



Welcome

Welcome to another edition of Safe, your Community Safety newsletter.

In Safe you will find information on the work that your local police, Council and partners are carrying out to improve community safety and reduce crime in the borough.

I am Chief Superintendent Mark Heath, Kensington and Chelsea's Borough Commander and have been in post since January 2008, having previously been in charge for four years at Camden.

I have 30 years' experience including leading serious investigations as a detective, dealing with public order, surveillance and developing policy at New Scotland Yard.

I lead a team of about 800 staff made up of police officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), police staff, special constables, cadets and volunteers.

Through the efforts of those under my command and our partners, the borough has seen a reduction in crime every year since 2005.

I am committed to driving our efforts in three main areas; reducing crime, tackling those who commit crime and improving the community's confidence in the police.

I would very much like you as residents to get involved by joining your local ward policing panel to help develop local policing priorities.

Mark Heath

Borough Commander for Kensington and Chelsea



Police seize counterfeit CDs

A haul of over £30,000 worth of counterfeit goods were seized during a dawn raid in North Kensington in March.

Police entered a property on Boswell Road, W10 and found a large number of blank CDs and vinyl records together with equipment used in large-scale copying and production of counterfeit discs.

Sergeant Tim Lundy, from North Kensington police station, said:

"The sheer number of discs we recovered indicates that this address was being used as a factory to produce thousands of counterfeit recordings.

"Some people believe that this is a victimless crime, however, counterfeit products are not only inferior in quality, they also affect local businesses and jobs. In some cases, even helping to

fund organised crime."

David Wood, Director of the British Phonographic Industry's anti-piracy unit, who worked closely with police on the operation said:

"This was the largest illegal 'domestic' manufacturing plant we've ever uncovered. It even had automated reproduction units that could produce eight CDs every three minutes. This was a very well organised illegal operation which was producing a vast quantity of counterfeit discs."

A 42-year-old man has been arrested and bailed by police until July, while further enquiries are carried out.

If you would like to provide feedback on Safe please see contact details on page 8.

Crackdown on organised begging

The police and the Council are continuing to crackdown on aggressive begging in Knightsbridge after being granted an extension of their group dispersal powers.

A 'Group Dispersal Zone' has been operating in the Brompton ward since April 2009, to tackle problems with groups of aggressive Romanian beggars and their associated antisocial behaviour. The police were granted a six-month extension of their group dispersal powers, which came into effect on Thursday 1 April 2010.

Since the powers came into effect on 1 April 2009, the police have used the powers to remove 237 people from the area for 24 hours and two arrests have been made for breaching the dispersal regulations.

Sector Inspector for Chelsea, Sean Flynn, said:

"There has been a noticeable decrease in the numbers of beggars in the Brompton Ward. The numerous dispersals, stops, arrests coupled with the impact of Antisocial Behaviour Orders (ASBO's) have shown that begging will not be tolerated.

"By working with partners, including Social Services, the Council, businesses and residents, the dispersal powers have made a visible difference in combating this problem."

The six-month Group Dispersal Zone was put in place following complaints about begging from residents and businesses. The police led the application for the dispersal zone with the support of the Council.

If anyone breaks the rules of the dispersal zone they can be arrested, face three months imprisonment and a fine of up to £2,000.

The Council, in partnership with the police and voluntary sector organisations, operates an 'alternative giving' initiative which encourages members of the public to think before they give to beggars, and donate money to charities in the borough who help homeless and vulnerable people away from street based lifestyles.

Don't have an identity crisis

Recent figures reveal that residents living in the Royal Borough are four times more likely to be victims of identity fraud than in any other borough.

A study carried out by Experian found that, nationally, the most common form of identity fraud is for criminals to misuse details of addresses to steal identities giving them access to bank accounts, take loans out in another name, apply for mortgages or even put your home into their own name.

Everyone is at risk of identity fraud and nationally the number of fraud cases is increasing.

Prompt action by Notting Barns Councillor, Judith Blakeman, prevented her becoming a victim of fraud when she alerted the Council's Trading Standards Department. She said

"Although I thought I had followed all the guidelines, an attempt was made to steal my identity.

"I immediately contacted the Trading Standards Department at the Town Hall, who followed up the case and confirmed that it was indeed an attempted fraud. When in doubt ask for help. Trading Standards put a stop to this fraud and saved me a lot of grief."

