

Farnborough & Crofton Ward Newsletter

March 2019



Dedicated Ward Officers - PC Nathan Saville 1316SN, PC James Toy 1131SN, PCSO Julia Smith 7383SN

This newsletter aims to provide information about issues on the ward and offer the relevant crime prevention advice. You can find further information on local crimes and related crime prevention advice by visiting www.met.police.uk and entering your postcode on the homepage under the heading 'Find your area'.

Changes

As many of you will know, the Metropolitan Police Service has merged its 32 Boroughs into 12 geographically arranged Basic Command Units (BCU). The merging of Bromley with Croydon and Sutton went live on 4th Feb 2019 and we are now known as South Area. We are led by BCU Commander Dave Stringer, supported by Superintendent Colin Carswell and Chief Inspector Craig Knight. The lead for Neighbourhoods East (Bromley) remains as Inspector Gary Byfield. The change should be fairly transparent within the Neighbourhood Teams as we remain dedicated to our current wards and keep the same strengths of 2 PC's and 1 PCSO, all are Dedicated Ward Officers (DWOs), with 1 Sergeant covering 3 wards. Farnborough and Crofton share Sgt Blewer with Chelsfield and Pratts Bottom, and Petts Wood and Knoll. We are all able to call on support from our neighbouring wards when extra resources are required. The only visible changes are to our shoulder numbers, the current officer numbers being prefixed with a 1, and PY (code for Bromley) changing to SN to represent the South Area (Bromley, Croydon and Sutton).

Ward Priorities

Two of our priorities (the day to day focus of the team) are set centrally and are currently Reduction of Violent Crime, and Safeguarding. We conduct Weapon Sweeps in parks, woodlands and footpaths around the ward. Fortunately we rarely find any hidden or discarded weapons in Farnborough and Crofton, though 3 knives have been found and reported to us by residents in the December of last year. We also conduct stop and searches whenever grounds exist to do so. We will continue to do this on our ward as a precautionary measure, but would like to reassure residents that we are not facing the same problems as some of the surrounding areas.

Safeguarding involves looking after our most vulnerable residents. We are working with partner agencies, to try and ensure that those with mental health issues, and those that are vulnerable through age or disability are getting the best support we can give. We have been to Summerlands Lodge Retirement Home and the Good Companions meeting at Crofton Baptist Church and delivered Scam Awareness talks to some of the most vulnerable in the community. More of these talks are being planned in partnership with Bromley Trading Standards. If you know of a group or organisation that might be interested in us attending please contact us and we can arrange a visit.

A third priority is set locally by the Ward Panel and is currently Burglary reduction. We are concentrating our efforts here in the Rusland Avenue area where we had 3 burglaries in a short space of time around the Christmas/New Year period. We carry out targeted patrols in the area, plain clothes and uniformed, foot and vehicle patrols. We have conducted street briefings, although regrettably due to live events on the day we arrived later than advertised and weren't able to get this message to everybody who had turned out to see us. We also carried out follow up visits to elderly vulnerable residents who we were aware had been unable to attend any briefings. The purpose of the briefings and visits is to provide reassurance and crime prevention advice to as many residents as possible.





Burglary Prevention

One area worth highlighting where prevention is concerned is that of rear security. Most if not all offences on the ward have seen entry gained or attempted at the rear. Make sure boundaries are secure and consider installing spiky, climbing plants and trellis. Have good lighting and ensure doors and windows are kept locked. Additionally, try not to leave tools and ladders in back gardens as they can be easily used to gain entry.

You could consider installing an alarm and CCTV but in a lot of cases people do have adequate security, they just aren't being used to their potential.

Prevention is about removing the opportunity for a crime to happen. Make sure valuables are not on display and deterrents are in place and used.

A good starting point is to consider how, if locked out without a key, you would get into your own property. If the answer is 'quite easily' then consider improvements...and to remember your key when you go out.

Visit www.met.police.uk/crime-prevention for more advice.

Other Ward Activity

In partnership with Clarion Housing we pushed to get Lubbock House, the derelict care home in Northolme Rise, secured after several reports of youths breaking in and using it as a hang out. Several youths were processed by the team for possession of cannabis.

St Pauls Church in Crofton Road has been targeted by unknown youths in recent months. They have caused damage to cars in the car park and broken many windows in the church and other buildings. We have conducted many patrols and neighbour enquiries in the area but have been unable to identify the culprits. If anyone has any ideas who may be responsible we and the Church would be grateful to hear from you.

Twitter

For those with the capability, you can follow the team on Twitter. We regularly post updates on the team's activities and where we have patrolled, crime prevention advice and appeals. To keep abreast of what's going on, search online for: **@MPSFarnCroft**



Meet the Team

Contact points are informal meetings and are conducted by your dedicated ward officers. For confirmation on these dates and on future contacts points and events, you can consult the posters published by the team on notice boards around the ward, follow us on Twitter **@MPSFarnCroft** or visit the website www.met.police.uk and enter your details on the 'Your Area' section of the homepage. At these meetings you can voice your concerns about your local area, get crime prevention advice and also report crime. (Contact points last 1hr from times stated below)

Sainsbury's Locksbottom: 5 Mar 11am, 3 Apr 11am, 2 May 3pm **PRUH, Restaurant:** 14 Mar 1pm, 11 Apr 12pm, 10 May 12pm **Crofton Bakery, Crofton Lane:** 22-Mar 12pm, 16-Apr 2pm, 21-May 2.30pm **Americarlos, Farnborough:** 29-Mar 1pm, 23-Apr 12pm, 21-May 2.30pm **Change of Horses, Farnborough:** 28 May 12pm

Useful Contacts

Bromley Council: To report a wide range of issues visit www.bromley.gov.uk/report

FixMyStreet: To report issues that need the attention of Bromley Council such as potholes, broken street lighting, dumped rubbish etc, visit www.fixmystreet.com

Trading Standards: Report rogue traders on 07903 852090

Official police security website: www.securedbydesign.com

Action Fraud - UK Fraud and internet crime reporting: www.actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 1232040

E-mail: Farnborough.Crofton.SNT@met.police.uk or phone **020 8721 2606**

In an emergency call 999 The non-emergency number is 101.



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