

# The Molesey, Dittons & Hinchley Wood Neighbourhood Watch Group

Chairman – John Haberfield    Contact Tel 0208 398 5256    Email jhaberfi@yahoo.co.uk

# Newsletter



## SPRING/SUMMER 2025

In this edition:

We send regular email details of burglaries and vehicle crimes, courtesy of Elmbridge police. We also have access to the underlying data for all neighbourhood crime, and so below is an update of *all* crime types from Jan '21 to Dec '24, with a comparison between years and identifying trends.

John Haberfield

### Crime map review

As before, our crime data is grouped by electoral wards. (*For anyone uncertain of the boundaries of the wards, there's a map at the end of this article*). To provide a reasonable comparison, we have reviewed data in the new format dating back to Jan 2021 and up to the latest available data.

First, to set the scene for crime rates, let's view how Elmbridge compares with the rest of Surrey.

TOTAL No. CRIMES IN JAN-DEC 2024 PER 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS	Violence and sexual offences	Anti-social behaviour	Public order	Shoplifting	Criminal damage and arson	Other theft	Vehicle crime	Burglary	Drugs	Other crime	Possession of weapons	Robbery	Bicycle theft	Theft from the person	TOTAL
Spelthorne	79	42	24	19	21	17	19	11	7	6	2	2	2	2	252
Guildford	84	35	22	18	25	15	12	7	6	6	2	2	1	1	234
Woking	68	48	19	17	15	15	16	10	5	4	1	3	2	2	224
Runnymede	78	36	23	17	17	18	9	6	6	5	2	2	1	1	220
Waverley	70	34	21	15	12	17	11	9	12	5	2	2	1	1	211
ReigateandBanstead	73	29	20	14	15	12	10	7	6	6	2	1	1	1	197
Tandridge	58	31	16	16	9	13	12	8	6	4	2	0	1	1	176
SurreyHeath	57	28	14	12	13	11	9	8	3	4	1	1	1	1	163
MoleValley	55	28	16	11	13	11	8	7	3	3	1	1	1	1	157
Elmbridge	50	23	14	11	8	12	12	8	4	3	1	2	1	1	151
EpsomandEwell	41	21	11	11	7	10	7	7	2	3	1	1	0	0	123
SURREY	65	31	18	15	14	13	11	8	5	5	2	1	1	1	190

An analysis of the national crime data for Surrey for the full year Jan-Dec 2024 reveals that Elmbridge (*highlighted yellow*) continues to have the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest overall crime rate out of the 11 boroughs in Surrey! Previously (2023) it had been 4<sup>th</sup> lowest, and the 3 boroughs with lower crime rates were more rural.

Of the 14 neighbourhood crime types, the 4 highest rates in previous years (*highlighted orange*) had been Violence & Sexual Offences, Anti-social Behaviour, Public Order, and Criminal Damage & Arson, accounting for 64% of the total crime.

These are also closely related, as often an ASB offence could easily become a violence offence (if the suspect pushes someone), or a public order offence (if the activities intimidate innocent bystanders), or a criminal damage offence (if the activities result in something being damaged).

Looking at these 4 crime types combined provides a much smoother crime trend. *(Within Elmbridge, Violence and Sexual Offences were rarely sexual and most violent crimes were common assault.)*

Next, let's compare the crime data for the 16 electoral wards within Elmbridge.

