

Distraction Burglaries in Islington Borough



Distraction Burglary



**WE ARE APPEALING FOR WITNESSES
CAN YOU HELP US?**

BURGLARY ARTIFICE

ON WEDS 2nd FEB 05. AT MIDDAY, TWO WHITE MALES ONE OF THEM STOCKY AGED BETWEEN 30-50yrs WITH AN 84 YEAR OLD MAN IN A WHITE CAR MARKED EITHER NHS OR AMBULANCE WERE PARKED BEHIND HOUSE OF CURTAINS

In strictest confidence, please phone
020 8284 8343/46

**DID YOU SEE OR HEAR ANYTHING?
PLEASE CALL US**

On the number above or at your local police station or ring CRIMESTOPPERS



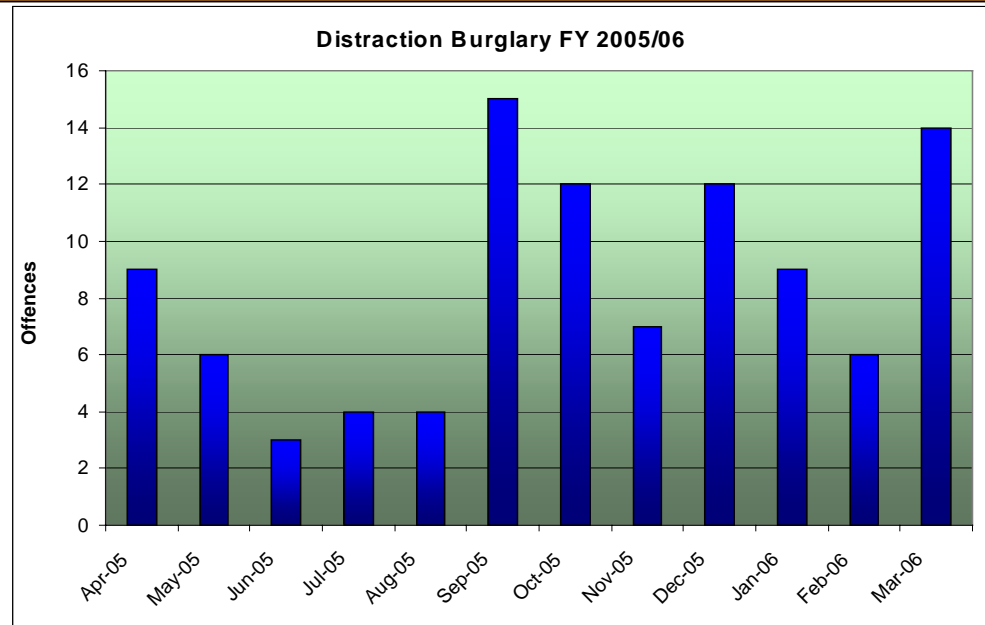
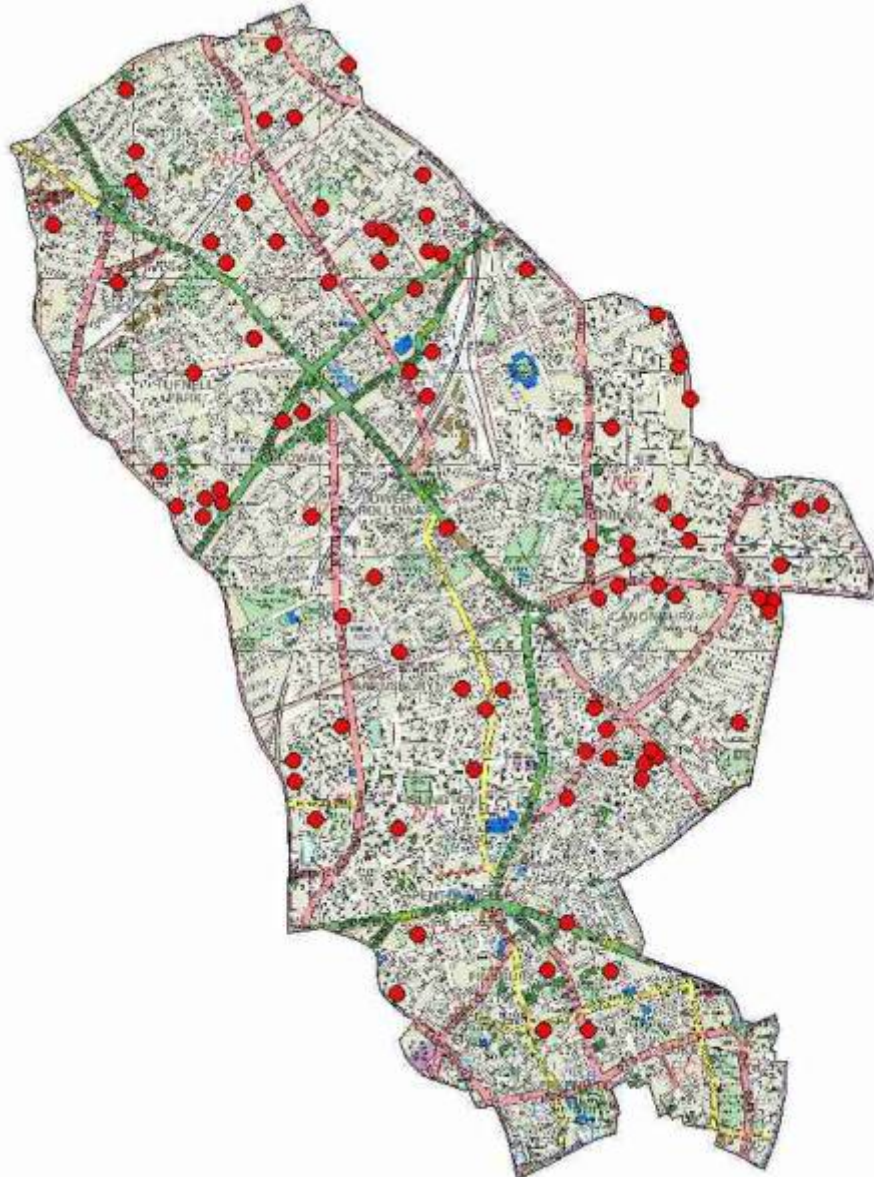
**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Working together for a safer London

