

# BROMLEY BOROUGH COMMANDER'S NEWSLETTER



MARCH 2013

## Welcome to March's newsletter.

It's probably nothing, but...your call could save lives.....

A publicity campaign launched by the Metropolitan Police Service in February is urging Londoners to trust their instincts to help police in the fight against terrorism and potentially save lives.

Everyone who works, lives and visits the capital has a role to play in helping to counter the terrorist threat which remains real and serious.

The five-week campaign, "It's probably nothing, but ..." encourages anyone who sees or hears something that they think could be terrorist related to call the dedicated Anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789 321.

Protecting Londoners from terrorism is one of the top priorities for the Metropolitan Police Service. The threat, whether it is from Al-Qaeda inspired groups or individuals, dissident Irish republican groups or other violent extremists, is still a real and serious one.

You know the area where you live better than anyone else so we ask you to be vigilant, trust your instincts and tell us about anyone or anything you see which is out of place in your normal day to day lives. No piece of information is considered too small or insignificant. Our specialist officers would rather take lots of calls which turn out to have an innocent explanation than miss out on a vital piece of information. All calls are treated in the strictest confidence and information is thoroughly assessed before - and if - any further action is taken.

Please help us to create a difficult environment for the terrorist. Your call really could save lives. Terrorists live among us while they are planning their attacks so we need the help of all our communities to pass on any suspicions to the Anti Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789 321.

Inside this month's newsletter you can read about Commendations awarded by MPS Assistant Commissioner Simon Byrne to local resident Stephen Izegebu, who heroically restrained an armed man running amok in a church and to our CID Crime Squad, for their skills which resulted in the detection of hundreds of burglary offences committed across the borough.



**Steph Roberts**  
Borough Commander

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## Local hero receives commendation

An Orpington man has received a commendation after restraining an armed man running amok in a church.

At the special commendation ceremony at Hendon, Metropolitan Police Service Assistant Commissioner Simon Byrne commended Stephen Izegbu for 'exemplary public spirit, bravery and determination in the restraint of an armed man who was causing injury to elderly members of the public'.



Last July police responded to a call to St Barnabas Church in Rushet Road where a man was smashing the windows of the church. The man had smashed the church windows, attacked the Reverend and her family, damaged motor vehicles and had then forced his way into the church where he then attacked five elderly people who were there as part of a choir. Victims and witnesses stated that the suspect was 'like a man possessed', and was shouting 'I will kill them all'.

Mr Izegbu lives very close to the church and heard the commotion. On doing so, he left his house, still in his pyjamas. On arrival at the church, he saw the suspect attacking the victims whilst armed with the stick, hitting one of the elderly women with it.

Mr Izegbu immediately went to the victim's aid and confronted the suspect. In an attempt to stop the suspect inflicting further injury, he wrestled him to the ground, during which he received a blow to the head causing a cut. Mr Izegbu continued to struggle with the suspect eventually pinning him to the ground. He held onto him until help came from another member of the public and then the police.

A witness said that Mr Izegbu 'was like superman coming to the rescue'; and one of the victims said he was a 'complete hero'.

The suspect has since been sentenced to an indeterminate period of time in a secure Mental Health facility.

After the sentencing the Judge commended Mr Izegbu for his bravery and it gives me great pleasure that the Metropolitan Police Service have honoured the bravery of Mr Izegbu, who with great courage and without hesitation put himself in danger to protect others.

Mr Izegbu had only that day become a British Citizen yet he entered a very violent situation knowing that it was dangerous and tackled an armed man to the ground, restraining him even after sustaining a head injury. Mr Izegbu showed no regard for his own safety, putting the lives of others above his own. If it were not for his selfless actions I am sure there would have been further and more serious injuries.

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## **Bromley Police's Crime Squad commended**

Bromley Police's CID Crime Squad have received a commendation for their skills which resulted in the detection of hundreds of burglary offences.

At the special commendation ceremony at Hendon, Metropolitan Police Service Assistant Commissioner Simon Byrne commended the crime squad for their 'determination, professionalism and outstanding investigation skills whilst deployed on complex investigations and covert operations', resulting in 11 custodial sentences and the detection of hundreds of burglary offences.