TOTAL No. CRIMES IN JAN-DEC 2024 PER 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS	Violence and sexual offences	Anti-social behaviour	Public order	Other theft	Vehicle crime	Criminal damage and arson	Burglary	Shoplifting	Drugs	Other crime	Bicycle theft	Possession of weapons	Robbery	Theft from the person	TOTAL
Cobham and Downside	69.5	42.2	22.8	18.5	16.3	16.6	7.4	19.4	4.0	4.6	1.5	1.5	1.2	2.8	228.3
Weybridge Riverside	76.0	32.3	21.8	16.6	8.0	12.0	11.1	12.0	4.6	4.6	1.5	0.6	0.6	1.2	203.1
Walton Central	53.6	35.6	23.6	15.9	12.3	15.6	5.1	20.3	5.1	3.1	1.5	1.5	2.1	1.8	197.2
Walton North	77.8	35.1	17.8	16.3	8.9	16.0	1.5	0.6	8.3	5.2	2.2	3.4	0.0	1.8	195.1
Esher	72.6	22.1	20.3	12.3	14.1	18.7	9.5	8.7	3.3	5.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	190.5
Hersham Village	64.6	26.9	20.8	13.8	11.9	12.7	7.3	9.2	5.0	4.6	1.5	1.2	1.2	0.0	180.8
Molesey East	56.3	32.3	14.8	11.4	12.9	11.7	5.8	17.8	3.7	3.4	2.5	0.6	0.9	0.9	175.1
Weybridge St George's Hill	41.5	19.2	12.1	15.9	13.8	12.1	7.9	16.9	5.9	2.6	2.3	1.8	1.3	2.1	155.4
Molesey West	59.2	20.5	15.4	10.8	10.5	12.3	4.9	2.6	9.0	4.6	1.5	1.0	0.5	0.5	153.3
Walton South	46.7	22.8	12.8	12.1	14.1	10.5	10.3	2.3	5.1	1.5	4.1	1.0	2.1	0.0	145.4
Claygate	41.2	14.6	8.1	9.2	12.3	7.3	11.2	10.8	1.9	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.2	0.0	122.7
Long Ditton	35.1	14.5	6.5	12.0	10.2	9.8	11.7	0.0	2.2	1.5	2.8	0.6	0.6	0.3	107.7
Hinchley Wd & Weston Grn	29.2	13.1	8.1	2.7	15.4	6.9	12.7	6.2	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.0	96.9
Oxshott / Stoke D'Abernon	25.1	18.2	5.9	9.0	10.0	2.6	11.8	0.3	1.8	4.4	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	91.8
Thames Ditton	29.2	10.5	6.5	9.8	10.2	11.4	7.1	0.0	2.2	0.3	2.2	0.9	0.3	0.0	90.5
Oatlands & Burwood Park	21.5	12.0	5.5	3.7	5.8	5.5	7.7	0.0	4.3	2.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.0	69.8
ELMBRIDGE	50.1	23.4	14.1	12.0	11.7	11.5	8.2	8.0	4.3	3.2	1.8	1.1	1.0	0.9	151.2

For almost all of the 14 crime types our NHW regional wards (Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, and Hinchley Wood & Weston Green) remain in the lower half of the table of high to low crime rates.

West Molesey improved, compared to 2023, by dropping from 5<sup>th</sup> highest to 9<sup>th</sup>, only slightly above the Elmbridge average. However, East Molesey, for the first time, crept above the Elmbridge average (from 8<sup>th</sup> highest to 7<sup>th</sup>).

For comparison, the average rate of all crime across Surrey was 190 crimes per 1,000 households.

For Elmbridge it was 151.2, and for our wards it varied from 175.1 (Molesey East) down to 90.5 (Thames Ditton). In summary, Elmbridge has a very low crime rate and, apart from Molesey, our wards within Elmbridge have even lower crime rates.

Now, we compare crime data for '24 with '23.

