



LOUGHTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

HELP NEEDED PLEASE

delivering our *Loughton Life* newsletter
Copies will be available towards the end of September.

We're very grateful to our volunteer deliverers, who cover the whole of Loughton (around 13,000 households)

If you can help for an hour or so with any of these rounds, please email david.linnell@LoughtonResidents.co.uk

- 1) Audley Gardens, Collard Green, Collard Avenue (146 copies)
- 2) Broomfield Avenue & nearby roads (138 copies)
- 3) High Road (203 upwards; 166 upwards) (117 copies)
- 4) Part of Great Woodcote Park (59 copies)



(picture: Sept 2017 edition)

Crime in Loughton

A shortened version of this article will appear in 2-3 weeks' time in our next printed Townwide newsletter, *Loughton Life*. However, we think it's important enough for a special bulletin now.

Public meetings express concerns

Recently, residents have become increasingly concerned about crime, particularly crime by youths (and on youths). Marion Barclay arranged two public meetings at Loughton Club, ably chaired by Independent Cllr Stephen Murray, which were very well-attended by residents and by LRA Cllrs, and where residents could raise specific issues and the police could explain what they were doing.

Among the many issues raised were: the anti-social behaviour of a group of teenagers coming from outside the District and congregating in around Loughton Station and Debdon Broadway; a lack of visible Police presence; the closure of Loughton police station, no British Transport Police (BTP) presence at Loughton and Debdon Stations, youngsters fare-dodging and the lack of street lights.

Police response

In response our Divisional Commander, Chief Inspector Basford, and BTP have increased uniformed and plain-clothes patrols in Loughton (of course, we can't tell that plainclothes teams are around, any more than the troublemakers can). We do however know that there have been arrests in Loughton. Also the police have been present at Loughton & Debdon Tube Stations checking for knives.

We report as much of this activity as we can on our Twitter and Facebook pages (see the end of this bulletin for links).

Loughton police station

Although our police station's public desk is closed (it wasn't used much anyway), police the station is the base for the local Community team, and many others.

District Council Community Safety team

There are also police officers working with the Epping Forest District Council Community Safety team and available when needed, together with private security personnel.

Street lights

LRA thinks it was a bad decision - taken by the Conservatives in 2009 - to switch off most of our street lights at night.

We worked hard to mitigate its worst effects, and succeeded in having the switch-off hours reduced from 12-6 to 1-5. We encouraged the Conservatives to go for better control of the lighting, and to take up more energy-efficient LED lighting (for which County now have an agreed conversion programme).

We welcome the Tories' apparent conversion to the idea of having the lights on all night in Loughton, putting right the problems they themselves created from 2009.

Chris has asked the police for statistics of crimes committed during 1- 5am when the lights are off but hasn't yet received them. CI Basford has said that there's no known research that shows that crime increases when streetlights are switched off overnight – we know research has been carried out in Essex, but aren't sure whether any of it was conducted in urban areas as close to London as Loughton.

Car thefts

One night recently there were two separate attempts (in different roads) to steal cars keylessly. One thief got away with the car, the other didn't – those keys were safely tucked up overnight in a Faraday pouch (get one online or at Halfords for under a tenner).

What you can do!

Please report what you see. Our District Commander, Lewis Basford, has emphasised the importance of every resident reporting each and every crime, even if you think the police will not be able to act. The number of police officers we have locally depends largely on the number of crime reports that come in. Also, if you're not happy with the service you get, please complain.

Join Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch. They do a great job of reporting what's going on, and Watch members keep an eye open for each other's property.

Join them, or help set up a NW group in your road if there isn't one already).

We exchange information with them constantly.

(www.eppingforestnhw.org.uk or info@eppingforestnhw.org.uk)

When should you use 999?

Only when there is a direct and immediate threat to life or property or if a crime is in progress. Or there's been a road traffic collision and someone is hurt and/or there's danger to other road users.

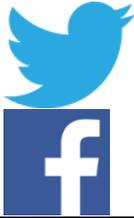
Alternatives

For routine enquiries or to report crimes or incidents which are over, ring 101 or, on your computer or phone, go to www.essex.police.uk - under *Do it online* choose what it's about (this frees up the 101 call taker to deal with other calls and reduces the waiting time).

For British Transport Police: incidents on or near stations and on public transport:
ring 0800 40 50 40 or text 61016.

To report crime anonymously. Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111 <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

Local enquiries but not to report crime: Loughton Police hub, based in Loughton police station:
EppingForestCPT@essex.pnn.police.uk (manned Monday – Friday).



**KEEP UP WITH THE NEWS
BETWEEN OUR EMAIL BULLETINS**

TWITTER: Follow us on Twitter at @LoughtonRA
Not on Twitter? See our tweets at www.loughtonresidents.org.uk

FACEBOOK: *Like and Follow* our Facebook page by going to
www.facebook.com/LoughtonResidents

NOTES

1. We expect to send out the next news bulletin on Friday September 21st.
2. In the process of drafting these items and sending them by email, some links to websites or email addresses can be broken; you can get round this by right-clicking on the link and then clicking “open” or, if this does not work, by cutting and pasting the address into an email or browser as appropriate.
3. If a web address doesn’t work, or anything else is wrong, please let us know at david.linnell@loughtonresidents.co.uk
4. LRA gives no warranty about, and will take no responsibility for, items or services offered – purchasers/users should make their own enquiries, and will be acting at their own risk.
5. To enlarge a picture, click on it and then drag one of the corners outwards
6. EFNW = Epping Forest Neighbourhood Watch

David Linnell

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For more about LRA & Loughton see www.loughtonresidents.co.uk
or email contact@loughtonresidents.co.uk

Promoted by & on behalf of Independent Loughton Residents Association of 20 Eleven Acre Rise, Loughton, Essex IG10 1AN