

Safer Barnsbury

How the police and the council are making your neighbourhood safer

Winter 2010



**We are Barnsbury Safer Neighbourhoods team.
You've told us your ward priorities include:**

- Anti-social behaviour related to drugs
- Youth engagement
- Burglary.

Barnsbury Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) and Islington Council are working together to make your local area a safer place. If you have any concerns about crime or anti-social behaviour in your neighbourhood, please let us know (see back page for contact details).

Did you know?

- Drugs supply has more than halved in the Barnsbury ward this year? And thefts from motor vehicles have gone down by 17%.

From the Metropolitan Police Service in partnership with Islington Council



Safer Barnsbury

Barnsbury drug dealer gets five years

After receiving complaints from local residents and businesses in the Wynford Road area about Gafar Odunuga on the Priory Green Estate, Barnsbury Safer Neighbourhoods team (SNT) stepped up patrols and arrested Mr Odunuga for a number of minor offences. Then, when we caught a drugs runner arranging to receive drugs from Mr Odunuga, over £1,000 worth of drugs were seized at Mr Odunuga's home.

Mr Odunuga was found guilty of supplying class A drugs and sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

PC Richard Hill said: *"If you see any suspicious activity, please contact us. It may take time as we gather evidence, but as you can see we don't ignore it and we will get these criminals eventually."*



More localised policing

Islington Police have responded to residents' concerns by increasing their focus on neighbourhood policing, developing a Safer Neighbourhoods (SN) Task Force who will work with the existing Safer Neighbourhoods teams to tackle problems such as large groups of young people gathering on estates, anti-social behaviour on mopeds, drugs and drug dealing and undercover operations.

And more police on the beat

Islington Council is funding a South Islington problem-solving police team. This new police team will provide extra cover at weekends and evenings, and will focus on problem areas such as housing estates and parks.

We already have a North Islington problem-solving police team, which has been working with Safer Neighbourhoods teams to tackle long-standing anti-social behaviour problems.

Fighting burglary

Barnsbury SNT has increased patrols in hotspot areas and our stop-and-searches. We visit second hand shops to check, with ultra violet light, whether stolen goods are changing hands.

We also monitor burglary suspects, visiting them regularly to check they are complying with their bail conditions.

Residents have been interested in our Neighbourhood Watch schemes. Barnsbury now has three new schemes in the pipeline, with more to follow.

We are determined to reduce burglaries and bring burglars to justice. If you would like any advice on security, how to mark your property or set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, please contact Barnsbury SNT on **020 7421 0328**.

Safer Challenge

Young people aged five to 19 have the chance to make a difference to Barnsbury ward through projects they design, develop and run themselves. The 2010 Safer Neighbourhoods Annual Challenge (SNAC) runs over the spring school term. Local police will support young people in their quest to make Islington a safer place. Contact Barnsbury SNT for more information.

End of the road for illegal minicabs

Islington Council is working with the police, Transport for London and other partners to tackle:

- Illegal parking
- Illegal vehicles
- Misuse of disabled blue badges
- Large groups of cab drivers on the street
- Cab drivers dropping litter

Local residents and businesses complained to Islington Council about minicabs in Chapel Market. We ran checks on drivers, vehicles and parking.

Over the last year we have made 59 visits to minicab offices across Islington, and inspected 328 minicabs. Forty-two of these were found to be unfit for use. Please use a licensed minicab office – if you have any concerns or suspicions, please report them. Go to www.islington.gov.uk/safer to find out how you can check if your local cab firm or driver is licensed.

Canal path robberies

Islington Police are taking extra precautions to protect the community and combat a recent rise in robberies on the Regent's Canal towpath, particularly in the area near Danbury Street.

Officers are patrolling the canal on a daily basis and St Peter's SNT has increased their patrols in the areas surrounding the canal towpath including Danbury Street, Raleigh Street and St Paul's Street. Barnsbury SNT has also increased their night patrols in the area.

Last November a woman was charged with robbery and possession of a knife near the Regent's Canal.

We ask residents to remain vigilant and avoid taking shortcuts along the canal towpath at night. Don't wear earphones while walking. For more information on staying safe go to www.islington.gov.uk/safer

Make sure your bike isn't just for Christmas

If you got a nice new bike for Christmas, make sure you lock it securely to make it harder for thieves to steal.

Islington Police have been using decoy bikes in hotspots to catch would-be thieves, and have already made six arrests in one hotspot area. Two cycle shops are offering a 10% discount on all safety and security items to cyclists who have a safer bikes voucher. The shops taking part are Mosquito Bikes, 123 Essex Road, and Finsbury Cycles, 185 Seven Sisters Road.

Barnsbury SNT will be handing out vouchers, contact us to find out how you can get yours.

For simple tips to prevent your bike being stolen, or to download a discount voucher, go to www.islington.gov.uk/saferbikes. Remember; **always** lock your bike – even if you are leaving it on a shared balcony or hallway.

And register your bike at www.immobilise.com so if it is stolen, police can return it.

And if you are unlucky enough to have your bike stolen?

- Report it! Call **0300 123 1212**

Islington Council are installing and upgrading sheds, stands and other safer parking initiatives. If you want safer cycling stands in your area, contact volkan.ulucay@islington.gov.uk.

Want to stop drinking or taking drugs?

If you would like help to make your 2010 a year free of drink or drugs, please contact the Islington NHS drink and drugs helpline on 08000 66 55 25 for information, advice and support. Don't leave it another year.

We are listening to you

You see it, hear it, report it. We deal with it.

Help us by reporting any problems so that we can take action.

Graffiti, fly posting, dog fouling, fly tipping:
Islington Council - **020 7527 2000**

Anti-social behaviour or drug dealing:
Barnsbury SNT on **020 7421 0328**

For non-emergencies, or to report a crime which has already taken place call **0300 123 1212**.

Remember in an emergency always dial **999**.

If you are Deaf or have hearing difficulties you can use a textphone, dial **18000** in an emergency, or if your call is not an emergency - **18001 0300 123 1212**.

Safer web pages

You can find these numbers and other information about crime and safety at Islington Council's new webpages www.islington.gov.uk/safer. Please have a look and let us know what other information about crime and safety you would like to see there.

Want more information on crime figures?

Go to www.met.police.uk/crimefigures. You can type in your postcode for information about your ward and the borough of Islington.

Decide Barnsbury's police priorities

If you don't agree with the three priorities on the front of this newsletter, why don't you join our Safer Neighbourhoods ward panel? Then you can tell us what is a priority for you as the panel sets local police priorities. Contact Barnsbury SNT for more information.

Meet Barnsbury Safer Neighbourhoods team

We hold regular drop-in meetings, where you can come and talk to us about any concerns you have.

For updated meeting information go to www.met.police.uk/teams/islington/barnsbury

The dates of our next meetings – all at Prospect House, Donegal Street, N1 – are:
23 February, 7- 8 pm 30 March, 7 – 8 pm
27 April, 7 – 8pm

TEAM MEMBERS

Sgt Marcel Baker	PC Richard Hill
PC Chris O'Toole	PCSO Vennis Stewart
PCSO Mags Coddington	PCSO Andy Hudson

CONTACT

Barnsbury Team, Islington Police Station
2 Tolpuddle Street, London N1 0YY

020 7421 0328 07920 233 797
Barnsbury.snt@met.police.uk

You can find a map of your ward and details of other Safer Neighbourhoods teams by using the online postcode search on www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods
Your SNT is not a 24-hour emergency response team. In an emergency always dial 999.

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