To help protect yourself from identity fraud, follow these steps:

1) If anyone asks you for your personal details, don't give them

out. Get their name, telephone number and check with the organisation that the person is legitimate. Don't give out bank or bank card details

- 2) Check your credit report regularly to ensure no accounts or credit has been set up in your name
- 3) Shred all documents containing personal or financial information
- 4) Don't post personal information on the internet, or reply to unsolicited emails that purport to be from financial institutions
- 5) Check bank/credit card statements regularly
- 6) Keep important documents like your passport, driving licence and birth certificate in a safe place
- 7) If you move home inform all relevant organisations of your change of address. If you plan to go away, contact Royal Mail about the Keepsafe service
- 8) The main message is: don't trust anyone with your details and keep a check on your credit history so you know if anything is amiss

To report any antisocial behaviour call **0300 123 12 12** or if it is an emergency always dial **999**.

Royal Borough residents feel safer than other Londoners

The Annual Survey of Londoners, conducted earlier this year, shows that the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour has dropped in the Royal Borough and residents are feeling safer.

The survey, carried out by market research company TNS, highlighted improvements in Royal Borough residents' perception of policing as well as how well the police and Council are tackling crime and antisocial behaviour issues, with residents feeling safer during the day and night.

Whilst crime continues to concern people the most, the survey shows that residents in Kensington and Chelsea are becoming less concerned about crime year on year compared with the rest of London.

The report reveals that residents have a more positive attitude to services, such as policing in the borough, than residents in other London boroughs; with 64 per cent of residents stating that policing is either excellent or very good, compared with 53 per cent of Londoners.

There have been significant improvements around how the police and Council are dealing with antisocial behaviour with over two thirds of residents (63 per cent) strongly agreeing that the police and Council are dealing with antisocial behaviour and crime in the area (up from last year at 58 per cent).

Residents are also feeling safer during the day and night, with 94 per cent stating they felt very/fairly safe when out and about during the day compared with 91 per cent in 2009. During the night-time, 76 per cent of residents also said they felt very safe, compared to 74 per cent last year.

To read a full copy of the report, please visit the Greater London Authority website www.london.gov.uk/get-involved/consultations/annual-london-survey/2010



Be safe on scooters

A short series of road safety workshops and practical training is being offered to young people by the Council's Road Safety Team in partnership with the Connexions service.

The Transit Project is designed to help young people to be more aware of their responsibilities and ensure they are safe and skilled riders.

For many young people a scooter is the first vehicle they will use on the road, but without adequate training they can be dangerous.

In 2009 there were 25 casualties in the Royal Borough involving young people from the age of 16 to 24 who

were riding scooters and motorbikes.

Recently, girls from Lancaster and Earls Court Youth Centres and a team from the Moroccan Community Welfare Group, successfully passed the Compulsory Basic Training element of the course.

For more information please contact the Road Safety Team by telephoning **020 7361 3628** or email road.safety@rbkc.gov.uk

Safe ride for passengers

As part of the Mayor of London's pledge to tackle antisocial behaviour on public transport, the borough has a new team dedicated to tackling transport crime.

From April, officers have been on buses in Kensington and Chelsea to help combat crime and antisocial behaviour. The team, comprising 21 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), six constables and three sergeants, is also responsible for dealing with road congestion, road safety and preventing illegal taxi touting.

It is hoped that this additional police presence on buses will help passengers feel safer using public transport.

Inspector Graham Sutherland who is heading up the new team said:

"I am responsible for leading a team of dedicated officers whose role is to provide a safe transport system for passengers and staff in the borough. The team are highly visible and their presence provides reassurance for passengers."



Think E-Safety

Children are increasingly accessing the internet at home, school, from a games console or even a mobile phone and parents need to be aware of the risks to help them surf safely.

Here are some useful tips to help young people stay safe online. They should:

- never give out any personal information about themselves, friends or family online
- only use a webcam with people they know
- avoid using websites they can't tell their parents about
- only email people they know
- be careful before opening an email attachment from an unknown sender, and if in doubt, delete the message without opening it
- be careful about 'pop-ups' that say they have won something
- create nicknames when accessing games or websites on the internet and avoid using real names. Use internet chat rooms, online game sharing spaces and instant messaging with caution and learn how to block and report unwanted users
- tell an adult straight away if they encounter anything they are unhappy with
- report concerns using the 'Report Abuse' button which can be found on most websites
- remember that people they meet online may not be who they say they are and never arrange to meet them. If someone tries to arrange a meeting they should tell an adult immediately

Here are some useful tips for parents:

- put sensible 'technical' solutions in place such as parental control tools to help safeguard your child at home
- develop trust and talk to your child
- put the computer in a family room
- use age-appropriate tools to check internet access via mobile phones and make sure they are playing age-appropriate games
- report abuse using the national 'Report Abuse' link

For more information and advice on safeguarding children and issues affecting families please visit www.rbkc.gov.uk/safeguardingchildren



Youngsters make a difference in their neighbourhood

Young members of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Children's Forum (CHiF) took to the streets during February to look at ways their neighbourhood in the north of the borough could be improved.

