



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION for 24th April 2008

### EMAIL NEWS

Hoax email headed 'Virus warning POSTCARD' this first circulated in 2007 and has now been re-circulated. It warns of a virus called Postcard which burns your hard disc and asks you to forward it to everyone, please delete immediately it is not true!

A N/W member has received an email headed 'Your email was selected' from the Online Lottery Award 2008. It claims that you have won £500,000 and you should contact Mr. Stephen Mario of the claims dept and give your personal details to claim your money. The usual scam to obtain your ID details.

Another N/W member has received an email headed 'Please pass this on to everyone you know with a mobile phone – not a joke'. This email claims that there is a fraud company calling to check your mobile line and asking you to press 90 or 09 and then they can make calls at your expense. This is an old hoax from America in 1989 with this version dating from 2004 and can only work on old style American company PBX systems so please do not forward this.

Banks continue to be targeted with emails from HSBC claiming a software update requires you to click on a link, also RBS claiming that a response to your recent inquiry can be accessed through a secure online session if you click on the link; both of these have now been closed down by the banks. A second RBS email claiming that the bank is shutting down some accounts due to complaints of unauthorized use. There is a link which takes you to an official looking page asking for your log in details, the site belongs to a 'Clinicmister.info' in Germany. Another email from Nat West confirming your recent change to your personal details and if you did not do this you should click on the link and log on to your secure profile, the link leads to a website owned by the Tasking Company in the Virgin Islands with a server in the USA.

### BOGUS CALLERS

In THORNTON HEATH two white males called on an elderly lone female stating that they were from the water board and needed to check her flat for flooding. While looking around the flat they stole property. First male described as approx 30 years old 5'08" tall wearing blue trousers and possibly jeans and a green hooded top. Second male was of similar age and had short brown hair.

Good News, one distraction burglar arrested following a bogus caller theft earlier in the day at a house in Coulsdon. He is a prolific offender and usually asks for a glass of water with sugar in it. A N/W member has reported a male door-stepping in South Croydon warning residents that a team of inspectors will be doing a property survey in the area. He sounded official and asked for a phone number to make an appointment for the inspector to call. He then left a leaflet about a free exterior wall assessment. The leaflet has the name of 'Apex Direct Promotions Ltd', which is a registered company. This sounds like high pressure salesmen attempting to make sales.

### CRIME HOTSPOTS

A sudden rise in theft from motor vehicles in the Town centre area with afternoon or night time thefts from vehicles, by smashing windows, in the town centre car parks, as always do not leave sat navs, laptops and mobile phones etc on view

The hand bag thief is still operating in the PURLEY & CROHAM areas where walk-ins through unlocked rear doors of large detached houses continue with the bags being discarded nearby minus cash and bank cards, nothing else is being stolen. Similar offences are occurring in the nearby Surrey Police area with Sundays being the favoured day. One offence this week, on Wednesday, in Coulsdon near to Farthing Downs where two handbags were taken from a house with an unlocked rear door.

An increase in burglaries in the BENSAM MANOR/THORNTON HEATH areas mostly from flats through doors left unlocked and also by kicking in front doors. No suspect has been seen yet but peak time is on Sundays.

### SOUTH NORWOOD & SELHURST NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP

Croydon Council are pleased to provide details of the next Neighbourhood Partnership meeting.

Please click on the link below to go to our website where you will find the next meeting's Agenda. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday 7 May 2008 at 7.30 p.m** at **South Norwood Baptist Church, 2 Oliver Avenue, South Norwood**. If the Agenda changes, a revised version will be

issued at the meeting.

[http://online.croydon.net/neighbourhood%5Fpartnerships/south\\_norwood\\_and\\_selhurst/2008\\_05\\_07/default.asp](http://online.croydon.net/neighbourhood%5Fpartnerships/south_norwood_and_selhurst/2008_05_07/default.asp)

Please note that Streetscene officers will be available from 7pm to cover local environmental concerns. A Councillor from each electoral ward in your NP area will be present from 7pm, before the start of the meeting, **whenever possible**.

More information about Neighbourhood Partnerships can be found on our website [www.croydononline.org/partnerships/](http://www.croydononline.org/partnerships/).

