

# The Borough Bulletin

News from the Guildford Neighbourhood Watch

Fortnight  
preceeding  
8 March, 2010

## High performance means putting the public first

Surrey Police is committed to focusing on the issues that matter most to local people, rather than on chasing national targets.

This approach, called Surrey Public First, has led to rising levels of public confidence, while concentrating on specific areas saw major reductions in 2008 - 09 of 30 per cent year-on-year for most violence, and ten per cent year-on-year for acquisitive crime.

After an early increase, further reductions are likely for 2009 -10.

The Force has also been focusing on disrupting criminal activity at a much earlier stage. For example, Operation Shield aims to stop criminals from further afield travelling into the county to commit crimes.

In addition, Surrey Police has empowered and encouraged officers to use their discretion and to seek community resolutions -- measures that are not taken into account in official detection rate figures.

However, despite putting people before performance targets, Surrey Police has been recognised as one of the best forces in



the country in the latest assessment by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary .

Surrey is one of only four forces to receive a 'good' grading in the categories of Local Crime and Policing, Protection from Serious Harm, and Confidence and Satisfaction.

The report also acknowledges the Force's joint approach with local councils, which is effectively tackling the root causes of crime and disorder such as anti-social behaviour by youths, and dangerous driving.



SAFER GUILDFORD  
a partnership approach

## Watching the detectives

*This report covers the period from 8 to 21 February. However, because of the way crimes are recorded, this report should not be taken as an accurate statement of the number crimes committed over the fortnight.*

House burglaries dropped to below 10 during this fortnight - the lowest level since April 2009. The fall can be largely attributed to targeted patrolling around the main burglary hotspots.

On the other hand, other types of burglary - of sheds or garages - increased significantly. However, many of these at business premises, the University, or clubs such as the Bushy Hill Community Club, which had been hit previously.

Car crime also decreased to fewer than 20 offences: both 'theft from' and 'theft of' offences went down. Among the types of crime recorded over the fortnight, there were three thefts of licence plates and in another three, satellite navigation units were taken.



Looking at criminal damage, Ash and Ash Vale were the hotspots, while there was less than a handful of such incidents in Stoughton. Most of the offences in Ash and Ash Vale involved graffiti, or paintballs thrown at front doors.

### Police put public first Watching the detectives Roundup

- Ash
- Christchurch
- Clandon and Horsley
- Friary and St Nicholas
- Holy Trinity
- Lovelace
- Merrow and Burpham
- Onslow
- Send
- Stoke
- Stoughton
- The Pilgrims
- Tillingbourne
- Tongham
- Westborough
- Worplesdon

# Crime round-up

Featuring a selection of crimes reported over the fortnight preceding 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 the 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.

## Ash

### Ash Green

All side panels, plus the bonnet and the boot, of a Peugeot 206 were keyed in **Foreman Park** on Tuesday, 23 February.

### Ash South

A man left his wallet in the glove box of his unlocked Suzuki Liana, parked in **Lime Crescent** on Friday, 26 February. When he came back to the car, the wallet was gone.

### Ash Wharf

Some burglars are silent and efficient, while others go for the smash and grab approach. The thief who tossed a concrete block through a back window in a bungalow in **Enfield Road**, on Thursday, 4 March, was one of the latter. But while making a messy search of the house he triggered the alarm system. Still, he managed to get away with some cheques and cash in the form of notes and coins.

Earlier, on Sunday, 28 February, a conservatory window in **Shawfield Road** was smashed when someone threw stones over the fence.

## Christchurch

Two saplings on the verge in **Abbotswood** were cut at their bases on Wednesday, 24 February, and on Friday, 26 February, in **Stoke Road**, two front wall pillars were knocked over.

## Clandon and Horsley

### East Horsley

An unlocked patio door let a thief in to a house in **Green Dene** on Thursday, 25 February, but luckily for the owner(s), he seems to have found nothing to steal.

Elsewhere around the parish, cars were damaged in **Guildford Road** on Wednesday, 24 February; in **Forest Road** the next evening; and in **Nightingale Crescent** on Wednesday, 3 March.