The Crime Squad - DI Jerry Troon, DS Stuart Roberts, DC Iain Graves, DC James Stokes, DC Kimberly Krauhaus and DC Alan Biggs - undertook the investigation of an extensive criminal network of offenders committing residential burglary offences where high value motor vehicles were often stolen. Stolen vehicles were then used to commit burglary offences at commercial venues where safes and cigarettes were stolen.

The Crime Squad linked 200 offences committed in a 5 month period across Croydon and Bromley. Each offence was reinvestigated. Key common features were identified through scrutiny of intelligence, modus operandi and many hours of CCTV viewing and statement taking. 8 suspects were identified. Parallel pro-active and re-active investigative strands were undertaken.

All 8 subjects were arrested and charged with conspiracy, with prosecution papers totalling in excess of 1600 statements and all pled guilty of conspiracy to commit burglary. They received a combined total of 25 years imprisonment.

The Crime Squad also led the investigation into an Organised Criminal Network committing night time residential burglary offences in Bromley, surrounding Boroughs and counties.

Through comprehensive intelligence gathering and a clever pro-active operation a suspect was identified as a person of interest and a man-hunt undertaken. The suspect was arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit burglary.

Further investigation and extensive enquiries identified two co-conspirators who were also arrested and charged.

The crime squad pursued the disruption of the criminal network tenaciously, removing the final piece of the jigsaw with the arrests of two further suspects during a joint arrest phase with Kent Police.

This operation resulted in the detection of 220 residential Burglary offences in London and Kent. Three of the suspects have been jailed, two are currently in prison awaiting sentencing.

I am very proud of the achievements of Bromley's CID Crime Squad in dismantling these criminal networks. It is a privilege to be leading teams such as this serving the communities of Bromley with such determination and professionalism.

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## Seven years for drug offender



A 28 year old man from Brixton Hill has been jailed after being convicted of intending to supply drugs in Bromley.

Ismail Attah, age 28, of Helix Road, Brixton Hill, London was found guilty of two counts of possession with intent to supply Class A drugs and was jailed for seven years at Croydon Crown Court. Attah was arrested after officers out on patrol observed a vehicle acting suspiciously in the car park of Waitrose. As officers approached the vehicle Attah leapt out and ran off, but was detained after a footchase. A bag containing rocks of crack cocaine and £2,200 cash was found in his vehicle, with another £1,000 cash found when he was searched. Further wraps of drugs were found along the route Attah tried to escape.

Attah has convictions for 13 previous drug offences

## Library thief jailed



A 47 year old man from Lambeth has been jailed after stealing a purse from a 69 year old lady in West Wickham Library.

Christopher Flynn, age 47, of Stockwell Road, Lambeth pled guilty to theft at Bromley Magistrates Court and was jailed for 26 weeks.

On 23rd November 2012 a 69 year old lady reported the theft of her purse from her handbag whilst at West Wickham Library whilst she had been using a computer. When police examined CCTV at the venue, it showed a male crawling under the desk and removing the purse from the handbag, which was on the floor beside the victim.

Officers from the West Wickham Safer Neighbourhood Team identified Flynn and he was arrested on 25th January.

## Burglar sentenced after forensic link



A 44 year old Luton man has been sentenced after his DNA was found at the scene of a burglary in Bromley.

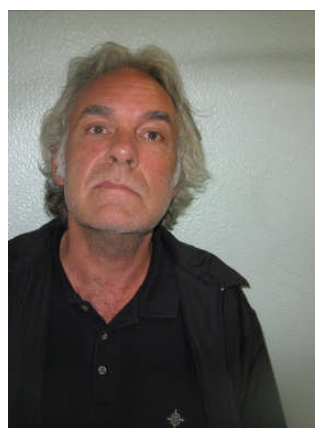
Shaun Conway, age 44, of Red Rails, Luton pled guilty to burglary and was sentenced to two years imprisonment, suspended for two years, at Croydon Crown Court after being linked to a burglary at a property in Sundridge Avenue, Bromley when traces of his blood were found at the scene.



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## Jewellery thieves jailed for four years

**Jimmy Tippett****Mark Spinks**

Two thieves from Beckenham have been jailed for in excess of four years after a £250,000 jewellery theft.

Jimmy Tippett, age 41, of Chancery Lane, Beckenham was jailed for 27 months and Mark Spinks, age 52, of Calverley Close, Beckenham was jailed for 22 months at Croydon Crown Court after both pleading guilty to theft.

