



Braintree District NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

4th May 2011

Bank Scam

Information has been received in relation to a bank scam and you are advised to be aware of the tactics used.

On 20 Apr 2011 at 1300hrs, a person was contacted by a man calling himself Chris MORGAN stating he was a Sergeant from Chigwell Police.

He informed the person that their bank account had been tampered with via the internet and would order them a taxi to visit their bank, Santander in Loughton High Road. The person was told to withdraw £3000 from each of their two accounts which MORGAN would take to his police station, have the money marked and then the money would then be put back into their account.

If you receive a call of this nature then please contact Essex Police 0300 333 4444.

Distraction Burglary

Christmas Field, Sible Hedingham.

3rd May - A male knocked at the address and said that he needed to test the water, whilst looking at the pipes another male entered the property. It was then found that money had been removed from the property. This occurred between 10:00 – 12:57.

Did you notice anyone hanging around the area? Both males were aged between 30 – 40 years and one had short dark hair.

Burglary Dwelling

Church Street, Braintree

3rd May – Whilst a property owner was working in the garden someone entered the property and made a messy search was made. Subsequently a cash and jewellery were removed. This occurred at approx 13:15. It appears

that whilst working in the garden the door at the property was open. The victim prior to this had spoken to a male who had asked for directions.

Please can I give a gentle reminder to members?

If you are working outside tending to your garden please ensure that you keep your doors closed and a key in your pocket. Those that commit crime will note an easy opportunity when your back is turned.

Distraction Burglary Church Street, Braintree

3rd May at approx 13.50 a male called at a property claiming that he needed to check the water pressure. It appears that one male came into the property and went into the kitchen and a further male went in to the living room and bedroom made a messy search and removed a purse and a quantity of cash from a handbag.

BRAINTREE:

BRAINTREE: house burglary; Brunel Road; 30/04 - 01/05/2011

Detectives are appealing for information and witnesses following a house burglary in Braintree, which occurred overnight on April 30 - May 1, 2011.

Between around 11pm on April 30, and 4am on May 1, 2011, unknown suspects gained entry to a property in Brunel Road, Braintree, through an insecure front door, and stole a handbag containing cards, cash, keys and documents, with an estimated total value of around £120.

Detectives are appealing for anyone with information about this crime to contact the CID Target team at Braintree on 0300 3334444, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Burglary Dwelling

03/05/2011 – Bailey Bridge Road – Suspect unknown has gained entry to a property through an insecure door. A search was made and items removed from within.

Burglary other

01/05/2011 - Clare Road - Suspect unknown has gained entry to an insecure garage. A messy search was made and items were removed from within.

Burglary other

02/05/2011 – Collingwood Close, Braintree.

Suspect unknown has gained entry to a shed by removing the padlock a tidy search was made and property was removed from within.

Burglary other

02/05/2011 – Alderford Street, Sible Hedingham

Suspect unknown has attempted to gain entry to three secure detached garages; Damage was caused to the oak doors.

Burglary other

03/05/2011 – Strutt Close, Hatfield Peverel

Unknown person(s) gained entry to a secure building. A tidy search was made and items were removed from within.

Burglary other

03/05/2011 – Bailey Bridge Road, Braintree

Entry gained to several insecure sheds, search made and nothing stolen.

Burglary other

01/05/2011 – Alderford Street, Sible Hedingham.

Entry gained to a storage unit, the lock was forced. Damage to door and locks, a messy search was made. Nothing removed from within. An attempt was made to enter a second unit, but entry was not gained.

Burglary Other

03/05/2011 Colchester Road, Halstead

Suspects unknown gained entry to a metal storage container and items were taken from within.

Burglary other

01/05/2011 – Blackmore End, Braintree.

Suspect unknown gained entry to a premises. Once inside Copper piping was removed.

Theft of a motor vehicle

02/05/2011 – Colne Road, Halstead

A green Toyota Avensis index GF51 PUA has been stolen.