### West Clandon

The rear passenger-side tyre of a Ford Mondeo was slashed in **Meadowlands** on Friday, 26 February; and in **York Road**, the side door lock of a Mercedes Sprinter van was damaged on Monday, 22 February, in what was an attempt to break in to the van.

## Friary and St Nicholas

In the greenhouse at the back of an unoccupied mid-terrace house in **Leas Road**, there was a bag of shingle. On Monday, 1 March, someone stole it.

Fishing equipment was stolen from a locked garage in **Guildford Park Road** on Wednesday, 3 March after the thief sawed off the garage door handle.

In the car park outside B&Q in **Almond Close**, on Monday, 1 March, a thief stole a Yamaha motorbike. The same day, in the same car park, a thief wanting spare parts removed the front offside wing panel (including the light fittings) from a Citroen Saxo. He also tried, but failed to remove the nearside panel.

A thief levered open a quarter light to break into a locked Ford Fiesta in the park-and-ride car park in **Guildford Park Road**, on Friday, 26 February. He found a satellite navigation system in the glove box, and removed the dashboard fascia to strip out the stereo system.

On Monday, 22 February, someone smashed the back window of a Renault Clio in **Hamilton Gordon Court**; and on Sunday, 28 February, in **York Road**, a Renault Clio was broken into and comprehensively damaged in an attempt to steal something (there wasn't anything).

## Holy Trinity

Without leaving a sign of how they did it, on Thursday, 25 February thieves got in to a five-bedroom detached house in **York Road** through the locked front door. Inside, they made a careful search, and then took away a very large plasma screen TV and five jewellery boxes.

Both the front and rear licence plates were pinched from a Renault Clio in **Clandon Road** on Wednesday, 3 March; and in the same street the week before, on Wednesday, 24 February, two wall-mounted security lights were ripped off the side of a first floor flat.

## Lovelace Ripley

Someone deliberately rammed the barrier to the Ripley village hall car park in the **High Street** on Friday, 26 February.

## Merrow and Burpham

In **Abinger Way**, on Monday, 22 February, someone nicked the front and rear registration plates from a parked car.

### Bushy Hill

Someone tried to rip the driver's side wing mirror off a Nissan Micra parked in **Sheeplands Avenue** on Wednesday, 24 February; and on Saturday, 27 February in the same street, a wing mirror was smashed off an unspecified car.

### Merrow

Someone put two dents in the bonnet of a parked BMW 1 series in **Hareward Road** on Friday, 26 February.

### Onslow

Ah well, it could happen to any of us: a woman withdrew £50 from the ATM outside Tesco in **Ashenden Road** on Thursday, 4 March, then absent-mindedly walked away. She returned quickly when she realised her mistake, but of course the cash had gone.

A crook broke in to a Vauxhall Combo can parked in **Bray Road** on Wednesday, 24 February, and stole a backpack and some cash; and in **Ash Grove**, on Wednesday, 3 March, someone snapped off the rear windscreen wiper off a Ford Ka, and pushed the car a few feet down the road.

### Pilgrims

#### Seale

A car was damaged in **Binton Lane** on Wednesday, 3 March when someone tried to break in to it.

### Send

#### Send

Believe it or not, someone tried to dig out and steal a Royal Mail post box that was mounted upon a metal pole in **Vicarage Lane** on Monday, 1 March.

### Send Marsh

There were two shed/garage burglaries in **Linden Way** recently. On Sunday, 28 February, someone -- for a reason only he knows -- moved a wheelie bin into centre of the house's garden before exploring an unlocked wooden shed. Nothing was stolen, though.

Then on Monday, 1 March, thieves walked through an unlocked garden gate, and then broke into a detached garage at the bottom of the garden. Inside, they found an off-road motorbike chained and locked to the leg of a steel table that was bolted to the floor. So they unbolted the leg, removed the chain, and made off with the off-roader...and a pushbike as well.

### Stoke

#### Bellfields

There was an aggressive attempt at a deception burglary in **Fir Tree Road** on Wednesday, 3 March. A man knocked on the front door of a house occupied by an elderly lady, and when she answered he pushed past her into the house. Producing a black badge with a silver star on it, he claimed to be a police officer and demanded to know if she had any money.

He threatened to arrest her and take her to "the cells" if she lied to him, and dragged her from room to room seeking her cash. In the living room, he searched cup-

boards and drawers, and when the lady tried to phone the police (she wasn't fooled) he disconnected the phone. Eventually, though, he gave up and left.