On 29 August 2012 a jewellery seller attended a pre-arranged meeting with Tippett and Spinks, who stated that they worked for a Saudi businessman, at the Bromley Court Hotel. After spending approximately half an hour talking about the transaction Tippett picked up approximately £250,000 of diamond jewellery and fled the venue. Spinks attempted to flee the scene in a taxi but was stopped 100 metres down the road.

Tippett was arrested a couple of weeks later at the Travel lodge in Ramsgate, after a media appeal for information on his whereabouts.

## Watch thief jailed



A 19 year old male from Lewisham has been jailed for stealing a watch from a youth in Bromley Town Centre.

Dominic Massicotte, 19, of Mayow Road, Sydenham pled guilty to theft and was sentenced to 8 months in a Young Offender Institution at Croydon Crown Court. A charge of robbery was ordered to remain on file by the Court. Massicotte had approached a 17 year old youth in Bromley Town Centre in October 2012 and threatened him, demanding his watch. After Massicotte left the scene the victim called police and then identified Massicotte as the person who had stolen his watch when police conducted a drive around of the area.

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## MPS joins national scheme to combat fraud

The Metropolitan Police Service has become the latest force to join a national government scheme designed to improve the way fraud is investigated.

Action Fraud is the one-stop national reporting centre for fraud, holding primary responsibility for the co-ordination of the vast majority of fraud and internet crime by dealing with the reporting, collation and, where possible, investigation referrals. To date it has already helped more than 300,000 people deal with the consequences of fraud and internet crime. They have also taken over 126,000 crime reports since December 2009.

When reporting a fraud to Action Fraud, a national crime reference number will be generated and the case will be referred to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) where it is analysed along with a wealth of additional information from government departments, financial institutions and other large organisations. The NFIB is run by City of London Police - the lead force for fraud in the UK.

Having this central collection point for crime reports will enable a much clearer national picture on the main issues and allow seemingly unrelated incidents from around the country to be linked through analysis, which will assist in identifying networks of criminals. Once information has been assessed, the NFIB will then send to police forces or other agencies packages for investigation only where there is actionable intelligence or viable lines of inquiry available for the force to pursue.

Every allegation reported to Action Fraud will be recorded and the victim given a reference number. Whilst it will not be possible to investigate every report that comes in, each one will assist the NFIB in building up a clear intelligence picture about fraud and fraudsters. This in turn will enable them to help to prevent other people falling victim to fraud and public and private sector bodies to better protect themselves against the threat posed by fraud.

Operation Sterling - the Met's unit that works in partnership with communities and businesses to identify new crime trends, solutions, and share good practice with the main aim of disrupting and preventing economic crime - will continue to inform and alert the public through their fraud alert website and raise awareness around fraud in general to prevent people from becoming victims in the first place.

Action Fraud provides the public with just one point of reference, making the process much quicker and more convenient for victims than visiting their local police station. This system enables the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau to enhance the fraud picture by providing a national overview of the latest trends; with the analysis of data also enabling the best quality 'packages' to be passed back to the Met for further investigation.

The most convenient way to report to Action Fraud is online. Online reporting of fraud and internet crime is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week through <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk>. Telephone reporting is also available on 0300 123 2040 - opening hours apply. If a crime is established, victims will be provided with a crime reference number. If an immediate police response is required, ie. where the suspect is very near and / or the victim is at risk, the public should continue to dial 999.

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## 24 vehicles seized in latest Op Cubo day in Bromley



Twenty four vehicles were seized and four arrests made across Bromley during the latest day of action in the continued crackdown on uninsured drivers.

Using ANPR technology at the stop sites in Anerley Hill, Elmers End, Penge High Street, Cray Avenue, Shortlands and Plaistow Lane, the team netted twenty-four uninsured vehicles, as well as four arrests. The arrests were for drug offences and serious fraud.

We will be continuing to run these operations across Bromley to make our streets in safer. With every car seized, we are stopping criminals from using the roads. We want to stop uninsured drivers from causing harm to law abiding people and pushing up insurance prices for everyone. Uninsured drivers are a danger to all road users and we will use every power available to us to stop these people making Bromley's roads dangerous.