02/05/2011 – Deerleap Way, Braintree

A Grey Ford KA index NC08 XYR has been stolen

Theft of Pedal Cycle

01/05/2011 – Greenville Road, Braintree.

Person(s) unknown have stolen a pedal cycle from a rear garden.

Theft from a motor vehicle

01/05/2011 – Ramsey Road, Braintree – Suspects unknown have removed a catalytic convertor and exhaust unit from a White Ford Iveco Van.

01/05/2011 – Ronald Road, Braintree.

A catalytic convertor was taken from a Mercedes Sprinter Van. The unit was unbolted from the vehicle.

THEFT OTHER

Suspect unknown has removed four Hanging baskets from a front garden in Wethersfield Road, Finchingfield.

04/05/2011 – Moat Road, Birdbrook, Halstead

Items were removed from a garage and rear garden of the property.

BRAINTREE: house burglary; Pygot Place; 01/05/2011

Detectives are appealing for information and witnesses following a house burglary in Braintree, which occurred during the afternoon of May 1, 2011.

Between around 3:30pm and 6:35pm on May 1, 2011, unknown suspects gained entry to a property in Pygot Place, Braintree, through an insecure rear window, and stole jewellery, cash, keys and documents, with an estimated total value of around £900.

Detectives are appealing for anyone with information about this crime to contact the CID Target team at Braintree on 0300 3334444, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

FEERING: house burglary; London Road; 21/04/2011

Detectives are appealing for information and witnesses following a house burglary in Feering, on April 21, 2011.

Between around 8am and 9pm on April 21, 2011, unknown suspects gained entry to a property in London Road, Feering, by unknown means, and stole electrical equipment with an estimated total value of around £870.

Detectives are appealing for anyone with information about this crime to contact the CID Target team at Braintree on 0300 3334444, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111

BRAINTREE:

BOCKING: garage and shed burglaries; January to April 2011

There have been 24 garage or shed burglaries in the Bocking area since January 1, 2011, where criminals have stolen property such as pedal cycles, fishing equipment, food and gardening tools.

Four of these offences have taken place since March 13, 2011.

Between 0:01am and 8:20am on March 16, 2011, unknown suspects gained entry to a garage in a road off Church Meadows, Bocking, by unknown means. Nothing was stolen and no damage was caused.

Between around 12 noon on March 13, 2011, and 7am on March 17, unknown suspects gained entry to an insecure detached garage in a road off Church Meadows, Bocking, and stole frozen meat with an estimated value of £30.

Between around 9pm on March 29, 2011, and 5:30am on March 30, unknown suspects gained entry to a double garage in Church Meadows, Bocking, by unknown means, and stole fishing equipment with an estimated value of £4000.

Between around 10:30pm on March 29, 2011, and 6:15am on March 30, unknown suspects have gained entry to a garage in a road off Church Meadows, Bocking, causing an estimated £25 of damage to the garage door, and stole bread and meat with an estimated total value of around £50.

Police are appealing for anyone with information about these crimes to contact officers at Braintree on 0300 3334444, or call Crimestoppers

anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Stephen Armson-Smith, Crime Reduction Advisor for Braintree district, said: "Garages and sheds by the nature of their construction and position – often away from the house - are likely to be vulnerable to thieves. Quite often the supplied locks provide just the barest minimum security and are easily overcome by criminals. So, please always consider supplementing the existing locks with further locking systems both for the doors and any of your property within.

"On garage doors this could be by adding locking bolts to both sides of the 'up and over door' or a garage door defender in the ground in front of the door. With a shed, use a coach bolt and plate the padlock hasp to the frame and door. Also please consider using a good quality 'Close Shackle' padlock, and please ensure that the hinges cannot be unscrewed.

"Products that are fit for purpose can found by looking for the "Secured by Design" or "Sold Secure" logos, or on their websites <http://www.securedbydesign.com/> or <http://www.soldsecure.com/> .

