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1ST CLASS PROTECTION

1ST CLASS PROTECTION NEWSLETTER

Your Security News, Information & Updates



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KNIFE CRIME

The extent of the nation's knife crime epidemic has been revealed in worrying statistics showing there are almost 130 serious knife offences committed every day. Home Office figures reveal how hundreds of people are being targeted by knife-wielding attackers every month.

In last year's general election campaign Boris Johnson vowed to crack down on the problem. He said:

"A Conservative government would come down hard on the scourge of knife crime.

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"We have committed to putting an extra 20,000 police officers on our streets but they need to have the powers to act decisively and effectively to prevent crime and see that offenders face justice."

David Spencer, research director at the Centre for Crime Prevention, said:

"It is clear that the police have lost control of the situation and urgent new powers are needed to allow them to get these knives, and the thugs brandishing them, off our streets. What we need is more police on the streets with the power to search and stronger sentences for anyone caught in possession of a knife or committing a knife-related offence."

A Home Office spokesman said:

"We are making our communities safer by recruiting 20,000 extra police officers over the next three years, investing in violence reduction units as well as early intervention projects to steer young people away from knife crime.

"We are also changing the law so that police, councils and health authorities are legally required to work together to prevent and tackle serious violence."

KNIFE CRIME 2018/19

London borough	Offences
Westminster	985
Southwark	777
Haringey	764
Newham	696
Brent	680
Tower Hamlets	667
Hackney	650
Enfield	617
Islington	578
Lewisham	574
Lambeth	573
Ealing	530
Camden	524
Croydon	504
Waltham Forest	453
Redbridge	440
Hammersmith and Fulham	434
Barking and Dagenham	432
Wandsworth	429
Greenwich	426
Barnet	402
Hounslow	370
Havering	340
Kensington and Chelsea	328
Hillingdon	311
Harrow	257
Bromley	230
Merton	220
Bexley	188
Richmond upon Thames	157
Kingston upon Thames	157
Sutton	148
Heathrow Airport	2
Total	14,843

*Latest published Government statistics for year end March 2019.

"There are almost 130 serious knife offences committed every day."

WEST END INITIATIVE

More than 340 arrests have been made as part of an ongoing operation tackling robbery in the West End.

Operation Fahrenheit was launched in November last year, to disrupt robbery and associated crime in and around the West End by using more stop and search, targeted plain-clothes officers and high-visibility patrols in hot spot areas, as well as other tactics.

In the two months since the operation started, officers conducted more than 2,800 Stop and Searches, and more than 340 arrests were made for a variety of violence, weapon and drug offences.

To support police enforcement activity around robbery, the Met has launched an advertising campaign which aims to encourage people to “look up, look out” when they might be distracted by their mobile phone in public, so they are less vulnerable to becoming victims of crime.

The adverts will specifically target people when they are in the West End and will reach people at times of the day, and at locations when and where robberies are most often committed – near major attractions and transport hubs and in high streets, in the evenings.

The West End and St James’s wards are the top two ward areas for robbery in the capital, and around two thirds of the robberies in those wards are linked to the night-time economy and happen between 1800hrs and 0600hrs.

To reduce the chances of becoming a victim of street robbery, The Met advises:

- **Stay aware of your surroundings and pay attention to who’s around you.**
- **Keep valuables such as mobile phones, watches and cash out of sight where possible.**
- **Plan your route home, and stay on busy well-lit streets where possible.**



AMAZON RING

In spite of their popularity, internet-connected doorbells have faced many privacy and security concerns in recent months.

Last December, Vice.com tested the security and found user accounts can easily be compromised. US civil liberties group EFF also found that Ring's Android app shares personal data to third parties, including Facebook and other big data companies.

Control Access

Adding shared users is better than sharing your login details with people but if you're always changing who can access your account, it is worth checking who has access to what. Through the control centre you can see the Ring accounts that have access to what devices you own and revoke permissions. The same goes for lost or stolen devices - you should check what hardware has access to your account.

Limit third-party data sharing

Amazon says it is working on ways to opt out of information being shared outside of Ring. However, there is already the option of not having your information used for personalised advertising. You can opt out of adverts through the control centre.

Set privacy zones

The camera outside of your house doesn't have to record everything it sees. There is a way to limit the camera's field of vision. To do so, open the Ring app and tap on the camera view, then video and privacy settings. Here you'll find edit privacy zones and you will be able to draw an area to be excluded from the camera view using a finger on the screen.

Use a strong password

This doesn't just apply to Ring, it's standard advice for every website and app you use. If you reuse the same password from one website to another and it is compromised (or too simple) then hackers will be able to access every account where you use that password.



PARSON STREET

On March 1st, a young father was stabbed to death on his way to work a night shift just 15 minutes after leaving his newborn baby at home.

Officers were called to Parson Street, Hendon, at 21:00 PM after a silver VW Polo collided with a parked car. The 24-year-old victim, from Edgware, was found inside the VW Polo suffering from stab injuries. He had been attacked in a car park minutes before the crash, police said.

He was taken to hospital but died later. Det Insp Andy Partridge, of the Metropolitan Police, said: "We believe the victim was parked up in the silver VW Polo in the car park in Stratford Road, off Bell Lane, NW4, minutes before the collision took place in Parson Street. The victim was arriving at the car park, in order to travel to work for a night shift."

LEAVING PARTY

In February, one of our nursery schools were sad to say goodbye to their much appreciated security guard, Robert. The children created some beautiful cards and posters to thank their security officer for being the friendly, kind and reliable guard that we know him to be. We wish Robert all the best in his new career!



LOCAL CRIME

Chelsea Murder

Police were called at 18:50hrs on Monday, 17 February, to St Mark's Grove, SW10 after the London Ambulance Service were called to an unresponsive man inside a property.

A 54-year-old-man was found with head injuries at the premises. He was pronounced dead at the scene and his next of kin have been informed.

A post-mortem examination revealed cause of death as strangulation and blunt force trauma. A 46-year-old-man was arrested on suspicion of murder and charged as above.



Mosque Stabbing

A man has been charged over a stabbing attack at London Central Mosque.

Daniel Horton was charged on Friday night with grievous bodily harm and possession of a bladed article.

Raafat Maglad, who is in his 70s, was treated in hospital for stab injuries after Thursday's incident but was later released.

Gun-point Car Theft

A search is underway for two suspects who threatened a man with a gun before stealing his car. He had been driving along Upper Beulah Hill in Bromley at around 8.40pm on Monday when the incident took place.

The 60-year-old victim came to a stop in his black Range Rover when he mistakenly believed an unmarked police car on blue lights had indicated for him to pull over.

The victim got out of the car after one of the suspects introduced himself as a police officer and presented a false warrant card. The suspect then requested that the victim speak with his 'colleague' in their car.

When the victim approached the vehicle, the man in the driver's seat pointed a firearm at him. At this point, the first suspect drove off in the victim's Range Rover, and the suspects' vehicle also left the scene.