

From: OWGRA info <info@owgra.org.uk>
Sent: 10 January 2021 19:13
To: OWGRA email
Subject: OWGRA e-news 10 Jan 2021

Dear OWGRA Members

1. COVID-19

As we all know, the situation with COVID-19 is very worrying and getting more critical by the day. The media and local authorities are providing regular updates, so we won't repeat them here.

But please watch this video with the latest advice from the Director of Public Health in Hounslow <https://youtu.be/Z0qOZzpKhx0>

And you can't do worse than follow the advice given on social media on Friday by our local MP, Ruth Cadbury:

"Your part in tackling the COVID crisis. Today's COVID rate in Hounslow is 1138 per 100k population. There are 220 COVID + people in West Middlesex hospital. Today a major incident alert was declared for London, and we have been asked by NHS colleagues to spread the message; In order to protect yourself, your loved ones & the NHS. Stay Home! & if you can't - wear a mask at all times, wash your hands & keep your distance."

2. COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME

The COVID-19 vaccination programme has so far started to be rolled out in Central Hounslow (Heart of Hounslow clinic) and Chiswick (Chiswick Health Centre), and next week it reaches Isleworth, where the first batch of vaccine is due to arrive at Thornbury Centre for Health on Wednesday afternoon (13 Jan). Patients over 80 are being contacted now to book a slot for their jabs later in the week.

There is plenty of reliable information from the NHS about the vaccines, and here is a useful link <https://www.nwlondonccgs.nhs.uk/coronavirus/nhs-covid-19-vaccination-programme> (also information about vaccine scams).

Some other important information:

Turn up only 10 mins before your appointment, as you might have to wait outside in the cold.

Even when you have the vaccine, you can still infect other people, so continue to take all the necessary precautions.

NHS staff are working 24/7 to deal with the pandemic and deliver the vaccination programme. Volunteers are needed as stewards and marshals at the vaccination centres. If you feel that you could help, then please register here <https://vaccinationvolunteers.sja.org.uk/roles/volunteer-vaccinator.html>. Alternatively, please let us know if you would like to volunteer, and we can pass your details on to the relevant NHS staff in our area, once we are informed of the contact details.

3. VACCINATION SCAMS

Please be aware that if you receive an email or a text etc. purporting to be from the NHS asking you to verify your address, it is a **SCAM**. The messages ask you to verify your address by entering your bank account number, sort code and various other details.

The NHS or Government will **NEVER** ask for any financial details. You may receive a letter or a text informing you of an appointment to attend a vaccine centre or your GP surgery. But they will never ask for any other details. If in doubt call your GP - but **NEVER** click a link or phone the number unless you are 100% sure it is your GP.

See <https://www.owl.co.uk/misc/attachments/3585db8739534cbdbb3f185514bfb86f.pdf>

4. LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD (LTN) CONSULTATION

For those of you who would like a say in the consultation by the Council about our local LTNs, as described in our previous e-newsletter, please find below the link for the online consultation about it this **Tuesday 12 Jan at 7pm**.

This is expected to concern the Spring Grove and St Mary's Church area south of the A4, and possibly other parts of Isleworth outside the OWGRA area. It probably won't include the Osterley Village area north of the A4, but we're not 100% certain.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/isleworth-streetspace-consultation-tickets-132244816807>

5. CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

If you have a real Christmas tree that can be recycled please see the Council website for details

https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20002/recycling_and_rubbish/1811/christmas_collections_202021/2

6. BOLDER ACADEMY – ROAD WORKS

From Monday 11 Jan work will commence on the final section of the footpath on Syon Lane. The works will be to the footpath outside Gillette to widen and upgrade the pedestrian and cycle access and will last approx. 3 weeks (until Friday 29 Jan).

A pedestrian only diversion will be in place to direct pedestrians from the construction activities. The contractors say they will endeavour to complete the work as quickly as possible to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum.

7. CRIME PREVENTION

Residents will already be well aware that there has been a significant increase in crime since March 2020 when the pandemic started to have a major impact on our daily lives. Hopefully most of you will have already joined **OWL** (Met Police Online Watch Link www.owl.co.uk), a free service which provides regular reports on crime in our area. These crimes relate mainly to **theft from motor vehicles, theft of motor vehicles** and especially **catalytic converter thefts**.

There have also been burglaries, attempted burglaries, theft of bicycles from sheds and gardens plus a few break-ins to sheds and outbuildings.

The report for December 2020 has just been published on OWL and we thought that this would be very useful for residents to see one whole month's report, which serves to illustrate the amount and types of crime being reported. See [Crime reports - December2020](#)

OWL also contains lots of very useful advice regarding crime prevention. This is well worth reading and noting to help you avoid becoming a victim of crime. In particular, there is information regarding prevention of theft of catalytic converters, also prevention of general thefts and burglaries, etc.

There is no doubt that there are groups of thieves operating in our area, looking for easy targets. Often a small local area will be the subject of theft of specific items, after which the criminals will move on to another area. Knowing residents are more likely to be at home during lock down, burglaries have significantly reduced but other thefts as mentioned above have increased. The Osterley & Spring Grove Ward Panel meets on a regular basis to review crime in our area and openly shares information with the Police, Ward Councillors and local residents who represent their area or business.

It is important to note that we rely on you as residents to report all crime to the police as follows:

call 999 – emergency (threat to life or property)

call 101 – non-emergency, including anti-social behaviour or suspected crime

call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/> - for reporting anonymously

<https://www.met.police.uk/> to report crime on-line

If crime or suspected crime isn't reported then the police are unaware of the problem and can't do anything about it. Too often crime is unreported because it is thought the crime is minor or the police won't do anything about it. If crime is unreported then the police definitely can't do anything about it! So please report all crime and suspected crime. And if anyone tells you about a crime or suspected crime, ask them if they have reported it and encourage them to report it to the police if they haven't done so already.

Some simple preventative measures include ensuring all cars are locked and nothing of value is on display. Make sure garages and outbuildings are also locked. Look around your own property and see if there is an easy window or door to open, through which an intruder could obtain entry. Look at it from a potential burglar's point of view!

In addition to the above, there have been many types of scams circulating and again OWL contains lots of useful advice to help prevent becoming a victim.

There's a lot more information on OWL than just the emails we receive, mostly via direct links to relevant/important websites for the ward, in our case Osterley and Spring Grove.

In summary, please join OWL www.owl.co.uk and receive these extremely useful reports free of charge from our most reliable source, The Met Police!

Stay safe and keep your property protected!

Kind regards

Barbara Stryjak
OWGRA (Osterley & Wyke Green Residents' Association)
www.thb.owgra.org.uk Twitter: @OWGRA



Virus-free. www.avg.com