

Safer St Mary's

How the police and the council are making your neighbourhood safer

Winter 2010



We are St Mary's Safer Neighbourhoods team.

You've told us your ward priorities include:

- Anti-social behaviour by young people in Milner Square
- Moped theft
- Bike theft.

St Mary's 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?

- Criminal damage to cars has gone down by a fifth in St Mary's ward in the last 12 months?

From the Metropolitan Police Service in partnership with Islington Council



Safer St Mary's

Three detained attempting to steal moped

A motorist who had seen a group of young people acting suspiciously near a parked moped stopped Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Aktar Ali while he was on patrol.

The driver took Officer Aktar Ali to the scene where three young people were using bolt croppers to cut the chain lock. As soon as they saw the approaching officer they split up and ran off. Officer Aktar Ali detained two, who were both arrested.

Officer Aktar Ali identified the third suspect and he was arrested later that day. All suspects have been charged with attempted theft. This success is just a part of the work being done to reduce moped crime in the ward.

St Mary's officers are conducting patrols to identify mopeds with poor security, and to provide owners who meet certain criteria with high quality locks free of charge. The locks have been funded by Islington Police and Islington Council. For more information please contact us on **020 7421 0259**. If you have any concerns about crime or anti-social behaviour in your area, please report it. We rely on information from the public to help us tackle anti-social behaviour and bring criminals to justice.

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.

Putting a stop to street drinking

Islington Council is committed to working with street drinkers and we know that in the summer months, street drinking often increases. We recently delivered a ten-week outreach project to reduce street drinking. Two local charities, the Pilion Trust and New Horizons, were given extra funding to focus on key street drinking hotspots including Islington Council and the police continue to monitor the situation. If you have any concerns about street drinkers in your area, please contact St Mary's SNT.

Extra measures to tackle anti-social behaviour in Milner Square

St Mary's SNT received a number of complaints from residents relating to groups of young people loitering outside homes in Milner Square, swearing, shouting and causing a nuisance until the early hours.

The team increased patrols within the square and extended our patrols into the early hours of the morning. Our visible presence in Milner Square has reduced anti-social behaviour.

We have gained information on the individuals and addresses causing the anti-social behaviour and, working in partnership with Partners for Islington (PFI), three families are now subject to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) and two households have been given notices stating that PFI is seeking possession of their homes.

Our action is helping to reduce the number of young people loitering in the square, and we will continue to maintain a visible and reassuring presence in the area. With PFI, we will review the tenancies of families who do not appreciate the seriousness of complaints from their neighbours. We listen to residents' concerns and do everything we can to resolve them.

Safer Neighbourhoods Challenge

Young people are being given the chance to make a positive difference to St Mary's ward through projects they design, develop and run themselves.

The 2010 Safer Neighbourhoods Annual Challenge (SNAC) runs over the spring school term and is open to young people aged five to 19 who attend a school, college or youth club in Islington.

Officers from St Mary's SNT and Safer Schools officers will support young people in their quest to make Islington a safer place. For more information go to www.thesnac.com or contact us on **020 7421 0259**.

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.

St Mary's 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:
St Mary's SNT on **020 7421 0259**

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 St Mary'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 St Mary's SNT for more information.

TEAM MEMBERS

Sgt Dave Hamill	PC Buffy Pearce
PCSO Aktar Ali	PCSO Sonia Westbrook
PCSO Tom Birch	

CONTACT

St Mary's Team, Islington Police Station
2 Tolpuddle Street, London N1 0YY

020 7421 0259 07843 065 901
StMarys.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.

To request this newsletter in large print, Braille, audiotape or disk format please call 020 7527 3180. To request this newsletter in another language call 020 7527 3180.