

BLACKHEATH CATOR ESTATE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

CRIME WAVE?? Autumn 2014

Despite first appearances there is no evidence for a significant upsurge in crime on the Cator Estate over the summer. The figures below cover a six month period rather than the usual three and are in line, we are told, with the continuing drop in recorded crime nationwide. All relate to burglary or car crime.

Sadly this will be of little comfort to those of us who have been the victims of the criminal activity reported. The need for personal and neighbourly vigilance and sensible security precautions won't go away any time soon!

With darker nights upon us and the busy preoccupations of the run up to Christmas it might be worth having a quick look at the common sense advice overleaf just to confirm that you are routinely continuing to do the right things to minimise the chances of suffering the shock, inconvenience and ongoing worry of becoming one of our statistics.

Crime recorded on the Cator Estate March through August 2014

Burglary

Fulthorpe Road (3)
Morden Road Mews
Blackheath Park (2)
Brookway
Foxes Dale
Park Gate
Sweyn Place

Attempted Burglary

Foxes Dale (2)
Manorbrook
Streetfield Mews

Shed/Garage Burglary

Fulthorpe Road (2)

Theft of vehicles

Blackheath Park
Casterbridge Road

Theft from vehicles

Blackheath Park (2)
Brookway (2)
Casterbridge Road
Fulthorpe Road (2)
Manor Way
Merryfield
Papillons Walk (2)
The Lane

Criminal damage to vehicles

Blackheath Park
Morden Road
Foxes Dale

Your Safer Neighbourhoods Teams ...

.... are here to help you. If you have any safety or security concerns they will be delighted to talk to you. They pride themselves on responding to any message within 24 hours.

The Cator Estate falls within two areas. The dividing line is down the centre of Blackheath Park. Blackheath Westcombe is to the north and Middle Park and Sutcliffe to the south.

Blackheath Westcombe 020 8721 2635

Middle Park and Sutcliffe 020 8649 3538

These are not emergency response teams
IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS DIAL 999

Not so urgent?

DIAL 101

Use this very useful number to report a crime that has already happened and where the suspects are not in the area. You will be given a reference number for your insurance and an officer will be assigned to it. It may also be used to enquire about any other police related matter.

SCAM ALERT

Cator Estate residents are not immune to the attentions of on-line, doorstep and telephone fraudsters. They come in many disguises. Recent examples include "phishing" e-mails purporting to be from the Inland Revenue and from high street banks. A particularly cheeky one appeared to be from "Action Fraud" the national organisation dedicated to recording and combating fraud!

Be vigilant - they really ARE out to get you!

See panel overleaf for where to go for further advice and guidance on recognising and dealing with this growing nuisance.

KEEP YOUR HOME SECURE

- Always close and lock doors and windows when you go out - even if just for a short time - and when you go to bed at night. Don't forget doors into garages or conservatories.
- Make sure your locks and security measures comply with your insurance requirements. More information can be found at www.securedbydesign.com and www.locksmiths.co.uk.
- Keep keys, including shed and car keys, in a place where they're not visible to anyone looking in. Don't leave keys in the door and never hide a spare key outside.
- Keep valuables hidden and not visible from windows.
- Take photos of your valuable items for insurance purposes and keep them with your policy.
- Window locks and visible burglar alarms can act as a deterrent to criminals.
- Never leave packaging from new goods visible with your general rubbish. Criminals may see it and target your property.
- Draw curtains in the evening and leave your lights on a timer switch if you're going out.
- Never give your keys to anyone you do not know well. Change locks in a new property so that you know exactly who has keys.
- Never keep large amounts of cash in the house.
- Consider keeping expensive jewellery, house deeds and other important items in a home safe anchored to the brickwork.

*You don't know your local
Neighbourhood Watch
Coordinator??*

*There are currently 30 of us!
Ask David Marler to put you in touch.*

KEEP YOUR CAR SECURE

Car crime reached a peak in the early 1990s when 700,000 cars were stolen in a single year

Thanks largely to the efforts of vehicle manufacturers, and insurers, a vehicle-owning household is now around five times less likely to become a victim of vehicle-related theft than in 1995 but there were still more than 75,000 cars stolen in 2013.

- Keep your car keys somewhere out of sight in your home where they aren't visible from windows or doors.
- Use an anti-theft device on your car. Get one that is "Sold Secure" approved (www.soldsecure.com).
- Try to park somewhere open and well-lit.
- Lock up – including the boot.
- Remember to close the windows and sunroof.
- Don't leave **anything** on show in your car when you park – not even a coat or empty carrier bag.
- Don't store car ownership information in your car!
- Secure number plates with anti-theft screws.
- Try not to store things in the boot overnight.

INFORMATION AND ADVICE ONLINE

Age UK www.ageuk.org.uk
Consumer advice (see under "Money Matters")

Neighbourhood Watch www.ourwatch.org.uk
On-line and doorstep safety advice

Get Safe Online www.getsafeonline.org
Advice on all aspects of on-line security

Action Fraud www.actionfraud.police.uk
Alerts to common ongoing scams



This Newsletter, including all web links, is online. Go to www.blackheathcatorestate.co.uk click on "LINKS" and "HERE" under "Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter".

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Funded by Blackheath Cator Estate Residents Ltd

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