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE BOROUGH COMMANDER.**

Borough Commander Ch Supt Mark Gore said "The release of the Metropolitan Police Annual crime stats show that Croydon is getting safer. Over the last year there have been 923 less victims of crime. Violent Crime has for the 3rd year in succession fallen. There are now 2092 less victims of violence than there were three years ago. These encouraging figures are testament to the hard work and dedication shown by everyone on this Borough. Burglary continues to be a priority crime and although we have seen an increase in the number of offences compared to last year, we are solving more crimes with 201 more crimes detected; this can be seen in the success of Operation Safer Homes launched last November. Since the beginning of the operation over 120 arrests have been made. Our challenges ahead for the forthcoming year are youth violence, anti social behaviour and burglary which will remain our priorities. We will continue to work in partnership with the local authority to reduce crime in Croydon."

#### **DISPERSAL ORDER EXTENDED**

South Norwood Safer Neighbourhoods Team have extended the current 6 week Dispersal Order, due to its success at tackling anti social behaviour in the vicinity of the High Street.

During the six- week period a total of 83 people have been dispersed. The local businesses and community have been supportive and businesses have reported a significant reduction in crime committed in their shops.

The extended dispersal order commences at 6.00am on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008 and is due to expire at 11.00pm on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The area is bounded by; Tennison Road, Selhurst Road, High Street, St Dunstons Road, Suffolk Road, South Norwood Hill, Portland Road, railway line through Norwood Junction station.

The South Norwood SNT has the full support of the local business and residents. They report that many of the small traders have been intimidated with local people reluctant to use shops where large groups of mostly young people behave in an aggressive and intimidating manner.

Pc Chris Duffee of the South Norwood Safer Neighbourhoods Team said,"Prior to the dispersal order being in place we had had a rapid rise in complaints from the local community. Our aim was to have a positive impact over the six weeks. During this time we have had positive feedback from local businesses and the community and due to its success we have applied to have the order extended for a further 6 months."

*Supt Dave Stringer said "Once again we have clear evidence of the effectiveness of dispersal orders in enabling police to tackle anti social behaviour. The team have continued to listen to the concerns of the local community and local businesses that have remained fully supportive. We will continue to use the latest legislation to tackle anti social behaviour*

#### **TRADING STANDARDS WARNING**

A N/W co-ordinator in the Norbury area has been in touch regarding local residents being concerned about doorstep calls by a team of Sky salesmen, they apparently were very aggressive and would not go away. Also a short while ago a milkman was offering to deliver milk daily, he had a company ID and was asked to deliver but since then nothing has happened. It may be genuine but it could also be a scam to obtain personal information.

Trading Standards are concerned for local residents. Please let any neighbours and friends in the area know. If you are suspicious of anyone who comes to your door and requests information from you, do not give it and report it immediately to the police on 020 8667 1212.

#### **BOGUS TRADESMEN**

Information from Croydon Trading Standards regarding bogus tradesmen; last week we spoke to a customer of the Nationwide in George Street at the request of the branch manager. The customer had been drawing out large sums of money on a regular basis and it transpired she was having building work done at her house. The manager suspected she was being ripped off. We attended and spoke to the customer who is an elderly lady; she has some estimates /quotes from the man who was described as a roofing contractor. It appeared she might have been overcharged for the work shown. She stated she was satisfied with his work and did not wish to make any complaint.

If the workman is a 'rogue trader' she may well get a re visit as he probably knows she has a substantial amount of money in her account. If you know of any family member or elderly neighbour who may be targeted by these people please keep a lookout for anyone cold calling who may be trying to extract money in this way.

Fair Trading Officer, Consumer Affairs, Trading Standards

Taberner House, Park Lane, Croydon CR9 3BT.

020 8407 1310 or fax 020 8760 5786

### **PURLEY & KENLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP**

Croydon Council are pleased to provide details of the next Neighbourhood Partnership meeting.

Please click on the link below to go to our website where you will find the next meeting's Agenda. This will be held on **Tuesday 29 April 2008** at **7.30 p.m.** at **Christ Church Hall, Brighton Road**. If the Agenda changes, there will be a revised version available there.

[http://online.croydon.net/neighbourhood\\_partnerships/purley\\_and\\_kenley/2008\\_04\\_29/default.asp](http://online.croydon.net/neighbourhood_partnerships/purley_and_kenley/2008_04_29/default.asp)

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