

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

All you ever wanted to know about getting hold of the Police! - or, how to contact the Police by telephone

We have a real problem in Hampstead Garden Suburb which can only be solved with your help and active co-operation.

It would seem that many of us have been brought up on a fictional diet of "cops and robbers" in which the heroine, in chains and with the villains' knife at her throat, somehow manages to break free and raise the alarm saving herself from a fate worse than death. This seems to be our idea of an emergency situation which would warrant dialling 999 and asking for the Police. We seem to believe that any less melodramatic situation would not be

regarded by the Police as an emergency and that we would be accused of wasting Police time. And so, when we see a man climbing through the window of the house next door or throwing a brick through our car windscreen, we 'phone the Police station instead of dialling 999, get through to some civilian administrator who is not connected to the Police emergency services and are then incensed when the Police take an hour or more to respond.

The real life situation is that if we were to find ourselves with a villain's knife at our throats - and, very regrettably, it can happen on rare occasions - it would probably be too late to dial 999 anyway.

An emergency, in real life, warranting a 999 call, is where any of us is even vaguely suspicious that something is occurring which could indicate either that a crime is being committed, or that a crime is about to be committed, or that a crime might be committed. The fact that 99% of these calls turn out to be false alarms does not worry the Police. They want us to dial 999 in all these cases because one in a hundred of these calls turns out to be the real thing and they are able to apprehend a criminal.

So, here is a list of all the possible Police telephone numbers and when to use them:-

Police Telephone Numbers

200 2212 is the number you will find in the telephone directory and the number to ring if you have a matter to discuss with the Police OF A TOTALLY ROUTINE AND NON-EMERGENCY NATURE, such as the possibility of a policeman attending



your daughter's wedding or how best to contribute to a Police charity. Any number ending with 12 is the number of a Police District or Area Communications Centre which will connect you to the Police Station you require which, in turn, will connect you to the administrative department you require. It is the number least likely to be of any relevance to Suburb residents!

200 2857

is the number of the Crime Prevention Officers' telephone in the Home Beats Office at Golders Green Police Station where the six individuals featured in the previous edition of *Suburb News* and the three individuals featured below are to be found, along with other Home Beats Police officers, though, when the officers are on duty, they spend most of their time out of the office patrolling their Beats, investigating crime and so on, and may well not be available to speak to you.

200 2555

is the Home Beats officers' telephone in the Home Beats' Office which is switched to an answering machine when the office is not occupied and on

which a message for a particular Crime Prevention officer or Home Beats officer can always be left. For instance, if you would like one of the Crime Prevention officers to carry out a free security audit of your house and make recommendations, just leave a message on this number asking him to call you back to make an appointment.

200 2501/2/3

is the number of the Radio Room at Golders Green Police Station linked with the 999 emergency service at New Scotland Yard and with Police cars. It is the number to ring if you want a fast Police response but if, for one reason or another, in spite of reading carefully the beginning of this article, you still can't bring yourself to dial 999.

999

This is the number to ring in any possible emergency which includes people acting suspiciously, if you are in any way suspicious of callers at the door, if you hear the sound of breaking glass or if you hear an alarm ringing. After being asked whether you want "Fire", "Police" or "Ambulance", you will be asked for your telephone number, the purpose of which is not to waste time but to ensure that the call is not disconnected or cancelled whatever the circumstances.

Please make a careful note of all these telephone numbers - and please do not telephone 200 2212 in future when you see someone vandalising your car outside, and then complain that the Police took 15 minutes to arrive by which time the man had fled!

Our Local Police

In the last issue we featured six of the seven individuals whom, three months ago, residents were likely to have contact with and see around the Suburb. In this issue we are featuring PC Kevin Smith whose details were not previously available, and also Sergeant Jim Drew and WPC Gina Link who have recently joined the Home Beats team.

I served with the Durham Constabulary for 3 years before joining the Metropolitan Police in 1971 serving in Kings Cross and then Holloway before coming to Golders Green. I am married and live in Mill Hill. I have a son aged 21. My interests include computers, art and war gaming.

James Drew



I joined the Metropolitan Police Force in November 1976 and served at Golders Green on uniform beat duties for 5½ years.

In February 1982 I became a member of the Crime Squad, and in May 1983 the District Crime Squad at Whetstone. In July 1985 I returned to Golders Green and was attached to the Enquiry Section. In April 1986 I resumed uniform beat duties and also a member of the communications team until March 1989 when I became a Home Beat officer for the east sector of the suburb. I am married with two children, a daughter aged six and a son aged five. My interests include golf, rugby and gardening.

Kevin Smith



I was born in Muswell Hill and have always lived in North London. Before joining the Metropolitan Police I was involved in secretarial work, teaching word processing and interviewing as well as being in the Special Constabulary at Edmonton for nearly two years. I came to Golders Green in February 1990 and became a permanent Beat Officer for the Suburb in April. I am particularly interested in personal safety and crime prevention. I will be married in September and will live in Bushy. My interests include karate, swimming, Greek dancing and reading.

Gina Link



ON YOUR DOORSTEP

The WEA Golders Green Branch is offering an attractive programme of varied interests in your locality.

Why not take advantage of this and try something new, in a friendly atmosphere?

Courses start from September 24th, on Poetry, Modern Philosophy, Art Appreciation, The Edwardian Era, Speak With Confidence, Music, What's In The News, Modern Drama, The Bloomsbury Group, and London Buildings.

Brochures are available in local libraries.

For further enquiries phone Secretary, Freda Michaelson 452 8850.

PLANNING APPEALS REFUSED

The Trust has been encouraged in its endeavours to stop undesirable alterations on the Suburb, particularly those that contravene the article 4 direction, in three recent cases where Trust/Barnet decisions have been upheld by the Department of the Environment on appeal.

Brim Hill

In the first case a Brim Hill householder has, without the necessary planning permissions from the Trust or Barnet, replaced original windows with modern ones having fewer and larger panes than the originals.

The Department of the Environment has said in dismissing the case, "because of the incongruous appearance of No 37 in relation to the other dwellings in the vicinity, which have uniform fenestration more appropriate to the design of the buildings, the not inconsiderable visual amenities of the street scene have been impaired. As a result the present appearance of No 37 detracts from the very character of the Conservation Area which the Council seek to preserve, and certainly does nothing to enhance it."

Kingsley Way

Another replacement window case where the owner did not get planning approval before going ahead.



Here the Inspector has said "Hampstead Garden Suburb is of course well known, indeed renowned, for historic architectural and town planning reasons. This extensive comprehensive development contains a mixture of dwelling types, including smaller vernacular styles and other designs. The houses along Kingsley Way however are larger units, regularly arranged, generally consistent in appearance, and formal in aspect. The street scene hereabouts appears to have been little changed, if at all, since originally constructed, and as such forms an intrinsic part of the particular character of this area." This householder is required to replace 43 window frames "The requirements of the notice are the removal of the UPVC window frames and the re-installation of metal framed windows of a similar type to the original style."

Central Square

The third case involves the St. Jukes Vicarage where permission was sought from Barnet and the Trust, but refused, for a car parking space in the Vicarage garden that would have involved taking out a hedge.

In refusing the appeal to the DOE the Inspector said "The hedges exemplify the special nature and character of the Garden Suburb."



The New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust Limited
862 Finchley Road, Hampstead Garden Suburb, London NW11 6AB
Telephone: 01-455 1066 & 458 8085