*This one really needs to be caught. He was a white man in his early to mid-thirties, about 5ft 6in tall with a slim build and short blonde hair. He wore a navy blue boiler suit.*

A thief cut two large, heavy-duty padlocks from a garage door in **Yew Tree Drive** on Tuesday, 23 February... and took them away with him. That was all he took.

Someone walked across the bonnet of a Mercedes coupe in **Bellfields Road** on Friday, 26 February, putting several large dents in the metal work.

### Stoughton

After forcing the padlock securing a garden shed in **Grange Road** on Wednesday, 24 February, a thief took the most expensive of the several mountain bikes he found inside.

Another bike was stolen from a shed - this one unlocked - in **Belmont Avenue** on Sunday, 28 February.

Metal makes money: a thief climbed on to the roof of a Mercedes Vito that was parked in **Mansel Close** on Sunday, 28 February, and unscrewed two plastic tubes containing about 30m of copper pipe, which he took away.

Both wing mirrors were ripped off a Renault Grande Espace parked in **Worplesdon Road** on Monday, 1 March; in **Knox Road**, someone slashed the front passenger-side tyre of a Renault Clio on Tuesday, 2 March; also in **Worplesdon Road**, two young vandals destroyed a fence on Tuesday, 23 February.

*One of these was wearing a dark top, possibly a hooded sweat-shirt with the top down, and dark trousers. The other was about 16 to 23 years old with a slim build and short blonde hair. He was wearing a white t-shirt and dark trousers. Both were white lads.*

### Tillingbourne

#### Albury

Two thieves managed to break in to a Mercedes Vito van parked in **Forrest Place** on Tuesday, 23 February. But they were 'disturbed' as they tried to get away with some power tools... so they dropped them, got back into the van and drove it away.

*One of these villains was described as "looking like a workman" with his yellow sleeveless fluorescent jacket and dark trousers. He was 30-35 years old with a stocky build, about 6ft tall, and had very black shoulder length hair. The other was 30-40 years old with a slight build, and was wearing a blue/black bobble hat and, possibly, a lumberjack-style shirt. Both were white men.*

### Peaslake

In **Pursers Lane**, a thief smashed a ground floor room window overnight on Friday, 26 February, and climbed inside. Sometime later, he climbed out carrying a digital camera and a jewellery box.

### Shere

After smashing a small glass pane, it was easy for the thief to reach in and unlock the door of a house -- in **Hook Lane** -- using the key that had been left in the lock! So it was, on Monday, 22 February, that he got away with a man's wallet.

### Tongham

A sign of our times? Someone stole a grey wheelie bin from the front of a house in **Tongham Meadows** on Sunday, 28 February. A few days later, on Tuesday, 2 March, three window frames, six glass panels and a shower panel were nicked from outside a house in **The Street**.

There was another bizarre theft in **Poyle Road**, on Monday, 22 February: an eight-foot stainless steel flue attached to a wood burning stove was unbolted and taken away.

### Westborough

#### Park Barn

Overnight on Sunday, 28 February, thief broke in to a two-bedroom semi-detached house in **Hillspur Close** through an insecure back door. IN the kitchen, he found a

lady's handbag with nothing much in it, but in the lounge he lifted a laptop computer, two mobile phones and a lady's purse with her bank cards inside.

A collection of tools were pinched from a garage in **Hartshill** on Monday, 1 March. The crook also tried to take a motorbike.

Earlier, on Monday, 22 February, a Ford Transit van was nicked from outside a house in **Roundhill Way**. The keys had been left in the ignition, and the owner's mobile phone and wallet -with £40 in it - had been left in the van.

As well, the lounge window of a house in **Vernon Way** was smashed on Wednesday, 3 March.

### Worplesdon

#### Jacob's Well

Overnight on Wednesday, 24 February, a Land Rover Freelander was taken from the drive of a house in **Clay Lane**: it was later found burnt out in dense woodland a few miles from where was stolen.

## Getting in touch

### Contacting the police

The police should be your first point of contact 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 CrimeStoppers

You can also report confidential information (and perhaps claim a reward) by calling CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH