



Welcome

Welcome to another edition of Safe, your community safety newsletter.

I hope you enjoy reading the third edition of Safe. I am your new Cabinet Member for Civil Society with responsibility for community safety.

I have been a Councillor for Campden ward for 12 years, I was Mayor in 2006/07 and have been in the Cabinet since 2007. I was appointed the Cabinet Member for Civil Society, which includes community safety, in May of this year.

My responsibilities focus on residents' quality of life and their fear of crime. I oversee the Council's efforts to ensure that public services are delivered effectively and that people feel safe in their streets and homes.

I hope you enjoy Safe and if you have any questions regarding what the Council and police are doing to keep the borough safe, please contact the Community Safety Team on **020 7795 6660** or email commsafe@rbkc.gov.uk

Councillor Tim Ahern
Cabinet Member for Civil Society

Fraudster claimed dead mother was alive

A man who stole £111,000 from the public purse and persuaded a woman to pretend to be his dead mother was convicted of fraud on Friday 13 August and sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

The conviction followed a lengthy and detailed financial and criminal investigation by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Tenant Management Organisation and the Cremorne Safer Neighbourhoods Police Team.

Former bus driver Gordon Jeeves, aged 50, of Gillray House Cremorne Estate, SW10, pretended his mother was alive, even though she had died in 2001 and applied for a number of different benefits.

At Isleworth Crown Court, Mr Jeeves pleaded guilty to theft of benefits totalling £111,000 including £33,423 in housing benefit and £4,642.58 in council tax benefit. In sentencing him, Judge His Honour Dennis, said, "The aggravating factors in this case are that you didn't lead a frugal life on the proceeds of this crime but decided to go on a series of exotic holidays and, in addition, you involved other people in this deception."

Following the suspicions of Council officers, investigators from the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea visited Mr Jeeves, who attempted to deceive them with the help of a friend who pretended to be his mother.

Council investigators were concerned that the person in the bed appeared 20 years younger than expected, and when they challenged the lady in question she confessed to not being Mr Jeeves' mother, who in 2009 would have 88 years old. She is currently awaiting trial.

Jeeves' girlfriend is also awaiting trial for perverting the course of justice by lying



to police in claiming Jeeves' mother was alive.

Councillor Warwick Lightfoot, the Council's Cabinet Member for Finance and IT, said, "It is terrible to see the lengths people are prepared to go to in order to steal money from taxpayers. In the course of eight years, Mr Jeeves took over £100,000 that could have gone to people in real need.

"I am very satisfied that the court has decided to sentence him to two years' imprisonment and I hope it sends out a strong message to anyone else trying to steal from taxpayers. We will not stop investigating any suspicious cases and where we find fraud has taken place we will use every tool at our disposal to bring the full force of the law to bear on fraudsters."





Closure Order shuts down drugs den

Information provided by residents living near a drugs den in Kensington gave the Council and police evidence to ask the court to grant a Closure Order on the flat.

The drugs den at 18 Chesterton Square, W8 attracted many users who were visiting the property throughout the day and night.

District Judge Williams granted an interim three-month Closure Order on Monday 13 September after considering evidence gathered by the joint police and Council Community Antisocial Behaviour Action Team (CASBAT) and the Tenant Management Organisation as well as complaints from residents.

The Order prevents anyone from entering the flat and the occupiers must find alternative accommodation. The property, which was being rented by 47 year old Mark Owen, was being used by drug dealers to buy, sell and use drugs.

Sergeant Annalisa Andrews, Manager of CASBAT, said, "Without residents willing to come forward and provide information we would not have been able to build up such a strong case against the tenant. Drug use and antisocial behaviour affects everyone's quality of life, especially those living close to where the offence is taking place. We hope that this closure will bring an improvement to residents' lives in the area."

Crime down for Carnival

Reported crime at this year's Notting Hill Carnival was down by 31 per cent according to figures released by the police and there were no firearm incidents for the fourth-year running.

Nearly one million people attended the event over the August Bank Holiday weekend, with approximately 5,000 police officers patrolling on Sunday and Monday.

In the lead up to Carnival, police targeted potential troublemakers such as pickpockets, sex card workers and also confiscated knives and firearms, as well as drugs as part of Operation Razorback.

The Council's Licensing, Street Trading and Health and Safety teams worked in partnership with the police to prevent illegal street trading, and the illegal sale of alcohol. As a result of the joint partnership work, five people appeared at West London Magistrates' Court for illegal street trading, as well as an ice cream seller who had his van seized.

Seventeen fines were issued to illegal street traders, who were caught selling soft drinks, CDs and balloons.

Three noise teams monitored noise levels on the Carnival route as well as overnight to make sure any parties taking place didn't breach acceptable noise levels.

Councillor Ahern, Cabinet Member for Civil Society, said, "The Council



and police work very hard to ensure that Carnival is safe for visitors and residents. There is a lot of hard work carried out before, during and after Carnival. This preparation and all the officers involved over the weekend ensured that this year's Carnival was a success."

Commander Bob Broadhurst from the Met Police Public Order Operational Support Unit, who was in charge of policing at the carnival, praised the work carried out by the police and thanked everyone involved for their hard work and professionalism. He said, "Carnival is a high profile event and visitors from all over the world attend. An awful lot of hard work goes into planning the event all year round and we work closely with all of our partners. I saw excellent policing across the board over the weekend and want to thank all of those who played a part in ensuring carnival went smoothly."

Dealer gets caught with drugs in his pants

An 18-year old who ran away from police when questioned about drug dealing was finally caught and has been sentenced to three years in prison for dealing crack cocaine.

