

January 2007

Welcome to the Tooting Safer Neighbourhood Team newsletter.
Giving you information on recent good news stories and events
happening in the place where you live.

Latest crime figures for Tooting

Statistics showing the number of crimes for each ward in London are available from the Metropolitan Police website. These illustrate the impact on local levels of crime that the Police are having. Here in Tooting, the number of reported instances of Criminal Damage, Drugs (including drug abuse and dealing) and Fraud are lower than the London-wide average. The crimes that have seen their levels fall since this time last year include Robbery and Assaults (which are called Violence Against the Person offences). Additionally, the fact that the total number of offences notified to the Police during this period also fell meant that there were fewer people in Tooting who became victims of crime too.

Offences per 1000 population	12 Months to October 2006 (year)	12 Months to October 2005 (year)
Burglary	16.8	11.9
Criminal Damage	14.6	17.6
Drugs Offences	5.7	3.3
Fraud or Forgery	2.7	4.7
Other Notifiable Offences	1.2	2.3
Robbery	6.4	6.8
Sexual Offences	2.1	1.4
Theft and Handling	61.1	61.1
Violence Against the Person	30.9	31.1

It is hoped that a high profile campaign to raise awareness of identity theft will help to cut fraud offences even further. Visit the National ID Fraud Prevention website at www.stop-idfraud.co.uk to download a specially produced guide called 'Protect Your Identity'. Identity fraud occurs when a person's personal information is used by someone else without their knowledge to obtain credit, goods or other services fraudulently.

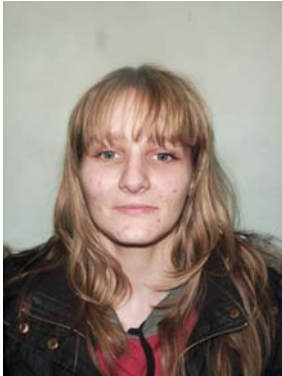
Man imprisoned with SNT help

On 05/12/2006 Milan Patel was convicted at Crown Court after pleading guilty to stealing an elderly man's wallet. Patel, 35 years old, of Tooting tricked his way into the 86 year old victim's house in Tooting in the early hours of the morning and stole the man's wallet which he had left on the side. Patel was arrested shortly after at his home address by PS Lisa Hurley who said in response to the case "This is an excellent result due to the hard work and diligence of the Safer Neighbourhood Team working in close partnership with the members of the community to protect the most vulnerable people from those who would target them in their own homes."

Tooting Safer Neighbourhood Team hope you had a Safe and Happy Festive period and would like to wish you a Peaceful New Year.



New ASBOs For Two Local Women



On 11/12/2006, at South Western Magistrates' Court, an application for an Anti-social Behaviour Order (ASBO) was granted against Jessica Louise Smith, 27 years old, formerly of Tooting (pictured above).

Wandsworth Council, working together with Tooting Safer Neighbourhood Team applied for the ASBO against Jessica Smith after a request for help from St George's Hospital NHS trust. The hospital were concerned that Jessica Smith had been approaching users of the hospital in the grounds and car parks and begging or asking for money.

The accounts of numerous witnesses were presented in court. All of these people had been approached by Jessica Smith who had told them that she was a patient at the hospital or visiting a relative and needed money for the car park or to travel home. Some of the people who gave money felt sympathetic to the stories that Jessica Smith told as they themselves were at the hospital visiting relatives too and did not suspect her stories to be false.

The ASBO now prohibits Jessica Louise Smith from:

- Begging, seeking alms or charitable donations by way of misrepresentation anywhere within England and Wales.
- Entering an exclusion zone including St George's Hospital grounds and buildings and the surrounding roads between Fountain Road and Tooting High Street save for treatment for a medical emergency or by prior written appointment.

This is in force for the next 5 years, until 10/12/2011.



On 30/11/2006, at South Western Magistrates' Court, an application for an Anti-social Behaviour Order (ASBO) was granted against Charmaine Wouters, 26 years old, of Tooting (pictured above).

Wandsworth Council, working together with Tooting Safer Neighbourhood Team applied for the ASBO against Charmaine Wouters to attempt to stop her from targeting the residents of Tooting and Earlsfield in their own homes.

PC Josh Taylor of the SNT said "This woman had been convicted at court of obtaining money by deception on 14 separate occasions. Each time she had called at a house and asked the occupiers there if she could borrow some money to get to hospital. These were bogus requests. Charmaine Wouters never repaid the money and people found that having a distressed young woman on their doorstep who was begging for help, often in the middle of the night was upsetting."

The ASBO now prohibits Charmaine Wouters from:

- Begging, seeking money or charitable donations
- Visiting any residential premises, and using doorbell, knocking or telephone without prior permission of an occupier except when visiting relatives or friends.

This is in force anywhere within England and Wales for the next 3 years, until 30/11/2009. If Charmaine Wouters is found to have done any of the things she is prohibited from doing then she may face arrest, and up to 5 years imprisonment.

Remember: If you see either Jessica Smith or Charmaine Wouters breaking *any* of the conditions of the orders against them then please contact Tooting SNT using the phone number or e-mail address below:

We can be contacted at Tooting Police Station, Mitcham Road, SW17 9JQ
0208 721 2701 **tooting.snt@met.police.uk**

