to commit residential burglaries stealing cash, credit cards, and all the new gifts of small electronics, computers, jewellery, and easily sold valuables.

Here are a few tips of what they look for when searching for a house to target. Hopefully, these tips will help you enjoy the holidays without incident.

Burglars look for an easy entry with good escape routes. Don't openly display your Christmas tree and gifts in the front window so it's easily visible from the street. It's too tempting for a burglar to smash the window or break in and grab the wrapped packages.



Burglars look for occupancy clues like outdoor lights burning 24 hours a day, piled up newspapers, or general post left hanging from the letterbox. Ask a neighbour to keep the front of your home clean of papers and debris. And use an inexpensive timer switch when you are away so you can leave some lights on if it will be dark before you get home. Preferably not a hallway or landing light, people don't live in these areas! To use the timer switch you simply attach it to a lamp, and once the timer is set, it can come on and off automatically for you. This helps as it is making burglars feel vulnerable by increasing the risk of them being seen. Some people also attach it to a radio to give the impression that somebody is at home



Fit a light sensor at the front, back or both sides of your property as an extra deterrent.

Burglars know to look for the hidden door key near the front entrance. Don't hide spare keys under rocks, in flowerpots, or above door ledges. Instead give the spare key to a trusted neighbour.

Burglars prefer to enter through unlocked doors or windows. Sliding windows that are not secure can be seen from a distance. One holiday problem can occur when exterior Christmas light extension cords are run inside through a window and prevent it from being secured. If you intend on having electronic decorations to the exterior of your property hire an electrician or handyman to install an inexpensive exterior outlet for your holiday light.

Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes. If you have multi-locking door handles, make sure you always lift the handle, lock it with the key, and remove it. Always follow; **LIFT - LOCK - REMOVE**. Remember to put the key in a safe place out of sight, and somewhere you will remember in case of a fire.

After Christmas day, don't pile up empty gift boxes from your new computer, games console, or other such expensive electrical devices on the street whilst waiting for them to be collected. Burglars appreciate knowing that you have expensive gifts inside for them to steal. Break them down or cut them up placing them inside a rubbish bag to conceal the items better.

Consider installing a visible intruder alarm system (burglar alarm) as this is one of the biggest deterrents. Burglars don't want to be seen or heard so setting off an alarm and attracting attention is their enemy.



Do not leave your car keys, door keys, valuables, or ID documents within easy reach of the doors, letterboxes or windows. Always keep these items out of sight, or if wanted near a door, find a safe place to keep them so that they are not in view. Always check who's at the door and don't open it if you feel anxious. If you have a door chain use one.

We have had an increase in motor vehicle crime recently. We urge you to do what you can to secure your vehicle. Faraday bags are excellent for keyless cars, and steering wheel locks are great for any vehicle for that extra bit of crime prevention. Although Faraday bags are great, also remember that they are not a one off purchase. With the friction of the keys going in and out of the case the lining does wear down and the signal can then leak. So keep an eye on the lining and replace the case if the lining appears damaged.



Photograph and mark/etch sentimental items/valuables with your postcode, house or flat number with a security UV marker pen, and also register any items with a serial number at;

<http://www.immobilise.com>



Always keep sheds and outbuildings locked and secure. As well as protecting your property this is important because garden tools and ladders can be used to break into your home. Also, high side and rear boundaries will prevent easy access to your property, and keeping the front boundary low will remove potential hiding places for burglars. Keep side gates locked, and store wheelie bins behind them until bin collection day; this stops their use as climbing aids.

Do not forget to cancel milk or other deliveries if you will be away for days or weeks at a time.

Invest in a safe for important documents, valuables and sentimental items and securely fix it to a solid floor and/or wall.





Working together for a safer London

FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE INFORMATION ON THIS NEWSLETTER PLEASE CALL US ON 0208 721 2509.

In an emergency always call 999 or if it's a non-emergency please call 101



Good News Stories

We have had four burglars arrested and convicted recently which has decreased the burglaries a lot, particularly non dwelling burglaries. Along with this, we have had two prolific shop lifters arrested. Also, several operations taking place throughout Harold Hill and Harold Wood which resulted in several arrests, stop and searches, warrants executed, closure notices issued, stolen vehicles found, knives recovered, and extra presence on the street.

This time of year we tend to have a rise in residential burglaries due to the festive season. The nights get darker a lot sooner and presents are sometimes left visible under the tree through the windows, so this looks very attractive to the burglar(s) as they can see what you have. Please bear this in mind and also tell friends and family to do their best to secure their properties. Read the crime prevention tips previously mentioned to get an idea on how to do this.

Please do not report any crime via social media!!!!

To report a crime you can do so via the Metropolitan Website on www.met.police.uk or in a non-emergency you can call 101 or in an emergency you can call 999. If you would like to report a crime anonymously you can do via the Crime stoppers website which is www.crimestoppers-uk.org or 0800 555 111.

If you would like further advice on a matter in your neighbourhood please ring the Harold Wood Safer Neighbourhood Team on 0208 721 2509 or contact us at haroldwood.snt@met.police.uk

In the event of an emergency always dial 999