"It is also worth fitting a shed alarm to the shed or garage, and adding security lighting which is relatively inexpensive and available from most DIY or hardware stores. If you're installing a new shed, where possible try to position it within sight of rooms in the house which you use on a regular basis."

Bogus Caller

On Tuesday April 26 a man, portraying himself as a businessman, knocked at the door of a property in The Street, Woodham Walter, between 2pm and 3pm and claimed he was locked out of his car, which was allegedly parked up the road nearby. He said he couldn't find any other help so could the victim assist him with his journey home. He had an iPhone or Blackberry mobile phone with him and used it to show the victim that a bus was due into town imminently and that he could then catch a train back to Colchester to get his spare key and would be back within a day to pay the money back. The victim felt this was plausible as it is a fairly lengthy journey so agreed he could return the following day. The suspect did not ask for a specific amount of cash, it is left up to the person they've called upon, in this case the victim gave him £20, which has not been returned.

A description of the suspect is as follows –

5ft 10 tall

Stocky build

Short receding dark hair

Pale blue grey suit trousers

Open neck shirt

Carrying an iPhone/Blackberry mobile phone

Although this happened out of area, please be aware incase a similar event happens in the Braintree District the suspect may have moved on to another area, but if you see a man fitting this description or have any information, call Maldon police on 0300 333 4444.

Please find below information on how to report incidents or any suspicious activity to the police.

Listed below are some helpful tips that may assist you when calling Essex Police.

What number should I call?

0300 333 4444

If it is an emergency such as a crime happening at the time call **999**
If you are victim of crime try to touch as little as possible until the police arrive.

If you want to give information anonymously you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111

What can you do to help reduce incidents of crime?

Be extra observant. The only persons who really know the area in which you live are the people that live there. The police may not note a suspicious person within your road, but you probably would. Neighbourhood watch area the eyes and ears of the community. Have you noticed persons hanging around the area? These persons may be on foot, on a bike or in a vehicle.

Have you noticed a tool or a piece of equipment that has been discarded? This may have been used to commit a crime. Have you noticed anything in an odd location and thought it strange? Then report it 0300 333 4444

Did you hear something?

Perhaps you may have heard a noise during the evening or at night. Have a look out your window. If you note someone or a vehicle acting suspiciously then please call Essex Police straight away. Do not think that you are wasting Police time.

Did you over hear something?

Perhaps you may have over heard someone talking about a burglary / crime and can share the information with us.

How as Neighbourhood Watch can we make the area more secure?

Ensure this information is known to others within your watch group.

Some members may walk their dogs regularly during the evening and may notice something.

Look at security, Trisha Staerck the Essex Police Crime Reduction Officer can offer advice. Have a look at the Sold Secure or Secured by design websites. There are a whole host of products on sale to secure property
Mark any property with a UV or permanent marker pen – just write your house number and postcode.

Take photos of any valuable items

Think about having an alarm installed, the Crime reduction officer can assist you with this and give you advice on what you need.

What number do I use to call Essex Police?

If someone is committing a crime at the time call 999

The Non Emergency number is 0300 333 4444.

If you are victim of crime try to touch as little as possible until the police arrive.

What information will help the Police?

A description of the suspect(s)

Male/ Female, Ethnicity

Clothing (any patterns or logos)

Age, Height, Build, Hair colour/style

Was the suspect holding anything, goods / backpack?

Tattoos, Glasses, beard

Give any directions that the suspect is heading towards.

Do not worry if you do not have answers to all the above, just try to remember as much as you can.

Keep a pen and pad to hand if it helps you.

Vehicle information

Try to make note of the following

Index number

Make

Model Number

Was the vehicle sign written?

Direction of travel.

If you note something strange report it straight away. Tel the Essex Police call taker that you are a Neighbourhood Watch member.

Essex Police, Brenda Cross, Essex Watch Administrator, Braintree District – Tel 0300 333 4444
ex 484813 - Email brenda.cross@essex.pnn.police.uk