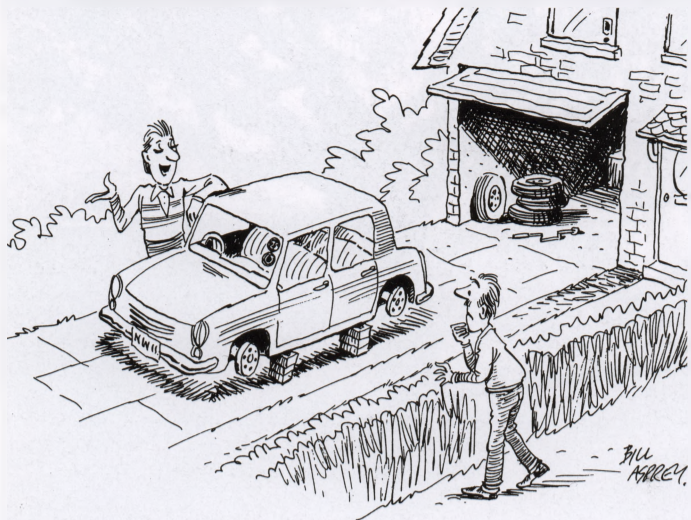


# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



"IT'S AN INEXPENSIVE IMMOBILISER — HOWEVER, THERE IS ONE DRAWBACK..."

On the whole, most Suburb residents are taking sensible precautions to secure their homes against burglary. Most at risk would appear to be the homes of new residents who have not come to appreciate the need to be vigilant and secure their homes at all times, and empty houses being renovated with valuable builders' tools being left unsecured over night. Some garages and garden sheds, too, are being broken into.

However, vehicle crime still remains high and Suburb residents will be aware that we are now concentrating on trying to reduce it. We have stressed the need to ensure that nothing is left on view in parked cars and that cars are locked even when stopping briefly. And Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators have explained the value of displaying Vehicle Watch stickers and '25' stickers on both the windscreen and on the rear window.

## The TRACKER system

Now we want to draw your attention to the TRACKER system to enable your car to be tracked and speedily recovered if driven without your permission. Some sixty Suburb cars are stolen annually, an average of five a month, although during July the number went up to nine.

If you own a more expensive car (ie any car costing, say, £20,000 upwards) you are strongly advised to fit this system to your car. It is the only police-operated system in Great Britain and will ensure the recovery of your car with the minimum of delay. Literature, giving details of the costs and explaining the advantages of this system, should be available from your Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

## Mechanical Immobilisers

The police say that less expensive, or older, cars are even more at risk of being stolen. But their owners may

feel that they cannot afford the cost of TRACKER. The next best thing is to fit a mechanical immobiliser such as a lockable bar through the steering wheel, or a handbrake to gearshift lock, both of which are much more secure than many built-in steering wheel locking devices. These immobilisers can be purchased from most garages and car accessory suppliers.

## Recent cautionary tales

### Car Crime

- In mid June, in a Suburb close, four envelopes containing cheques were left on view overnight in a locked car. In the morning the car had been broken into and the envelopes removed;

- In early July, a Pioneer stereo radio/cassette player was removed from an unlocked car parked in a Suburb road;

- In early July at 2am, a Suburb resident who had left his commercial van parked in the road outside his house heard the car alarm sounding. He looked out of his house window but, because he was unable to see anything suspicious, did not call the police. When he went to his van in daylight, he found the quarter light broken and electrical testing equipment worth several thousand pounds stolen;

- Also in early July, a couple loaded their car at night ready to drive off on holiday at 7.30am the following morning. When they came to do so, various items such as an expensive camera, binoculars, a jewellery roll, cash, credit cards and a driving licence had been stolen. The car had also been left unlocked with their belongings on view, making it even more tempting for the crimina;

- In early August, a mobile telephone was left overnight in view on the dashboard of a car which resulted in a window being smashed and the telephone stolen.

## Robbery

- In mid April, a young local girl walking home alone after dark was attacked in Heathgate by a man with a knife. Thanks to the prompt action of the residents, who found her lying in a pool of blood in the gutter, she is now all right. But all of us - whether male or female, young or old - should be aware of the danger of walking home alone after dark;

- In July, a woman looked out of her window before answering her door bell and saw what appeared to be a presentable young man whom she took to be one of her son's friends. She opened the door, but not on the chain. The young man then pushed in, grabbed her arm, ripped off her expensive Rolex watch and fled. (Recently a team of robbers using the same method has been arrested elsewhere in London, one of whom fits the description of this young man.)

## Two 'Property Marked'

### Stories with happy endings

- Some time ago there was a Suburb burglary with violence where a zoom lens of an expensive camera was stolen along with some other property. Some months later, in an unrelated crime, police carried out a raid on premises in Brixton and found the zoom lens in the possession of two men who fitted the description of two of the gang who had carried out the Suburb burglary. Because the zoom lens was 'property marked' with the owner's post-code and house number, it was returned to its rightful owner and the police were able to obtain a conviction.

