

Coulsdon East Safer Neighbourhood Team

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Please note this number is not monitored 24/7. In an **emergency** please call **999** or if the matter is **non-urgent** but requires a police response please dial **101**. The best method to contact the team is via e-mail.

Local Policing Priorities

The priorities for Croydon are all mandatory high-harm crimes: sexual violence, domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, weapon-based crime and hate crime, along with antisocial behaviour, burglary and non domestic violence with injury.

The MOPAC document can be found at

https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/pcp_local_borough_priorities_2017-18.pdf

General Crime Overview

This newsletter looks back at incidents, events and news for March

Crime statistics for the whole of the Met Police area can be found via this link:

<https://maps.met.police.uk/stats-and-data/crime-data-dashboard/>

The data for March will not be available immediately. You can find statistics for the ward by clicking on the map around Croydon and then selecting the SNT option from the bubble help.

There were fifty two reported crimes for the ward during March. Of that total count we had three theft of a motor vehicle, six thefts from motor vehicles and there have been five residential burglaries.

Police Surgeries are going to be held at **the Poppy Cafe, Coulsdon Memorial Ground, Marl Pitt Lane every Wednesday between 12pm and 1pm**. These are an opportunity for you to consult with a police officer regarding local policing issues.

Please contact us via e-mail if you would like to receive communications or a visit from the team.

We hope that schools, colleges or residents associations will ask us to attend any events or talk on one of several topics.

Team News

We attended Byron Children's centre in Coulsdon as part of their "People that help us session". Children under 5 years old as well as those young at heart enjoyed climbing aboard a police carrier.

We worked with BTP to arrest two males for a series of robberies that occurred in Coulsdon. One of the males was also arrested for supply of cannabis and the other male had several knives found at his address.

Special constables tasked to work in Coulsdon during weekend night's arrested a male for possession of a firearm found in his vehicle in a carpark near the Fox Public House.

Along with Coulsdon West we arrested a male who was driving around in a white van and stealing items from residents driveways.

We attended the Easter Eggstravaganza in Grange Park. It was great fun and really nice to see lots of families enjoying themselves,

Top tips to combat vehicle crime

One of the most common crimes so far this year has been theft from vehicles; therefore please consider the following advice when parking up.

- Close your windows and sunroof, lock all doors and activate any security devices when leaving the vehicle even for a few minutes. Check your doors manually as automatic locking devices can sometimes be affected by electronic interference.
- Take all valuables including sunglasses with you if you can. If you are unable to take them from the vehicle lock them in the boot or place them out of view.
- Remove parking permits, radio face plates and portable satellite navigation systems including their cradle ensuring to wipe the window where the satellite navigation holder may have left a visible mark.
- Fit a locking petrol cap if your vehicle doesn't already have one. Fit anti tamper screws on your number plates and locking wheel nuts if not standard to your vehicle.
- Consider getting a steering lock or gearstick lock and pedal box to improve security of your unattended vehicle.
- Park with care, particularly at night or if you are leaving the vehicle for some time. If possible park in a busy, well lit area. Managed car park facilities may be a better choice a list of police approved safer car parks can be found at the British Parking Association website.



- Try to avoid leaving car keys close to your front door or in a visible location. A thief can reach in using a hand or device and steal the keys to your vehicle. Fitting a plate to the rear of the letterbox opening can prevent this.

Burglary prevention tips

Whenever you go out, it's important to leave your home secure. Getting into an 'exit routine' can help ensure that you don't forget obvious, but important things, like not leaving your valuables near windows, or no lights on if it will be dark before you get home. Here's our quick reminder on what to do just before you go out.

Become a creature of habit

Try to get into the habit of following your own course of action when you lock up your home. This will ensure that you don't forget anything.

Here's what we recommend you do before you go out:

- Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you're only going out for a few minutes
- Double-lock any door
- Make sure that any valuables are out of sight
- Keep handbags away from the letterbox or cat flap and hide all keys including car keys, as a thief could hook keys or valuables through even a small opening
- Never leave car documents or ID in obvious places such as kitchens or hallways
- In the evening, shut the curtains and leave lights on
- If you're out all day, then it's advisable to use a timer device to automatically turn lights and a radio on at night
- Set your burglar alarm
- Make sure the side gate is locked
- Lock your shed or garage
- Lock your bike inside a secure shed or garage, to a robust fitting bolted to the ground or wall, like a ground anchor

Going away?

Here are five tips to help you keep your home and belongings stay safe while you're away.

1. If you're off on holiday and wish to post anything on social media, make sure your posts aren't public and that they're only seen by your friends
2. Leave lights and a radio on a timer to make the property appear occupied
3. Get a trusted neighbour to keep an eye on your property or join a Neighbourhood or resident Watch Scheme
4. Consider asking your neighbours to close curtains after dark and to park on your drive
5. Remember to cancel newspaper and milk deliveries

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