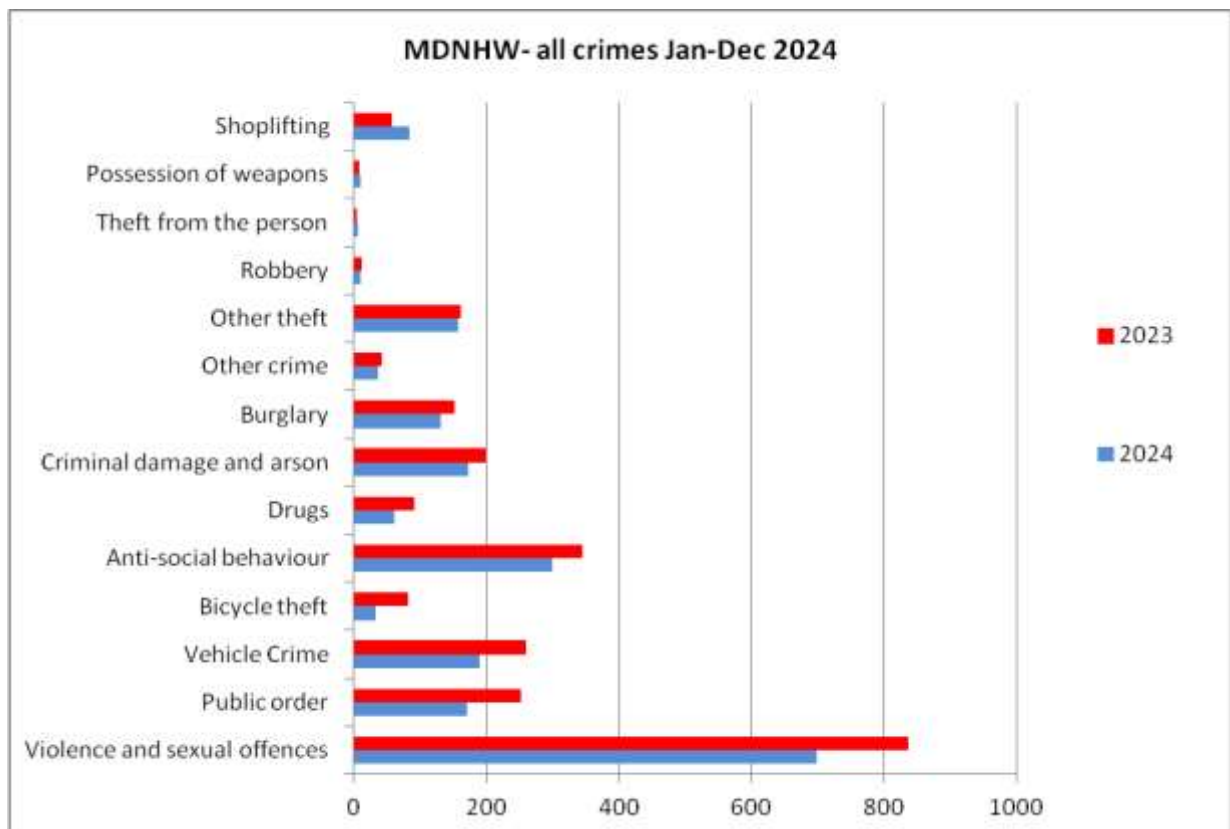
The table columns below show, by ward, the variation in numbers of crimes between '23 and '24, with crime types sorted from highest to lowest (top to bottom) for our region as a whole. The next column shows, the same figures for the whole of Elmbridge.

The final 2 columns show the actual number for MDNHW of each crime in 2024, and the % of each compared to the total. Our region had an 18% decrease in overall crime in 2024 compared with 2023, whilst Elmbridge had a decrease of 7.1%.

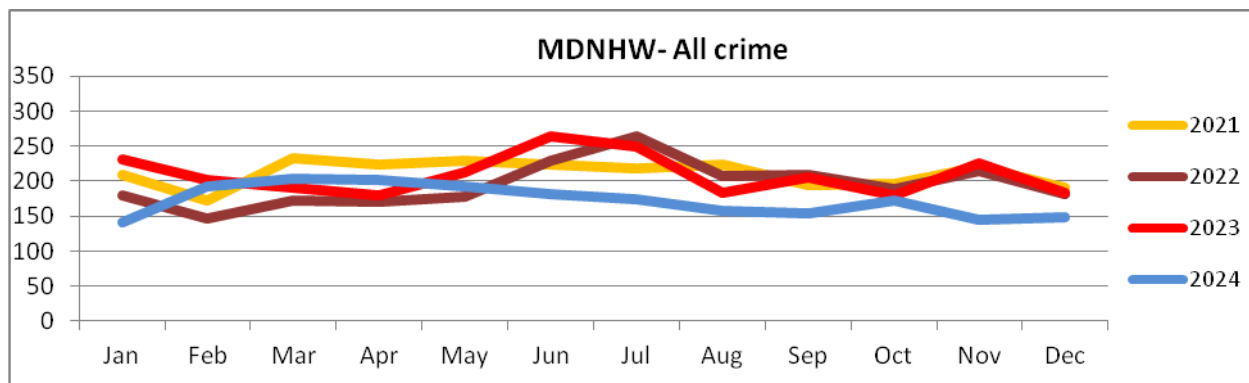
Some wards fared better than others with an overall increase in Molesey East, predominantly in violence, anti-social behaviour and shoplifting. The other wards all have an overall decrease, although Thames Ditton had a small increase in other theft and Hinchley Wood & Weston Green in burglaries.

