

July 2006

Welcome to the Furzedown Ward SNT Newsletter
In our newsletter we aim to provide good news stories, crime prevention advice and your Safer Neighbourhood Team contact details.



Stun gun found in robber's house

A 17 year old male who robbed a school age victim of his mobile phone has been arrested. The victim and his friend reported the robbery to Police who launched an investigation led by Furzedown SNT officers. With the support of local contacts Sgt Paul O'Herlihy and PC Keeley Webb were able to identify and locate a suspect for the robbery. An arrest enquiry took place at the suspects Camberwell home with a positive result and a search of the property revealed a Taser Gun similar to the one pictured above. In addition to the robbery, the suspect was also arrested for the possession of a Section 5 Firearm and drug offences.

Robbery down 20% with 7 offences reported Safer Streets Operation

This commenced on 15th May 2006 and is targeted with reducing the robbery and street crime offences within the borough. Within Furzedown itself the main target is school age robbery with the operation focussing on the reduction of victims, prevention of further offences and to arrest those responsible.



Vehicle Crime

Last year, as the summer months arrived, many areas of the capital including Furzedown saw a significant rise in vehicle crime. Items of favour included portable SatNav systems, mobile phones and any other accessory that is high in value and easy to sell on. Operation Franziske is a borough wide initiative to prevent this trend from occurring again this year. By identifying vehicles that are at risk and offering crime prevention advice to the owners, the operation has successfully reduced vehicle crime by **61% with 5 offences reported**

A point which became apparent is the lack of awareness to remove the SatNav cradle as well as the system itself. Removing BOTH will deter the opportunist thief from breaking in to check the glovebox. A top tip from the thieves themselves is to leave the glovebox open to show that it is empty and therefore the car doesn't contain anything worthy of stealing.

Anti Social Behaviour Order

Residents of Corsehill Street and Fallsbrook Road have had to endure numerous instances of anti-social behaviour including criminal damage and racial abuse, all contributing to a significant deterioration in the quality of life within the area. In an effort to bring this to an end Furzedown SNT officers have been left with little alternative but to apply for an ASBO on the offending individuals. Application of the ASBO has been partially successful, with an interim order being granted until the middle of September 2006, pending a further consultation to decide whether this should become a longer term arrangement. PC Keeley Webb would personally like to thank members of the community for their assistance in gathering the intelligence which helped make the ASBO possible.

Garden Security

Police have seen an increase in the numbers of thefts from gardens nationwide. People very often underestimate the value of the items in their garden but statistics show there were 18,000 incidents of theft involving garden property across the country last year and insurance claims rose significantly. The most likely items to be stolen are plants, gardening equipment and lawnmowers but almost anything can be a target, including garden gnomes!

Tips to protect your garden

- * Plant a prickly hedge; holly or briar roses with thorny stems are ideal.
- * Mark garden ornaments with your postcode.
- * Secure plant containers with a steel cable or weigh them down with bricks
- * Padlock garage and shed doors, and always put your tools away after use.

Full strength Furzedown

With the rollout of Safer Neighbourhood Teams taking place throughout the Metropolitan Police District, Furzedown would like to introduce our final two team members; PC Bill Eburne 752WW and PCSO Jon Sadler 7199WW. This now makes Furzedown a full Safer Neighbourhood Team which will allow us greater resource to tackle your priority issues.

N.B. This newsletter is available in a variety of languages upon request.