

Bromley 'Brush Up'

Hayes and Coney Hall Safer Neighbourhoods team (Bromley borough) have joined forces with the local residents and ward councillors in clearing areas of Hayes and West Wickham Common as part of the 'Big Bromley Brush up'.

The Big Bromley Brush up is a campaign of environmental events and projects that ran over a ten-day period at the end of August and was aimed at helping to foster positive environmental behaviour and develop a sense of community responsibility.

On the last day, the team joined forces with the local residents and ward councillors Anne Manning and Neil Reddin to collect over 30 bags of rubbish in two hours in Hillside Lane, Hayes Common and behind the shops at Station Approach.



PCSO Paul Greenslade said:

"The Big Bromley Brush Up has made a definite improvement to the area helping us to foster positive environmental behaviour and develop a sense of community responsibility. It has helped in making Bromley an even cleaner, greener and safer place to live, work and visit."

Over 2000 people attend Chiswick Community Safety Day

Over 2000 people attended the Chiswick Community Safety Day held in mid-September. Showcasing the work done by numerous agencies involved in community safety, as well as promoting opportunities for youth diversion from crime and anti-social behaviour, the day had over 40 stands and was broadcast live on local radio.

The event was organised by the Turnham Green Safer Neighbourhoods team (Hounslow borough), and the Met Police Service was well represented with stands from the local Safer Neighbourhoods teams, Traffic Police, the Met History Collection, Territorial Support Group, a fly-past by the Air Support Unit and many more. The police were joined by partners such as the London Ambulance Service, London Fire Brigade, the Army, Hounslow Council and local charities, faith and youth groups.

Local residents were encouraged to get involved - there were recruitment stalls from the Met Volunteer Programme, special constabulary and the police cadets.

Also present at the event were Hounslow's Borough Commander, David Bilson, and Hounslow Borough's lead councillor for community safety, Ed Mayne. There was also a stall promoting the Tommy Hollis Trust - a charitable fund set up after the death of Tommy in a tragic accident in Chiswick earlier this year. The trust aims to help underprivileged and needy children.



Sergeant Ben Clark from Turnham Green Safer Neighbourhoods team said:

"This event shows just how many agencies are working together in Chiswick to help local residents, businesses and visitors. By holding this sort of event, we can demonstrate the work we do, listen to concerns and promote the many opportunities there are for people to get involved in helping to keep their community safe".

Taking the 'Smart' approach to burglary

Hillrise Safer Neighbourhoods team (Islington borough) are helping to protect the homes of 450 residents by providing them with free Smartwater kits, which are advanced property marking technology.

This tactic is being introduced by officers from Hillrise Safer Neighbourhoods team in response to local concern about burglary, which has been chosen as a priority by the Hillrise ward panel. Street signs have been installed across the ward to warn and deter potential burglars.

Residents who live in areas on the ward where there are higher than average rates of burglary will benefit from:

- A home visit by police
- A Smartwater kit with demonstration on how to use it
- Personalised crime prevention advice for their home

The Smartwater kits, which have been funded by Islington Council, mark valuable items with a unique code, which can only be seen under ultra violet light. Once applied, it is virtually invisible, near impossible to remove and enables property to be restored to its owner if it is lost or stolen.

Officers from Hillrise Safer Neighbourhoods team will be using UV lights to check for Smartwater marked property in local shops, when stopping and searching people on the street. Suspects brought into police custody will also be actively scanned for traces of Smartwater in a bid to catch burglars.

They will also be setting up 'dummy' vehicles and houses, which will be kitted out with Smartwater technology to catch burglars in the act.

Other parts of the UK where Smartwater has been used have seen big reductions in burglary - in some cases by up to 80 percent.



PC Edd Marques-Mortimer, of Hillrise Safer Neighbourhoods team, said:

"We want criminals to know that Hillrise is a no go area. We are committed to using all possible methods to reduce burglaries on the ward. These Smartwater kits will act as a deterrent and significantly reduce the risks of residents being burgled".

Counsellor Barbara Sidnell, Islington Council's executive member for community safety, said:

"We are committed to working with police on tackling burglary. These kits are something new for Islington, and this funding shows we will look at all kinds of measures to deal with crime.

"Burglars know this technology can land them in prison - and this should make them think twice."

Gloria Chandra, Chairperson of Whitehall Park Area Residents Association (WHPARA), said:

"We applaud the initiative of the police in offering Smartwater to householders in the area. The public demonstration and the house-to-house visits have given a renewed sense of security and protection for personal property. Our members would like to encourage everyone to use Smartwater and ensure peace of mind. We shall continue to cooperate with the police in their fight against crime".

Redbridge “Nik Ur Reg” Initiative

In mid September, officers from Aldborough Safer Neighbourhoods Team conducted a ‘Nik Ur Reg’ initiative on the forecourt of a BP petrol station. As members of the public entered the store to pay for petrol they were issued with anti-theft number plate screws.

Over 500 sets of screws were issued. Members of the public were also supplied with crime prevention literature advising them on the best ways to protect their vehicles.



Sergeant Christopher Parkin said: “This initiative enabled officers to engage with the public as well as providing a high visibility presence to deter any drive out offences”.

Enfield Safer Neighbourhoods Team hold drop-in surgeries at local hospital

Highlands Safer Neighbourhoods team (Enfield borough) have joined forces with Chase Farm hospital after an agreement was reached to hold regular police drop-in surgeries at the hospital.

Safer Neighbourhoods drop-in surgeries are conducted to provide local residents with the opportunity to discuss directly with the teams' issues of crime and anti-social behaviour that is affecting their local area.

The Safer Neighbourhoods teams use these events to report back what they are doing alongside their partners to make the area safer and to decide their local priorities.

They also use it as an opportunity to provide information about crime and people that have been brought to justice.

At the end of September, Highlands Safer Neighbourhoods team held their first drop-in surgery at Chase Farm hospital. The drop-in surgeries will be held at the Clock Tower building of Chase Farm hospital on a fortnightly basis alternating between a daytime slot (11am -1pm) and an evening slot (6pm - 8pm).

It is hoped that by conducting the drop-in surgeries in Chase Farm hospital, Highlands Safer Neighbourhoods team will be able to forge closer links with local residents, reassure staff, patients and visitors and provide a visible police presence thereby preventing and detecting crime and reducing anti social behaviour.

Sergeant Peter Eldridge, of Highlands Safer Neighbourhoods team, said:

"This is a great opportunity for us and shows our commitment to meeting the needs of the community. By holding drop in surgeries at the hospital we will be able to provide a facility for staff, patients, visitors and residents to report concerns they have in their local area directly to a police officer and it will also act as a deterrent to potential offenders who are intent on committing anti-social behaviour at the hospital."

"We hope that by holding the drop in surgeries at the hospital it will increase safety and public confidence."

Nicholas Wright, Local Security Management Specialist at Chase Farm hospital, said:

"The Trust continues to work in partnership with the police in an effort to tackle crime and subsequently increase staff and service user confidence, from both a service and facilities perspective. The drop-in surgeries will invariably provide staff and services users the opportunity to address specific issues directly with police and Trust representatives, in turn affording us the opportunity to review what additional measures are required in order to effectively address the concerns raised".