## Prolific burglar jailed

A prolific burglar who targeted homes across Croydon, Bromley and Sutton has been jailed for three years following a pro-active operation by the MPS's London Crime Squad.

Kenny Ward, 42, of Frimley Close, Croydon was jailed at Croydon Crown Court after previously pleading guilty to two counts of residential burglary. Ward admitted a further 92 burglary offences dating back to 2005, which were taken into consideration.

Ward, who has 20 previous convictions for burglary and multiple convictions for theft, forced entry into premises to steal high value electrical goods such as iPads and Apple Mac computers along with jewellery, including items of particular sentimental value such as wedding rings.

Ward would then sell his goods on for cash to fund his drug habit.



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## £1,000,000 drug seizure in Beckenham



An arrest for armed robbery has led to a £1,000,000 drug seizure in Beckenham.

Officers from the MPS Flying Squad and Bromley Police, investigating an armed robbery at Paddy Power Bookmakers in Beckenham, arrested a 25 year old male on suspicion of armed robbery. After his arrest two addresses in Beckenham were searched - one in Hayes Way, one in Kelsey Lane - and a substantial quantity of Class A and Class B drugs were recovered, with a street value of approximately £1 million. The 25 year old has been charged with robbery and possession with intent to supply Class A & Class B drugs.





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## Help us to help you from becoming a victim of burglary.....

Having your home burgled can be a traumatic experience, and therefore we are determined to reduce the chances of it happening in the first place by raising peoples' awareness of security. 36 per cent of burglaries result from insecure properties – please don't let your home become a target. Help us to protect your home by taking simple steps such as using timers to turn lights and radios on, fitting alarms, making sure homes are properly locked and by keeping valuables and presents out of view.

Please be vigilant and use these simple steps to secure your home and keep criminals out.

### Our ten top burglary crime prevention tips for residents:

1. Mark or etch your property with your postcode, house or flat number or the first three letters of your house name.
2. Register items with a serial number at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
3. Do not leave your car keys, valuables or ID documents near a door, letterbox or window.
4. Always check who's at the door and don't open it if you feel anxious.
5. Close and lock all your doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes.
6. Keep your valuables out of sight
7. Leave some lights on if it will be dark before you get home
8. Fit a mortice lock to your front door and other external doors. Consider installing a burglar alarm.
9. Always keep sheds and outbuildings locked
10. Cancel milk or other deliveries if you will be away for days or weeks at a time.



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**\*\*\*Sign up now to regularly receive information from the Police\*\*\***

## Neighbourhood Link

Neighbourhood Link is a free service that enables you to regularly receive information from the police about crime and safety in the areas you sign up to. It will also be used by the Metropolitan Police Service to keep you informed in the event of a major incident impacting on London.

To register please visit [www.neighbourhoodlink.met.police.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodlink.met.police.uk).

## Contact numbers for Bromley Police's Safer Neighbourhood Teams

<b>Bickley</b>	07920 233 852
<b>Biggin Hill</b>	07880 783 736
<b>Bromley Common &amp; Keston</b>	07920 233 855
<b>Bromley Town</b>	07887 826 502
<b>Chelsfield &amp; Pratts Bottom</b>	07920 233 857
<b>Chislehurst</b>	07920 233 850
<b>Clock House</b>	07920 233 847
<b>Copers Cope</b>	07766 804 406
<b>Cray Valley East</b>	07880 788 942
<b>Cray Valley West</b>	07920 233 851
<b>Crystal Palace</b>	07920 233 858
<b>Darwin</b>	07920 233 859
<b>Farnborough &amp; Crofton</b>	07920 233 856
<b>Hayes &amp; Coney Hall</b>	020 8649 3548
<b>Kelsey &amp; Eden Park</b>	07920 233 846
<b>Mottingham &amp; Chislehurst Nth</b>	07880 781 483
<b>Orpington</b>	07766 804 412
<b>Penge &amp; Cator</b>	07843 065 880
<b>Petts Wood &amp; Knoll</b>	07920 233 853
<b>Plaistow &amp; Sundridge</b>	07920 233 849
<b>Shortlands</b>	07920 233 848
<b>West Wickham</b>	07920 233 854

Internet Address: [www.met.police.uk/bromley](http://www.met.police.uk/bromley)

Non emergency contact number 101 **In an emergency always dial 999**

Bromley Community Engagement Forum 020 8658 7168

