

# THE HOLLY LODGE ESTATE

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017

### SAVE THE DATES.....

#### **PLOT OWNERS' AGM**

The AGM is planned for 8pm on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. A formal notice will come out to plot owners only nearer the time with agenda, Chairman's report etc.

#### **HLE CAAC AGM**

The HLE Conservation Area Advisory Committee will be holding its AGM in the Community Centre on 19th April 7.30pm. The Chair's Report will be circulated nearer the time and all residents are invited to attend.

**ANNUAL SUMMER PARTY** ....Watch out for more news..... All residents invited to join the fun

**\*\*\*Any musicians wishing to take part in this event please contact the Estate Manager\*\*\***



#### **OVERHANGING GARDENS**

During a recent survey of the footpaths we came across several instances where trees and bushes were overhanging the path. We were particularly concerned where there were sharp twiggy branches (such as roses) at adult or child's eye level which can be hard to see. We will trim back plants that we believe create a hazard or inconvenience, but in the first instance we would ask you to check your boundary plants. As a guide, please ensure that bushy plants do not restrict the path in such a way that two people side by side cannot pass unimpeded.

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## **A NOTE FROM OUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM**

Dear Highgate ward resident/business owner,

As many of you will know, burglary is one of our top priorities to tackle in Highgate. It is an issue that has affected many of our residents, and also something that concerns many others.

We have used a variety of initiatives to help allay people's concerns and to reduce the number of break-ins in Highgate.

- We have visited homes and conducted over 50 home security evaluations (this is something we still offer - let us know if you are interested)
- We have assisted in delivering hundreds of SMART water kits to Highgate residents to mark their property and deter burglars.
- We have held public meetings called "beat the burglar", and given talks on how to prevent being burgled and to keep your home safe.
- We have conducted high visibility patrols in hot spot areas to enable you to feel safe and to also show criminals we are present.
- We have helped establish over 20 new Neighbourhood Watch scheme to give residents a platform to look out for one another.

As well as these initiatives, we know that many people are keen to find out whenever we catch a burglar, so please allow me to share some good news with you:

In November 2016 - A well known burglar attempted to break in to a Highgate home, using a plastic tool to gain entry. The home owner was in, and was able to slam the door shut as the burglar was trying to get in, causing him to drop the plastic tool in the hallway before fleeing. The plastic tool was kept, and forensically tested, and came back as a match. Based on this alone; the burglar in question was arrested, charged, and recently sentenced to eighteen months in prison for attempted burglary.

This is a great result, as we know from experience burglars often commit many offences in one go, and catching and locking away one can have a huge affect on burglary in a given area.

Key points to take away:

- Always report a break in! Even without any available evidence, for us to know it has taken place can be a key piece of intelligence that links to other offences.
- If you have been burgled, try not to touch anything where possible. Forensic evidence can often be a great investigative tool when it comes to burglary.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding burglary in Highgate and how we respond to it, please do get in touch!

Kind regards,

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Highgate

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