



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION for 17th January 2008

### EMAIL NEWS

Two Nigerian 419 scam emails circulating this week with identical wording with one supposedly from 'Ayo Adio' and the other from 'Benson Aboma' who both head the Ibtc Chartered Banks Treasury and Financial Services Dept and wish to share a large amount of money with you! If you reply you will no doubt be asked to send some kind of transfer fee before you receive any cash. No cash will ever be coming your way unfortunately.

### BOGUS CALLERS

Bogus caller in the WADDON area this week where a white male approx 25 years old 6'02" tall wearing a black top and black jeans called on an elderly occupier stating that he was from the water board and needed to turn off the water supply. The victim let him into the premises and he went to the kitchen area then a short time later he left. The victim then discovered that all her rooms had been searched by the suspect.

### INFORMATION FROM THE FAIRFIELD SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

The team wish to make residents in the Turnpike Link area aware that there has recently been a spate of garage break-ins possibly by groups of youths. There is also a slim built black male wearing a waterproof jacket with red stripes on it knocking on doors asking whether their phones are working, he then walks away, no crimes have been reported but it may be suspicious. Any information can be given to the team on [croydonfairfields.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:croydonfairfields.snt@met.police.uk) or by phone on 020 8649 0213. If you see a crime in progress dial 999.

### MPS TANGLE OVER HAVE-A-GO HEROES Report from UK Neighbourhood Watch Trust

New rights to protect householders who use 'reasonable' force against burglars have moved a step closer to becoming law.

Lord Chancellor Jack Straw tabled the changes in a lively House of Commons debate at the Second Reading stage of an amendment to the Criminal Justice and Immigration Bill.

Tory MPs felt the changes in the law did not go far enough in ensuring householders who 'have-a-go' to protect themselves were not the ones to end up facing charges.

Jack Straw, who was famously involved in apprehending suspects on four separate occasions, said that in the heat of the moment there wasn't time to make 'fine judgments about the balance of the law'. "One does these things instinctively," he said. "Where people act reasonably, in good faith, the law should clearly be on their side."

Conservatives argued that the best way forward was to amend the law so that only when inappropriate force had been used against an intruder should the householder face prosecution. Tory MP Nick Howard said: "Parliament must send a clear and unambiguous signal on these matters, and that is why we have suggested that the wording of the law should be changed so that a degree of force would be permitted, provided it was not 'grossly disproportionate'." Again for the Conservatives, MP Anne McIntosh, who wrote exclusively for neighbourhoodwatch.net last month on the rights of victims of crime, said the changes proposed by Jack Straw did not give enough guidance to home owners. "They simply do not go far enough," she said.

For the Liberals, David Heath MP said, when faced by an intruder, a householder would still be in a quandary trying to work out whether or not he was using disproportionate force.

"It's the middle of the night, I have a golf club in my hand, do I give him a thwack or not? That is the real problem," said Mr Heath.

Responding to comments made during the debate, Mr Straw said there was an 'honest argument' about which of the two clauses was more effective. He promised further review before the final reading of the Bill.