



IMPORTANT INFORMATION for 7th August 2008

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

To report non urgent crime telephone 020 8667 1212 (Criminal damage or burglaries discovered after the offence etc)

Crimes in progress and suspect still at the scene or in the local area dial 999

Local nuisance crimes, ongoing problems in the area, please contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team. Their phone numbers are shown at the bottom of the weekly crime list sent out on Fridays. SN teams are not able to respond to urgent calls which must be made via the 999 number. Crimes should not be reported on the Neighbourhood Watch answer phone as the office is not manned every day.

EMAIL NEWS

An attempt to phish information from Lloyds TSB customers this week with an email warning that your account needs to be validated and you should click on the usual link, this leads to a website in Australia which has no connection with the bank.

A NW Member has received an email from a Richard Doherty offering a part time job helping him cash cheques or money orders in the USA/Canada for which he will give you 10% of the value, it would appear the email is targeted at residents in the States and is a money laundering scam. An almost identical letter from Jack Hollins with the same offer also asking for personal details.

A flood of scam letters from people with large sums of cash to forward to you. Mr. Ming Yang of the Hang Seng bank, Sandra Conklin of Garry Spears and Associates, Patrick Chan and Kabous Nssah all have millions of dollars ready for you to collect, no doubt after you have sent them cash to facilitate the transfer.

The UK National Lottery Desk confirm that you have won a prize in this years edition of the UK National Lottery and you should contact their payment officer Mr. Graham Wilbert via email, again an attempt to obtain cash from you and your personal details. The Fedex Courier Services scam has also returned with a Philip Long claiming that a secret parcel containing \$850,000 is waiting for you if you send them the security fee of \$135 immediately.

Another bogus email has re-surfaced referring to the #09 free call scam, this first appeared in the USA in 1996 and refers to a fault on large switchboards who use the AT &T network in America, the scam cannot work on mobile phones, there is a bogus claim that this email comes from Lancashire Police.

The BBC has reported that the micro blogging site Twitter is the latest target of cyber criminals who are increasingly finding fertile ground on social networks.

A fake Twitter profile with a malicious payload has been spotted by security firm Kaspersky. It purports to link to a pornographic video but downloads a fake version of Adobe Flash which installs programs capable of stealing data. The attack is believed to be the first to target Twitter. The attack is believed to have originated in Brazil because of the language it uses, the servers it calls on to download trojans and the e-mail address used to collect stolen data. The fake profile has a name that means "pretty rabbit" in Portuguese. It tries to convince users to download the fake Flash video viewer in order to watch the associated video. It comes as Kaspersky also releases details about two worms that target social networking sites MySpace and Facebook. More variants of these worms are also starting to turn up. The worms transformed victims' machines into zombie computers, used by criminals to send spam, launch phishing attacks and harvest data. They were disguised as a link to YouTube which also installed a fake version of Flash Player.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU GET SPAMMED

If you do get spam (and by spam we mean an e-mail from a company or person that you have never had any dealings with), then:

Never, ever, click on a link to unsubscribe; this will let them know your e-mail address is active, and you will get more spam.

Never reply to spam e-mail either; that will cause you to get more spam because it will mark your e-mail address as active.

If possible, disable images in your e-mail application; some spammers use images to detect whether an e-mail account is active (they can detect when the image is being retrieved from their server for display by your e-mail application as you read the e-mail).

The best thing you can do with spam e-mail is to just delete it. Don't let it annoy you into replying or unsubscribing. Just be a black hole and try to be totally invisible.

DOG THEFT

In this week's South Norwood crime messages there is a report of the theft, by force, of a puppy taken in the street. The puppy is a tanned/cream coloured Staffordshire Bull Terrier/Ridgeback cross breed 3 month old puppy. The dog was wearing a black and silver studded collar and has a black nose and face muzzle, there is a black stripe across its back and a black tip on its tail also a white patch on the right foot.

BURGLARIES

There have been several burglaries in the PURLEY area involving large detached houses, entry through opened windows and in two cases the back doors were left unlocked, an open invitation to these thieves. There have also been further cases of car keys left on a table next to the front door which have been taken using a pole with a hook through the letter box followed by the theft of the vehicle concerned. Please do not leave car keys on view as with modern vehicles this is now the thieves' favourite way to steal them as they do not have to overcome locks and immobilizers.

AUDIT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATORS

The audit is progressing well but if you have not yet returned your form please send it back by freepost to Sarah Gardner. If you have mislaid the form please contact the Neighbourhood Watch Office for a replacement. Croydon Council are shortly to be given a list of new street signs that are required, but it may be several months before the signs are erected.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH OFFICE Telephone: 020 8649 0318

The Office will be manned every Tuesday and Friday morning from 8 am to 2.30 pm. The answer phone will be available for messages outside these times.