Molesey, Dittons & Hinchley Wood (MDNHW Region) Variance in crimes Jan-Dec 23/24	Molesey West	Molesey East	Thames Ditton	Long Ditton	Hinchley Wood & Weston Green	MDNHW Region	Elmbridge	MDNHW Total Crimes Jan-Jun 2024	MDNHW % of Total Crimes 2023
Violence and sexual offences	-99	44	-30	-35	-17	-137	-274	699	33.9%
Anti-social behaviour	-19	28	-17	-37	0	-45	-83	300	14.5%
Vehicle Crime	-22	-15	-7	-14	-12	-70	-229	189	9.2%
Criminal damage and arson	-13	0	5	-6	-12	-26	-62	173	8.4%
Public order	-16	-13	-17	-37	1	-82	-105	171	8.3%
Other theft	3	2	6	3	-18	-4	-10	157	7.6%
Burglary	-4	-15	-14	5	8	-20	-53	132	6.4%
Shoplifting	4	33	-1	-2	-7	27	59	84	4.1%
Drugs	0	-17	-4	-3	-6	-30	-31	62	3.0%
Other crime	5	1	-5	-2	-5	-6	13	37	1.8%
Bicycle theft	-5	-8	-22	-8	-7	-50	-104	32	1.6%
Possession of weapons	3	-2	2	2	-2	3	-9	11	0.5%
Robbery	-2	2	-3	0	0	-3	6	10	0.5%
Theft from the person	1	1	0	0	-1	1	3	6	0.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-164</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>-107</b>	<b>-134</b>	<b>-78</b>	<b>-442</b>	<b>-879</b>	<b>2063</b>	

The following table gives a better picture of how the various crime types have changed between 2023 and 2024. They are shown in order of largest increase to largest decrease.

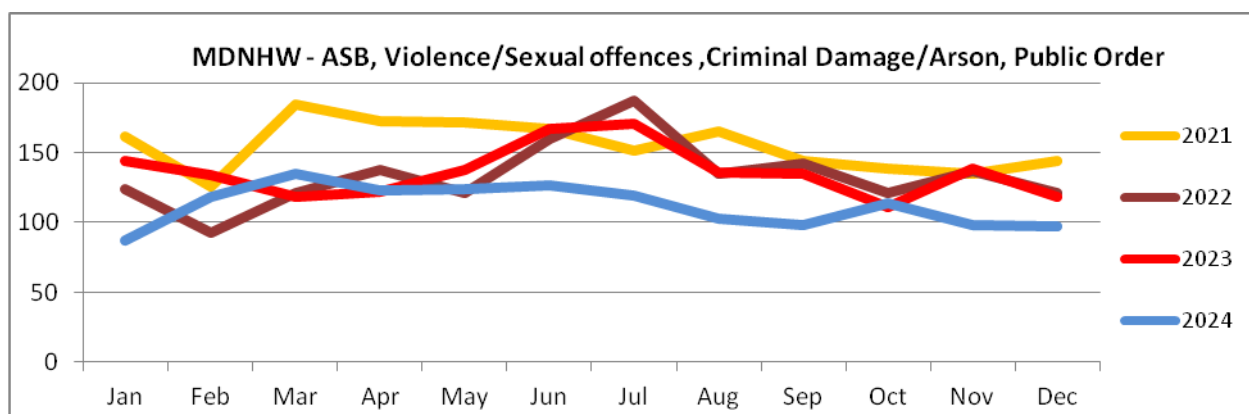


For a better idea of annual trends we need to look in comparison to previous years' crime rates. Although the overall crime rate started similar to last year, it then trended downwards, below 2023 levels from May.



In Jan-Jun 2024, across Elmbridge, of the 14 neighbourhood crime types, 4 of the 5 highest rates were Violence and Sexual Offences, Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), Criminal Damage and Arson, and Public Order, collectively accounting for 65.5% (almost two thirds) of the total crime.

You see here, for these same crime types for our region, the same trend as with total crime, suggesting that this is one main factor in that trend. They also account for 65.1% of the total regional crime.



Molesey East has had elevated ABS and violent crimes throughout the first half of 2024 but reducing in the second half. The combined crime types totals are also trending close to 2023 levels, but the total number is 19% above the same period in 2023.