Tasking & Coordinating

NI Distraction Overview FY 05/06

Source: CRIS data between 01/04/2005 – 31/03/2006



Peak Offending Periods

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	Grand Total
0000-0159	1							1
0400-0559							1	1
0600-0759				2		1		3
0800-0959		1	2	1		1		5
1000-1159	2	3	6	3	2	2	2	20
1200-1359		4	4	5	8	3		24
1400-1559		5	4	2	1		1	13
1600-1759	3	2	3		5	1	1	15
1800-1959	1	1	5		3	2		12
2000-2159			2		1			3
2200-2359			1					1
Grand Total	7	16	27	13	20	10	5	98



METROPOLITAN POLICE

Working together for a safer London

Tasking & Coordinating

Method/Offender/Victim Profiles

Distraction Methods Used

Waterboard/Water Related (34%)	Builders/Workmen (10%)
Council (9%)	Police (5%)
Electric/Gas (5%)	Plumber (3%)
Neighbour Hurt (3%)	Gardeners (2%)

Main Suspect Descriptions

Gender:	Male (91%)
Age Range:	25-34 (52%)
	35-44 (30%)
Ethnicity:	White European (88%)
No. Suspects:	1 (45%)
	2 (43%)

Main Victim Descriptions

Gender:	Female (63%)
Age Range:	80-89 (38%)
	65-79 (33%)
Ethnicity:	White European (91%)
No. Victims:	1 (81%)
	2 (19%)



Installation of Memo Cameras

- The aim is that **all victims** of distraction burglaries have a Memo Camera installed
- A Memo Camera is a small digital camera that is strategically placed to capture those entering through the front door
- Memory card will store thousands of images and then store over them when the card is full
- Each camera costs approximately **£300**
- There are currently around **80 installed** and operational in the homes of elderly residents in Islington
- A further **35** are on order and will be ready for deployment in the near future



Memo Camera Images



**CRIS 1234567/06 Distraction Burglary
at 1300 hrs on Monday 12th February 2006**

Suspects followed elderly victim back to his flat. They knocked at his door posing as water-board officials, and were admitted. Victim was distracted by one whilst the other stole victim's savings. Suspects made off. Theft was only discovered later.

***Any ideas?? – E-mail Investigation
Officer..... Or NI Burglary Squad***



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

Working together for a safer London

Tasking & Coordinating

Key Findings

- On average Islington experienced almost **2 distraction burglaries a week** for the 12 month period 01/04/2005 – 31/03/2006.
- The general **peak time** for offences is between **1000-1959** hours.
- The general **peak day** for offences are **Tuesday through to Friday** with Wednesday and Friday being the busiest.
- By far the **most common MO is Waterboard/Water Related** which made up 34% of all Islington's distraction burglary during the reporting period.
- **Suspects** are usually **White European males aged 25-44 years** either on their own or in pairs.
- **Victims** are usually **White European males or females aged between 65-89 years**.
- Currently there are around **80 memocams installed** and operational in the homes of elderly residents in Islington.
- A further **35** are on order and will be ready for deployment in the near future.



Recommendations

Intelligence

- Investment in **further** memo cameras

Prevention

- Crime Prevention advice given to **all** victims of distraction burglary
- Raise awareness of distraction methods by targeting **places** that elderly people visit / meet

Enforcement

- **Target hardening** measures for vulnerable people / premises