Looking around the canal by Kensal Road they highlighted issues they wanted to see improved such as removing graffiti and clearing litter and rubbish from knife bins.

They discussed their findings with the Council's Safer Neighbourhoods Officer. As a result, since the youngsters visited, offenders on the Council's Community Payback scheme have started cleaning graffiti along the canal and work is currently ongoing.

CHiF is a project which encourages young people aged eight to 13, who live in the borough, to make a difference in their local community.

To date, the children have contributed to a number of local projects by helping to design the new adventure playground at Little Wormwood Scrubs and contributing their ideas to new play areas at Kensington Memorial Park and Emslie Hornimans Pleasance.

Following the visit in February, the children are planning to work with British Waterways during the summer to make environmental improvements and clean up the canal by Kensal Road.

For more information please contact the Children's Participation Team on **020 7938 8071** or email chif@rbkc.gov.uk

Prolific street drinker gets an ASBO

A man who has been arrested 57 times in the past three years for public order offences related to his street drinking has been jailed for breaching an ASBO that banned him from the area indefinitely.

Tomas Pastor, a Czech Republic national of no fixed address, is a regular street drinker who has been responsible for aggressive and persistent antisocial behaviour towards residents, businesses and visitors to the Notting Hill Gate and Shepherd's Bush area.

On Tuesday 18 May 2010, Tomas Pastor was handed an ASBO by West London Magistrates' Court banning him from entering the borough as well as



Art beat for police

Fake, forged or stolen antiques that are being sold on market stalls in Portobello Road are being uncovered by a team of Special Constables as part of an innovative idea to tackle crime within the art and antique industry.

Staff working in museums and the art industry are using their specialist knowledge of art and antiques to work as Special Constables for the police as 'ArtBeat' officers.

The Art and Antiques Unit is led by Scotland Yard and there are ten Special Constables, who have experience or degrees within art history, archaeology and cultural heritage or museum studies. They patrol the borough's markets and stalls, as well as visit London auction houses every month.

Scotland Yard's Economic and Specialist Crime Command's Detective Superintendent Matthew Horne, said:

"The idea behind patrolling Portobello Road was to make sure we extend our reach to those engaging in the buying and selling of antiques on all levels - not just at high end galleries and auctioneers. It is also a great way to get to know those in the industry and demonstrate that we have officers who specialise in their area of work.

"The patrols involved officers working closely with the Royal

Borough and Westminster to engage with the local art community."

ArtBeat is a partnership between the Met Police and the art industry. The Special Constables involved are being supported by their employers who provide time off for training and operational work.

Zoe Jackman, an ArtBeat Special, said:

"I work at the V&A as the manager of the bookings office and the ArtBeat employer sponsored scheme was advertised on our intranet.

"Having studied for a degree based in history of art and previously been a church restorer, I thought this would be an interesting change to my usual day-to-day job at the V&A and that my knowledge might be useful to the unit.

"Since joining three years ago, I have been involved in some really interesting cases and being able to work with the detectives in the Arts and Antiques unit has been very rewarding."



Thomas Pastor

Hammersmith and Fulham. The order also prohibited him from possessing alcohol and from intimidating members of the public.

However, Mr Pastor broke the conditions of the ASBO and on Wednesday 26 May, was given a six-week custodial sentence.

Sergeant Philippa Doyle, manager of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's Community Antisocial Behaviour Action Team, said:

"It is clear that Tomas Pastor can cause a great deal of concern and worry to the people he comes into contact with. The court result means that a strong message has been given to him in relation to his persistent nuisance and presence in the borough."



Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Safe features a regular snapshot of the Royal Borough's Safer Neighbourhoods Teams' work as well as local ward priorities that residents feel most concerned about.

There is a Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) operating in every ward and they are dedicated to responding to local issues and concerns.

If you have any day-to-day crime and antisocial behaviour concerns, or if you would like to get involved, you can visit your local SNT at one of the regular drop-in surgeries.

Alternatively, please contact your local Kensington and Chelsea Safer Neighbourhoods Team. Details and dates can be found at www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods

In the event of an emergency always dial 999, for all other calls to the Metropolitan Police Service please call **0300 123 12 12**.

Golborne ward update

Priorities

1. Burglary
2. Drugs
3. Theft/and or taking motor vehicles
4. Youth engagement

Ward update

Officers have been carrying out operations to identify and arrest offenders, patrolling burglary hot-spot areas in the ward as well as visiting victims of burglary to provide crime prevention advice.