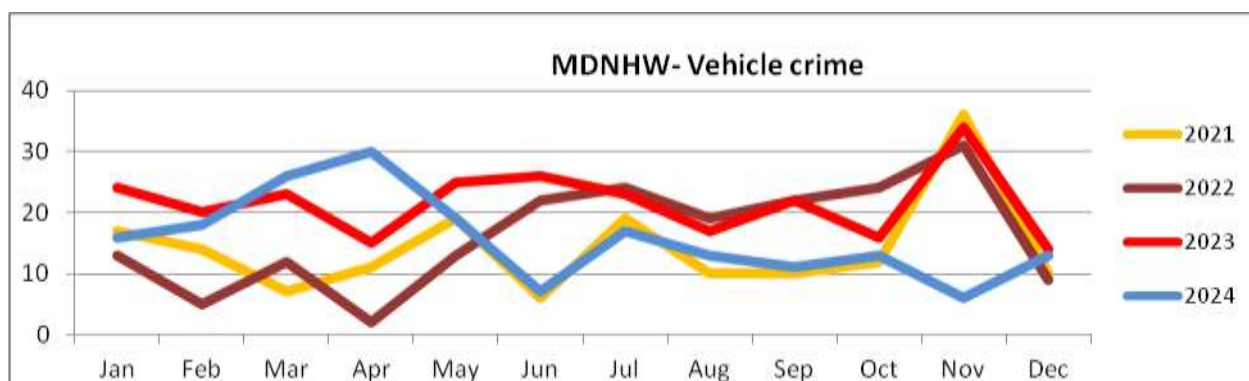
Molesey West has tracked below 2023 levels for these combined crime types.

Thames Ditton has experienced a higher trend in Criminal Damage Jan-Jul 2024 compared to 2023, but trending well below for the rest of the year. However, the combined crime types have still trended 24% below 2023 levels.

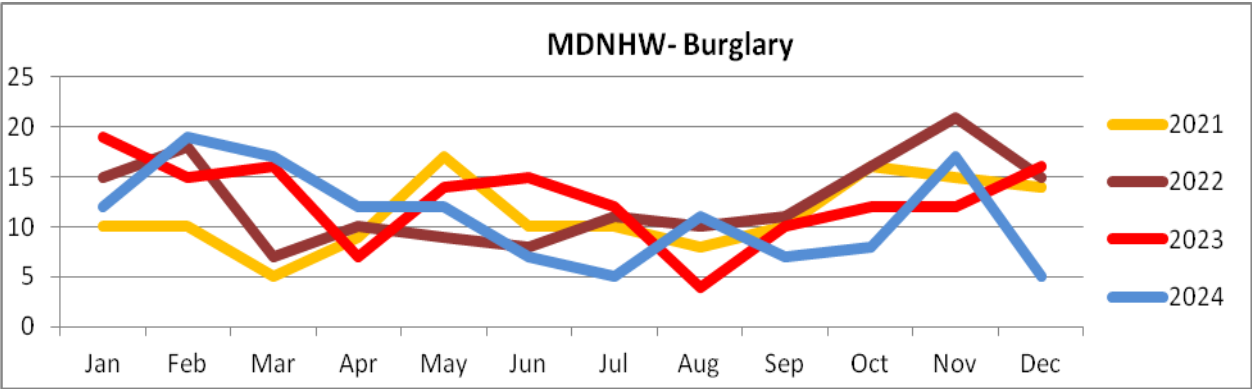
Long Ditton had a small increase in burglaries during Jan – May '24, but trending at or below '23 levels for the rest of theyear.

Hinchley Wood & Weston Green had a peak in Public Order crimes in March and in ASB and Violence in May, but the combined crime types fell below the 2023 level from June and in total for 2024 were still 24% below 2023.

The crimes that have the most impact on victims are Vehicle Crime and Burglary, accounting for 9.2% and 6.4% respectively of the total crime in 2024 (although both lower than in 2023).. Vehicle crime is still the 3<sup>rd</sup> most frequent crime in our region, but thankfully in total 27% below the 2023 level.



Burglary has reduced in total by 13% compared to 2023. Hinchley Wood & Weston Green had a small increase in Sep – Nov leading to an annual increase of 13% (8).



The other 8 crime types account for the remaining 19.3% of all crime, and only 3 of those show an increase in 2024 compared to the 2023.

Shoplifting, accounting for 4.1% of total crime with an increase of 47% (+4 in West Molesey, +33 in East Molesey, offset by reductions in the other wards), but following a similar trend across Elmbridge.

Possession of Weapons, accounting for 0.5% of total crime with an increase in 37.5% (+3).

Theft from the Peron, accounting for 0.3% of total crime with an increase of 20% (+1)

From Ordnance Survey Election Maps



Election wards

It wasn't possible to capture the full map of our NHW region, but the northern border of Molesey West and Molesey East wards is the river Thames.

To see this map on-line, go to:

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/election-maps/gb/>

zoom in to your area, click on the 'BOUNDARY' button, scroll down and select 'Wards / District Wards' and click the 'Show names' button.



