

## Police Tackle Street Drinkers in Hayes

The Botwell Safer Neighbourhoods team (Hillingdon borough) conducted a one day operation recently to tackle the problem of street drinkers in Hayes town. It was a response to complaints received from local residents and shopkeepers of the nuisance caused by street drinkers.

During the day, 14 street drinkers were spoken to and alcohol seized from most of them. Their details were taken and all received a warning from the police and made aware of the repercussions if their behaviour continued. No arrests were made by police.

The Botwell Safer Neighbourhoods team will be making a firm push in the coming weeks and months to address anti-social behaviour caused by street drinkers around the canal area and Station Road in Hayes. Whilst tackling the problem via traditional policing methods such as hi-visibility policing and seizure of alcohol, police will also consider the issue of fines via PNDs (penalty notice for disorders).

All local off-licences in Hayes town were visited and guidance was given regarding the sale of alcohol whilst reminding licensees of their responsibilities with regards to the sale of alcohol to persons already intoxicated.



Sergeant David Preece, who joined the Botwell Safer Neighbourhoods team in August 2001, said:

“This action is part of a long-term approach. We will be conducting these operations on a regular basis with the aim of eradicating the problem in Hayes town. By going out and visiting the areas where street drinkers are known to frequent, we will become familiar with those who are regularly causing a nuisance and take action against them.

“Repeat offenders will be dealt with more robustly in the future and if necessary we will look to obtain Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs).

“We appreciate the co-operation of local off-licences who are working with us to reduce the consumption of excessive alcohol in the town. I would like to encourage those who experience problems in their neighbourhoods to contact Botwell Safer Neighbourhoods team on 020 8721 2757.”

## Peace and Dove

Peace Week 2011 was celebrated last week with the launch of a flock of doves high into the sky by children at a local junior school.

The event was marked by PCSO Ken Spickett of Eastbrook Safer Neighbourhoods team (Barking & Dagenham borough) who worked alongside children at Rush Green Junior School in Rush Green to put together their very own doves, a bird synonymous with peace. White, helium-filled balloons were decorated by the group who cut out wings and beaks before attaching them to the ‘bodies’.

The doves were then escorted outside and released much to the amusement of the children who rushed through the playground to see them off.

PCSO Spickett followed up the previous year’s effort promoting Peace Week with his highly praised “Make A Stand For Peace” which used students from Eastbrook School to spell out “Peace Week” in a stand at Dagenham and Redbridge Football Club.



The initiative’s organiser PCSO Ken Spickett said:

“For this year’s Peace Week we worked in partnership with Rush Green Junior school to create an event that would be both enjoyable and educational for the pupils. By making these ‘peace doves’ they were able to mark the occasion in a fun way while still understanding the significance.”

## **PCSOs Detain Street Robber**

PCSOs June Richardson and James Anderson, both of Mawneys Safer Neighbourhoods team (Havering borough), were recently engaged on bike patrol in Collier Row, Romford.

Just after midday the descriptions of two suspects who were involved in a purse snatch from a female victim were circulated via the police radio.

Both PCSOs quickly spotted the two men who, upon spotting the PCSOs, ran off. PCSO June Richardson, whilst following the suspects, gave a commentary to police officers who were on their way to the scene.

After a short chase the two men were detained by the PCSOs until police officers arrived and arrested the suspects.

One suspect was later charged with robbery.

Sergeant Neal Donohoe, of Mawneys Safer Neighbourhoods team, said:

“I am very proud of my staff. Their local knowledge and alertness resulted in the arrest and charge of a dangerous individual.”

## **Hackney Police Help to Promote National Police Day**

Just before mid-October, New River Safer Neighbourhoods team (Hackney borough) in partnership with Hackney Councils Community Safety team, promoted National Personal Safety Day at Manor House Underground Station and other venues on the borough.

During the week leading up to the campaign, over 3000 leaflets were delivered to residents on the Woodberry Down Estate in N4. This was achieved with the help of Genesis Housing Group.

Organised by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, the theme for this year's campaign was 'On The Homefront'. The campaign's aim was to highlight the importance of being alert in or near your home and keeping your home secure. Legal and General supported the day for a second year to raise awareness of the personal safety risks we face, in and around our home.

The team were available at the entrance lobby of the station. The officers were able to give passing residents advice on crime prevention and supply them with a personal alarm.

