

NEWSLETTER

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

SUMMER 2026



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

CHEAM



Cheam Charter Fair

We had a stall at the Fair, and as it was a sunny day and the event well attended, we were busy!

Quite a number of people signed up and we had a good many useful conversations.



Good news nationally

The law now recognises that a person sexually harassing another person sexually is committing an offence, under a new sexual harassment law.

Such behaviour has for a long time been excused as "banter" – but no longer!

Press coverage referred to a large drunk man who approached a petite woman, grabbed her hair and wanted to kiss her.

He was already on bail after admitting stalking another woman for 22 months, and has now been sentenced for both offences. This is just one example of how the law could be applied.



AGM 2026

In our present state with such a small committee and no Chairperson, we continue our work mainly through publishing this Bulletin, and in the circumstances we are not planning an Annual General Meeting this year. We can, however, attend the Sutton AGM which covers Cheam; it is planned to be held on **Wednesday 16 September at 6pm**, in the Civic Offices, Sutton. Notification of the details will be issued shortly.



News from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

All crime recorded relates to theft and damage of property. It is sad that offenders are so ready to wreak havoc on other people's property and it does underline the need for burglar alarms, surveillance and other precautions.

Recorded crime March – May 2026 is as follows:

**Residential Burglary 9 Attempted Burglary 1
Theft of Motor Vehicles 0 Theft from Motor Vehicles 4**



Cheam Neighbourhood Watch

Part of the London Borough of Sutton Neighbourhood Watch Association



Registered Charity No. 1120448



Residential Burglaries

07/03 THE DENE	Entry gained by smashing rear patio door, untidy search
12/03 ABBOTTS ROAD	Property under renovation, copper pipes stolen
17/03 THE DENE	Entry gained by smashing rear patio door, untidy search
11/04 BURDON LANE	Entry gained smashing patio door. untidy search
11/04 SANDY LANE	Entry gained smashing rear patio door, untidy search
28/04 ONSLOW AVENUE	Entry gained smashing rear patio door, untidy search
20/05 MALDEN ROAD	Entry gained smashing patio door, suspect disturbed
21/05 BURDON LANE	Entry gained front door slipped lock, untidy search
21/05 THE AVENUE	Entry gained smashing rear patio door, untidy search

Attempted Burglary

06/05 THE AVENUE	Front door panel smashed, suspect disturbed
------------------	---

Theft From Motor Vehicle

17/03 TABOR GARDENS	items stolen from vehicle
21/03 PEACHES CLOSE	Catalytic converter has been stolen.
12/04 HIGHER DRIVE	VRM plates stolen
07/05 FIELDSEND ROAD	Spare wheel has been stolen.



Cheam Neighbourhood Watch

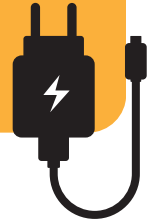
Part of the London Borough of Sutton Neighbourhood Watch Association



Registered Charity No. 1120448

Exploding chargers

Many phone chargers sold online are dangerous – they could explode, cause electric shocks or even start fires. Best to buy a recognised brand from a well-known retailer or direct from the manufacturer. Look for the CE or UKCA mark, and be wary of big-brand names being sold cheaply; they could be fake.



Catapults

I repeat this warning as the problem seems to be getting worse. There are many powerful catapults which can be bought by children. It is even possible to buy parts for a “high-velocity” catapult along with steel ball bearings and clay ball ammunition.

There is no age restriction.

Many children and teenagers have these dangerous weapons and use them to kill or injure animals –

wild animals including protected species, farm stock, even pets.

Campaigning groups are petitioning the government to introduce appropriate legislation, and soon.

If you are aware of any animals being injured by catapults, please inform the Police.

Useful Contacts

 In an Emergency Dial 999



Non-Emergency Police

Dial 101 or report at www.met.police.uk



Cheam Safer Neighbourhood Team

020 8721 2830



Cheam Safer Parks Team

020 8721 2268



Neighbourhood Watch

www.suttonneighbourhoodwatch.co.uk



Email NHW

admin@suttonneighbourhoodwatch.co.uk



CrimeStoppers

0800 555 111



Domestic Violence Hotline

0808 2000 247



Cheam Neighbourhood Watch

Part of the London Borough of Sutton Neighbourhood Watch Association



Registered Charity No. 1120448

Scams

These are becoming even more convincing and imaginative. In particular, there are many scams attempted through Facebook and other social media. If you are purchasing anything online, best to deal with a vendor whom you can approach direct without involving social media. And always be VERY careful about offers. As ever, beware of phone calls offering deals, particularly if the call is unexpected.

Current scams purport to be from Netflix, DVLA, Barclays Bank, EE, Postcode Lottery, Financial Conduct Authority, TV Licensing, National Rail, Apple, and many other reputable organisations. The Which? Group offers a Scam Alert service; you can sign up for weekly updates.

Always report scams or attempted scams to **Report Fraud (previously Action Fraud). Tel. 0300 123 2040. Suspicious emails may be forwarded to report@phishing.gov.uk and texts to 7726.** If the

phone call doesn't seem right, hang up, check by ringing the supposed caller on a number known to be genuine, and if appropriate text 7726 giving the word "Call" and the caller's number. If you have been a victim of fraud, report it to **<https://www.reportfraud.police.uk>.**

Report Fraud is a free service. Since it was founded in 2020 over 55.7 million dodgy emails have been reported. 250,000 scams have been removed across 443,000 malicious websites.

Vehicle Crime Prevention Advice

- Keep your keys in a Faraday bag - This is an affordable way to prevent remote access to your key fob. The pouch is lined with a metallic material that isolates the fob's radio frequency and prevents its transmission to relay devices used by car thieves.

- Turn off keyless entry on your fob - Most models which come with a keyless fob can have a wireless signal manually turned off. This a good way to prevent car theft because you don't need to worry about anyone intercepting the signal.

- Steering wheel lock or alarm - Although wheel locks can be seen as a thing of the past, mechanical devices such as these can be useful as thieves may rely on digital tools when planning on stealing a car. They are also a good visual deterrent due to their size and bright colour making the offender think twice before attempted to take the vehicle.

- Consider outdoor motion detectors/CCTV - If you're not parking your car in a secure garage, but on a driveway instead then it may be worth having a motion sensor light or outdoor CCTV.

- Store keys away from entry points - As key fobs have a range between 5-20 meters on average, it is worth storing vehicle keys away from the entry points to make it harder for a thief to pick up the signal of the key fob.

Residents are encouraged to register with Met Engage which enables Safer Neighbourhood Teams to communicate directly with residents, businesses and community groups within the ward.