



Charlton Central

Neighbourhood Watch (CCNW)

Supported by Charlton Central Residents Association (CCRA)

'Update' No. 6: August 2011

Please share this 'Update' with a neighbour and encourage them to join the Watch.

If you have something you'd like included in UPDATE contact Brenda on 0208 853 3354 or email b.taggart@ioe.ac.uk

Recent Riots and Looting!

On Tuesday 16th August The Times ran the following piece:

'A 21 year old woman who planned to study nursing at university sobbed as she was jailed for 12 months for burglary. Linda Maccinti admitted stealing a TV, electrical devices, clothing and a sports bag from shops in Charlton, southeast London.'

During the riots Woolwich Town Centre experienced looting and several buildings were burnt out. There was also extensive looting in both Lewisham and Peckham. Unfortunately Charlton was also targeted by gangs determined to steal goods and commit mindless acts of vandalism. The retail park at the Peninsular was attacked, as were the shops near Ransom Walk. It was estimated that there were more than 400 people out on the streets of Greenwich that evening creating mayhem, however, at no time were our local shops (Charlton Church Lane) in any danger of attack (although most did close). As The Times highlighted, the looters were not all teenage thugs. They came from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds, ages and ethnic groups.

Following this there have been two meetings called by the Charlton Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) to update the community on the events in Charlton. At the second meeting Superintendent Kate Halpin from Greenwich CID joined the group. She outlined the events of the evening of the riots. It was unfortunate that many of our officers were displaced to Tottenham and had to be re-called back to Charlton when the extent of the unrest was realised, given that Charlton was one of the last areas to suffer riots. However, by the following evening our SNT were reinforced with officers from both Humberside and Wales. There was general agreement at the meeting that our Police did the best they could with the resources they had available. Our SNT continued to do 12 hour shifts for a week following the events to ensure Charlton was safe from any further danger.

Officers have now returned to regular patrols but many lessons have been learnt about the deployment of officers during civil unrest. We were reassured as a community that the Met Police will continue to defend rigorously the rights of honest people to go about their community unhindered.

Now that the riots are over the work of the police is far from over. They need our help to bring looters to justice. Do you have any photos taken on the night? Do you have any CCTV footage that might be of interest to the police? If so then contact our SNT and let them know (Phone: 020 8721 2734/07766 992585 Charlton.snt@met.police.uk).

You might also be able to identify looters. Log onto:

<http://www.met.police.uk/disordersuspects/> or <http://www.greenwich.co.uk/news/05764-can-you-help-the-police-identify-these-people/> or see video footage at <http://charltonchampion.co.uk/>

Or tell any of the CCNW Co-ordinators below:

Calydon – Dhesi, 0208 858 5534

Delafield – Annie 0208 305 1484 & Brenda 0208 853 3354

Elliscombe – Harjit 0208 473 8908 & Len 0208 858 4920

Priolo – Tamara 0208 333 1657

Wellington Gdns – Elaine by phone only on 0208 855 7682