Residents can improve their safety in and around their home by taking a few simple precautions, these include:

- Avoid broadcasting - whether online or in the pub/at work/in the gym - that you live alone or will be alone in the house at a specific time.
- Don't let someone you don't know into your house without checking their identification thoroughly.

- Never let someone into your house because you feel it rude not to.
- Have your keys ready in your hand when you reach your door so that you are not left fumbling about in your bag or pockets on your doorstep.



Sergeant Gary Jones, of New River Safer Neighbourhoods team, said:

“This was an important day. It allowed us to reach out to all age groups, local residents and visitors to the borough. It gave us the opportunity to reinforce the need for people to remain safe, not only on the streets of Hackney but in their own homes. By supporting this campaign and working with our partners, we aim to make residents aware of the simple precautions they can take to keep safer.”

For further information on this campaign, please visit [www.suzylamplugh.org/npsd2011](http://www.suzylamplugh.org/npsd2011)

### **Crime Prevention Talk Inspires Brownies**

Officers from Cheam Safer Neighbourhoods team (Sutton borough) provided some important personal safety and home security information to a group of brownies taking their Crime Prevention Badge. The officers spoke to girls aged 7-9 at the Guide Hall in Mickleham Gardens, Cheam in mid-October. The officers' advice included how to keep safe in the street, such as walking with a group of friends and letting their parents know where they are at all times; and telling a trusted adult if they are approached by a stranger. The brownies were also told about how to make sure their home is safe - and they were given anti-theft marking pens so they could security mark three personal possessions at home.

Police character costume “PCSO Steve” was available as the girls were also told about Neighbourhood Watch, which seeks to reduce crime and make local areas better and the importance of keeping an eye on elderly neighbours.



PC Donna Williams, of Cheam Safer Neighbourhoods team, said:

“The children loved it! All the brownies were wearing ‘Police Academy’ t-shirts, which promote the after school clubs run by police officers and police cadets at a number of primary schools in the borough.”

### **PCSO Launches ‘The Dance Project’**

PCSO Nickie O’Sullivan the schools officer for Alperton Community School and Active Aspirations (Brent borough) has been working with the staff and students at the school to set up ‘The Dance Project’.

PCSO Nickie O’Sullivan has been working at the school for over a year engaging with the youths, building confidence in policing and helping to develop a respect for themselves and their community. The Dance Project was set up to build trust between police and the students. This is to ensure that when the girls at the school get into certain situations they will feel like they can talk to the police and will also help some of the girls back onto the right track and divert others from being involved in criminal activity and gang related offences. The project has been divided into two parts, theory and practical.

Once a week during the school day, the girls will come together with PCSO Nickie O’Sullivan and the learning mentor at Alperton Community School and possibly a guest speaker to talk about a specific subject. Before the course starts the girls will list all the subjects that they want to talk about and PCSO Nickie O’Sullivan will also add a few that we she is concerned about. They will all then talk in-depth about them. This will take part in a very relaxed environment so the girls feel happy to open up and share their experiences.

The girls will also take part in an after school dance group twice a week in the school hall and in a dance studio. The lessons will be working towards making a music video and a dance routine that will be performed at a festival later in the year. The whole project will be filmed and made into a documentary for the students to keep. The Dance Project has been in place for four weeks now.



PCSO Nickie O'Sullivan said:

"I am enjoying working with the girls and helping build their confidence in the police. I am hoping that the project will help with their confidence and their aspirations in life. I chose dance as the basis of the project as you can do it anywhere, I am hoping that the girls will carry on dancing after the project and that it will be a positive focus for them".

Ms Tekla Galova and Mr Taofeeq Sanusi from Active Aspirations said:

"We believe this is a very unique and a great project. It is designed not only to help young girls with, for example, boosting their confidence, learning about teamwork, discipline and other skills important for life, but it also provides a great opportunity for the Metropolitan Police to strengthen the link with the community.

"This shows they care and we all are here to help young people involved to give them guidance for a successful future. We are very proud with the up to date commitment from the girls as it shows that they really value and appreciate this opportunity and we wish they will have the strength to continue and finish it successfully."

Anita, the dance choreographer, said:

"This is a great opportunity for the girls involved. They have improved since the beginning and are progressing well and focusing on the end product. The girls are really enjoying it and I hope they grab the opportunity with both hands."