- The mountain bike belonging to the young son of a Suburb family on secondment to Sri Lanka was stolen and later recovered. The property marking at first confounded the Sri Lankan police. But a British embassy official who was consulted, suggested that it was probably a United Kingdom post-code and house number, with the result that enquiries were made with the British police and the bike was returned to its owner.

## Conclusion

If there are more examples of horror stories rather than good practice in this article, it is only because when good practice takes place, crimes are prevented, nothing happens and it is a non-event! But most Suburb residents are taking correct precautions to protect themselves and their property most of the time. Long may this continue.

PETER LOYD

# New Crossword Prizes

Are our crosswords too difficult to do or do we not get very many entries because, as one competitor put it "you don't make it very obvious that there are prizes to be won"?

This time we have found room for answers to the Summer issue puzzles...we hope this will give you an insight into our compiler's thinking!

Dr Goldberg from Southway wins the last bottle of bubbly for the first drawn correct cryptic crossword from the last issue.

## £30 OF PRIZES

Prizes now are a £20 Garden Suburb Gallery Voucher for the first correct **Cryptic** entry drawn on December 12. Plus a £10 voucher for the first **Quick** answer drawn on the same date.

# SUMMER CROSSWORD ANSWERS

## CRYPTIC

**Across:** 1. Buildings; 6. Ad; 9. Cleared out of; 10,20. Silly mid on; 12. Et; 13. Don't send it on; 15. OK; 16. Switches; 18.FA; 19. Ride the camel; 21. Trusty pal. **Down:** 2. Ugly; 3. Lead in tow; 4. Ideal; 5. Groomed; 7. Deferential; 8. Stud; 9. Cared for Roo. 11. Itinerary; 14. Skitter; 16. Side; 17. Chess; 18. Feta

## QUICK

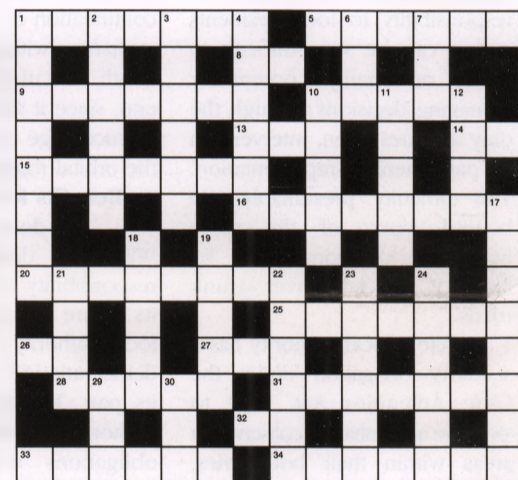
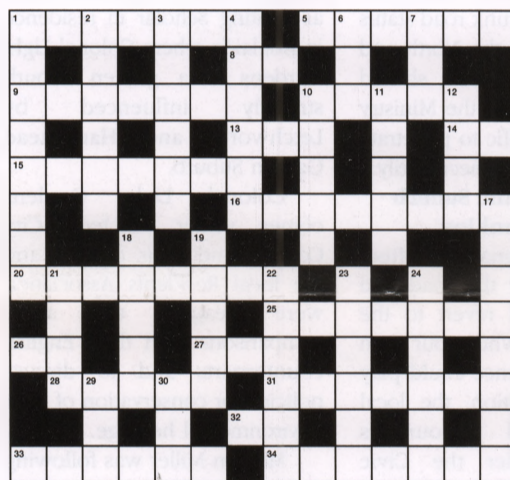
**Across:** 1&2D. Brookland Rise; 6. It; 9. As apprentice; 10. Arterial; 12. SW; 13. Ground sheets; 15. No; 16. Decision; 18. AI; 19. New Year feast; 20. Ye; 21. Pretty fit. **Down:** 3. Opportune; 4. Large; 5. Nunnish; 7. The first bit; 8. Fill; 9. Abergavenny; 11. Awesomely; 14. No cheer; 16. Dews; 17. Strut; 18. Asti.