Theft of and from motor vehicles is a priority for residents, with officers patrolling and distributing crime prevention leaflets and posters in hot-spot areas warning residents to be careful and secure their vehicles.

Officers visited local schools, took part in assemblies, sports days and offered advice and support to young people on how to avoid becoming a victim of crime.

The borough-wide drinking ban has been enforced in the ward and over the past few months 37 open bottles and cans have been confiscated.

Since April, officers have issued three fixed penalties for dangerous cycling and continue to enforce riding on pavements and cycling through red lights. Four abandoned vehicles were recovered and officers are carrying out road safety projects with school children in Golborne, ensuring that they stay safe whilst crossing roads in the morning and after school.



Drop-in surgery

When: Wednesday 4 July from 11am to 12:30pm
Where: Royalty studios, Unit C, 105 Lancaster Road

For more information telephone **020 8721 2004**
Email **Golborne.snt@met.police.uk**

Drop-in surgery

When: Friday 9 July from 1pm to 3pm
Where: Canalot Studios, 222 Kensal Road, W10

Royal Hospital ward

Priorities

1. Burglary
2. Theft of/from motor vehicle
3. Robbery (personal)
4. Dangerous cycling

Ward update

Officers have continued tackling begging in the ward and in April, whilst carrying out stop and searches, officers arrested three people, two of whom were registered sex offenders.

SNT have been targeting dangerous cyclists in the ward and in March officers issued three fines to reckless cyclists who were caught riding on the pavement.

As part of a crime prevention initiative to tackle burglary, the team handed out letter box guards to residents at ward meetings.

Due to concerns raised by parents and children about dangerous driving at school closing times, the team have been working with children to raise awareness of road safety and have been patrolling crossings at the start and end of the school day. Officers handed out high-visibility vests to children attending Christchurch School.

Drop-in surgery

When: Thursday 1 July from 6pm to 7pm
Where: Chelsea Old Town Hall

For more information telephone **020 8721 2653**
Email **RoyalHospital.snt@met.police.uk**

Drop-in surgery

When: Saturday 7 July from 5pm to 6pm
Where: Chelsea library, Kings Road

For more information about
Safer Neighbourhoods Teams please visit
www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods

Get involved!

Some dates for your diary...

The Community and Police Engagement Group

The Community and Police Engagement Group (CPEG) is a vital link between the public and police, giving local people the opportunity to have their say about crime in the Royal Borough.

All CPEG public meetings start at 6pm and include refreshments.

Date	Venue
24 June 2010	North Kensington (venue to be confirmed)
22 September 2010	Chelsea (venue to be confirmed)
26 October 2010	Post Carnival meeting at the Lighthouse West London
9 December 2010	AGM at the Essex Unitarian Church 112 Palace Gardens Terrace W8

Please check the group's website for further details of the venue, themes and speakers for the meetings at www.e-voice.org.uk/kccpeg

If you would like to be involved in the group and its work, or would like more information about the meetings, please contact the administrator through the details provided on the website.

Have your say on housing

Wednesday 30 June 2010

Time: 6.30 to 8pm

Place: Small Hall, Kensington Town Hall

Held by the Borough Community Relations Advisory Group, the Annual Forum is your chance to find out more about local services and help influence decisions in Kensington and Chelsea.

The topic for discussion at this year's forum will be housing. The event provides a chance for you to hear more about housing services in the borough and to ask questions on relevant issues to key decision-makers and senior officers.

To attend this free event, please contact the Council's Community Engagement Team on **020 7598 4633**, or email communityengagement@rbkc.gov.uk

Become an Appropriate Adult volunteer

Do you want to do something rewarding?

Do you want to make a difference for vulnerable people?

The Appropriate Adult service needs you.

The service provides a team of trained Appropriate Adult volunteers working on a rota system to assist vulnerable people who are being held in police custody.

Volunteers offer reassurance, ensure that police interviews are being conducted properly and that the person being interviewed understands their rights.

If you:

- live 30 to 45 minutes from Notting Hill or Chelsea police station
- have good communication skills
- get on with people from all backgrounds
- can follow systems and official procedures
- are over 18
- are not employed by the police as a civilian or an officer
- can spare a few hours each month

Contact Us

Community Safety Team

Whitlock House, c/o Kensington Police Station
72-74 Earls Court Road, London W8 6EQ

Tel: **020 7795 6660**

Email: commsafe@rbkc.gov.uk

www.rbkc.gov.uk/communitysafety

If you would like to receive an electronic or paper copy of **Safe** and if you have any content suggestions, please contact the Editor via email at commsafe@rbkc.gov.uk

PLEASE PLACE LANDSCAPE
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