## Numbers To Keep

**IMMEDIATE POLICE RESPONSE** **999**  
**POLICE NON-EMERGENCY** **101**  
**Elmbridge Police Safer Neighbourhood Team**  
**elmbridge@surrey.police.uk**

To report a crime go to:

**Surrey Police website** **www.surrey.police.uk**

**CRIMESTOPPERS (anonymous)** **0800 555 111**  
**www.crimestoppers-uk.org**

**ESHER POLICE STATION (Civic Centre)** **101**  
**Monday-Friday: 8:45am to 5:00pm**

**TRADING STANDARDS** **08454 04 05 06**  
 via Citizens Advice consumer service

**ELMBRIDGE COMMUNITY SAFETY** **01372 474398**  
 Email: [communitysafety@elmbridge.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@elmbridge.gov.uk)  
 Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ElmbridgeBC#>

**NOISE COMPLAINTS** **01372 474750**

**ABANDONED VEHICLES, GRAFFITI, LITTER**  
**Clean Up Line** **01372 474474**

**SURREY FIRE & RESCUE** **01737 242444**  
**Home Fire Risk Check** **0800 085 0767**  
**Contact Centre** **03456 009 009**

**VOLUNTARY ACTION ELMBRIDGE** **01372 463587**  
**www.vae.org.uk**

### TELEPHONE/FAX/MAIL PREFERENCE SERVICE

To stop unsolicited sales or marketing calls

**Phone** [www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk) **0845 070 0707**  
**Fax calls** [www.fpsonline.org.uk](http://www.fpsonline.org.uk) **0845 070 0702**  
**Mail** [www.mpsonline.org.uk](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk) **0845 703 4599**

To report suspicious activity call:

- **Crimestoppers** – **0800 555 111**
- **Anti-Terrorist Hotline** – **0800 789 321**

**Or in an emergency call 999**

## Useful Websites

[www.banksafeonline.org.uk](http://www.banksafeonline.org.uk)  
[www.bba.org.uk](http://www.bba.org.uk)  
[www.cardwatch.org.uk](http://www.cardwatch.org.uk)  
[www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)  
[www.crimeconcernuk.net](http://www.crimeconcernuk.net)  
[www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)  
[www.identitytheft.org.uk](http://www.identitytheft.org.uk)  
[www.rightupyourstreet.net](http://www.rightupyourstreet.net)  
[www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)  
[www.surreypa.gov.uk](http://www.surreypa.gov.uk)  
[www.thisismoney.co.uk](http://www.thisismoney.co.uk)  
[www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)

### Residents Associations:

[www.esher-residents.com](http://www.esher-residents.com)  
[www.moleseyresidentsassociation.org.uk](http://www.moleseyresidentsassociation.org.uk)  
[www.hinchleywood.org.uk](http://www.hinchleywood.org.uk)  
[www.residents-association.com](http://www.residents-association.com) (Thames Ditton & Weston Green)  
[www.longditton.org](http://www.longditton.org)



**Ember Lane East Molesey Surrey KT8 0BT**  
**020 8398 1267** [www.embercourt.com](http://www.embercourt.com)  
**enquiries@embercourt.com**

*Join Ember Court Sports Club today and see what we have to offer*  
*Prices start from as little as £9 per month*

**Clubhouse** **Sky & BT Sport** **Heated Pool** **Gym** **Grass Tennis Courts**  
**Exercise Classes** **Beauty & Hairdressing** **Children's Playground**  
**Restaurant** **Various Function Rooms for Hire** **Weddings** **Civil Ceremonies**  
**Events Nights** **Cricket pitches** **Football & Rugby pitches** **Two fishing rivers**



**999 For deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired people** in the UK alert police, ambulance, fire, or coastguard services by either calling via a relay assistant or texting a message to 999 using an emergency SMS service. Go to **www.emergencysms.org.uk** for information about how to register.

## Keep Them Out!

- **Remember** Lock your car at all times when parking, and don't leave valuables on view
- **Remember** leave lights on in your property if you're going to be out after dusk; as many properties targeted appeared unoccupied
- **Remember** Most burglars enter a premises from the rear, and many burglaries take place during the day



- **Remember** Burglars hate security deadlocks on doors because they can't open them from the inside, and have to leave through a window
- **Remember** Double check all windows and doors are securely locked before leaving home; on winter evenings keep lights on when out
- **Remember** Make sure sheds and gates are locked, and outside bins are not left where burglars could use them as a stepping stone.
- **Remember** If your vehicle is "keyless", keep the key in a "Faraday" pouch or metal tin and keep keys AWAY from front door or kitchen window