## CRYPTIC CLUES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <p>1 There may, as yet, be no hall, but we can still help people (7)</p> <p>5 Mistress Pitchless is hard to manage (6)</p> <p>8 Greek character suggests innovation (2)</p> <p>9 Horse in goal? Difficult to picture! (7)</p> <p>10 Fit for bold English ears? They are! (5)</p> <p>13 Have a hearty drink? It's not hard! (3)</p> <p>14 Rudyard's proviso (2)</p> <p>15 Not prone to truthfulness (2,5)</p> <p>16 Keeps the books coming in back stage (6,2)</p> <p>20 An image round a stone jar? Refocus, and it's just a flower (8)</p> <p>25 Mixed drink, and a flyer will take you up in the air (7)</p> <p>26 ... alternatively, gold? (2)</p> <p>27 Part of revenge for rubbishy lace-making (3)</p> <p>28 Holds back, stopping short of bothering girl (5)</p> <p>31 Essential for divers and commercial pilots (7)</p> <p>32 Stands for two blue (1,1)</p> <p>33 Empty containers one into another (6)</p> <p>34 Hobbit adjusts one kill? (7)</p> | <p><b>DOWN</b></p> <p>1 Square victory in tandem (8)</p> <p>2 Nobility beset by unknowns (6)</p> <p>3 Girl confused and below par (6)</p> <p>4 Involve disturbing silver gene (6)</p> <p>6 Pull mixed pair (3)</p> <p>7 Sailors use 6 for sight and sound (3)</p> <p>10 Fast. Nothing could make it slow (5)</p> <p>11 Sounds as if the directors have had enough (5)</p> <p>12 Françoise expressed surprise that we should pass on to turn (4)</p> <p>17 Sort of boat used by feline and friend (8)</p> <p>18 Spud grows this kind of thing in his allotment (5)</p> <p>19 Surrounded hospital with broad band of animals (5)</p> <p>21 Generally to be found near 6 and 7 (4)</p> <p>22 Turtles popularly were - but things are changing (6)</p> <p>23 When last is first, the final artist will be found among the stars (6)</p> <p>24 A tall tale about bathing beauties (6)</p> <p>29 Part of the solar curve shows this (3)</p> <p>30 There was a will, so she must have had a way with her (3)</p> |
|--|---|

## QUICK CLUES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <p>1 Extent; direction finder (7)</p> <p>5 Land (6)</p> <p>8 You (French) (2)</p> <p>9 Dog (7)</p> <p>10 Frank (5)</p> <p>13 Mythical tree creature (3)</p> <p>14 Moming (1,1)</p> <p>15 Go over again (7)</p> <p>16 Aimer (8)</p> <p>20 Flower (8)</p> <p>25 Deprived of motorised convenience (7)</p> <p>26 Afternoon (1,1)</p> <p>27 Mythical bird (3)</p> <p>28 Panache; method (5)</p> <p>31 Extent (7)</p> <p>32 One (impersonal - French) (2)</p> <p>33 Scattered (5)</p> <p>34 Struggles (7)</p> | <p><b>DOWN</b></p> <p>1 Providing for (8)</p> <p>2 Virtues (6)</p> <p>3 From Avila (5)</p> <p>4 Road (6)</p> <p>6 Rodent (3)</p> <p>7 Speciality (3)</p> <p>10 Stock (5)</p> <p>11 Shakespearean forest (5)</p> <p>12 Light-coloured (4)</p> <p>17 Weigh up again (8)</p> <p>18 In a strange way (5)</p> <p>19 Sleep noisily (5)</p> <p>21 Purposes (4)</p> <p>22 Stress (6)</p> <p>23 Fruit (6)</p> <p>24 Springlike (6)</p> <p>29 Sticky, oily substance (3)</p> <p>30 Inferior (3)</p> |
|---|---|



# THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH HOME INSURANCE SCHEME



Dedicated **EXCLUSIVELY** to homes of members of a registered Neighbourhood Watch

As specialist Neighbourhood Watch Insurers we are able to offer **SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED PREMIUMS**

For further information and advice please write to:

**Brownhill, Morris and West (Insurance Services) Limited**  
**16 Bromley Road,**  
**Beckenham, Kent BR3 2JE**  
**Telephone: 0181-658 4334**



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# Furniture from the Suburb finds its way to King's Cross

Two suburb residents have worked as Volunteers for the King's Cross Furniture Project since it opened its doors 5 years ago.

A large warehouse at 34 York Way contains a wide selection of second-hand beds, chairs, tables, cookers, fridges and sundries.

When a homeless family is housed in an empty flat, they are sent to King's Cross Furniture Project by Social Services or the charity dealing with them. Only then can they select what they would like, to turn the empty flat into a home. Two days later, the furniture is delivered to them.

There may be folk who have come across hard times; they could be elderly sick, refugees, single mothers, or other hardship cases. A payment is required because a customer values his purchase only if he pays something for it. £150-£200 sees a small home fitted out. Some customers spread their payments out over a couple of months.

Suburb donors have been regular givers of furniture. A telephone call to 0171-278 9985 between 9am and 4pm, Monday-Thursday, will enable a collection booking of your surplus furniture

to be made - usually within 7-10 days. You will also be asked for a small donation to the charity, towards transport and project overheads. Money is nearly as important as furniture.

Whilst electrical equipment is overhauled/repared before it is supplied, there are no facilities for repairing damaged furniture, which should not be offered.

80-100 families are supplied each month. Perhaps furniture from your home will help to turn someone else's shell into a home.

JOHN DAVIS