Trent Gustave, unemployed from Golborne Road, W10 was seen by police on Friday 4 June, riding a bicycle in North Pole Road, W10. Officers identified him as the same person who had recently run away from police whilst being questioned about his involvement in the supply of controlled drugs.

After officers searched him they discovered that he had a large sum of money on him totalling over £750.

Mr Gustave was taken to Notting Hill Police station where officers carried out another search and found 17 wraps of crack cocaine hidden in his underwear.

Trent Gustave pleaded guilty at West London Magistrates' Court. He was sentenced to three years and four months for possession with intent to supply a class A drug.

Crimebusting cadets take to the street



Kensington and Chelsea police run a local Volunteer Police Cadet scheme which is aimed at young people aged 14 to 19.

Cadets learn and practice a whole range of skills including drill, first aid, map reading and undertake teambuilding exercises. Youngsters take part in a number of activities such as canoeing, rock climbing, abseiling and orienteering.

The scheme also provides young people with opportunities to obtain the Duke of Edinburgh award and other accreditations. It provides training and

an insight into policing, which can act as a route into a police career.

This summer, cadets turned crimebusters by reminding residents to lock all windows and doors as part of this summer's 'Love it Lock it' campaign. Youngsters hand-delivered crime prevention postcards to residents living in burglary hot-spot areas.

Cadets meet at the Territorial Army Centre in Adam and Eve Mews, off Kensington High Street, every Thursday from 7pm to 9pm. For more information, contact Sgt Paul Rougvie on **020 8246 0715** or email **paul.rougvie@met.police.uk**

Stop and search uncovers drugs and money laundering

A man was arrested after police carried out a stop and search and found over £10,000 and cannabis hidden in his car.

Following a search of the man's home officers also uncovered an expensive car with drugs stashed inside, as well as designer watches, laptops and expensive jewellery.

In late August, officers on patrol in an unmarked police car stopped a man

driving in Earl's Court.

Officers searched the car and driver after they smelt cannabis and discovered two lumps of cannabis hidden in the back of the front passenger seat, as well as £10,000 inside a carrier bag underneath the front passenger seat.

The man was arrested on suspicion of possessing Class A drugs with intent to supply and money laundering.

Police later searched the man's home and seized a vehicle under the Proceeds of Crime Act together with a quantity of tablets, believed to be LSD, a quantity of cash, four designer watches and other expensive items of jewellery, along with two laptop computers, five passports and various banking documents and correspondence.

The man has been bailed to attend Notting Hill police station whilst further enquiries are made.

Specials help clean up aggressive begging in Knightsbridge

In the summer edition of Safe, we featured news about the Group Dispersal Zone that has been operating in the borough to tackle aggressive begging in Knightsbridge.

Here is an update of what the police have been doing over the past three months.

Special Constables have been out in force targeting aggressive begging and since July they have issued 65 dispersal notices to beggars, banning them from returning to the area for 24-hours. During a three-day operation in August, officers made two arrests for begging and one for illegal street trading.

In recent years large groups of Romanian beggars have been drawn

to Knightsbridge, especially during the summer. The area attracts large numbers of tourists, making it a popular choice for beggars.

It is not unusual to find groups of ten or more beggars working together, harassing residents and tourists. Their behaviour is often both aggressive and intimidating, resulting in numerous complaints.

Police Sergeant Jag Kumar, who heads the Knightsbridge Town Centre Team, said, "The support from the Special Constables has been invaluable, and without their time it would have been extremely difficult to police Knightsbridge.

"The language skills, particularly with one Romanian-speaking Special



Constable proved to be invaluable in a recent operation. Knightsbridge is attractive to beggars, who prey on visitors and cause distress. The Group Dispersal Zone sends out a clear message that aggressive begging will not be tolerated."



Stay safe as the nights get darker

Nights are drawing in, so think about what you can do to keep yourself and your home secure.

Here are some handy hints to make sure you and your property stay safe:

At home

- make sure that you lock your doors and windows when you are out
- don't leave any personal property unattended near open windows when you are in
- make sure your house looks as though it is occupied
- if you live in a block of flats speak to your landlord or managing agent about how security can be improved
- don't 'buzz' strangers into your building without checking their identity first.

When out

- stay on roads and streets that are well lit and busy
- if you are carrying a bag make sure it is fastened and carry it across your chest
- be careful with your electronics; talking on a mobile phone, listening to an MP3 player or carrying a laptop bag shows thieves that you have something to steal
- avoid using cash machines at night
- if you think you are being followed, cross the road or go into a shop and stay there until you're sure you're safe.

For advice on community safety matters including crime prevention, please contact the Community Safety Team on **020 7795 6660** or email **commsafe@rbkc.gov.uk**

Your local police Safer Neighbourhood Team can also offer advice. Contact details of your SNT can be found at **www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods**

Safeguard yourself against scams



Residents and visitors can get advice on how to protect themselves against identity theft, online fraud and property scams by logging onto the Council's new fraud awareness website.

It gives helpful information and advice to help protect against fraud including how to avoid holiday scams, identifying fake coins and looking out for the top five most popular scams through the Council's website at **www.rbkc.gov.uk/fraudawareness**

According to the latest figures reported by the National Fraud Authority, fraud costs each of us living in England and Wales around £620 a year.

If you know anyone who may be defrauding the Council, perhaps by claiming benefit they are not entitled to, subletting Council property or falsely using disabled parking badges, please call **020 7361 2777** or email **investigations@rbkc.gov.uk**
 You can report your suspicions anonymously.

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

Young and old act up

Local youngsters and the elderly got together on stage to act out a series of sketches aimed at breaking the barriers between them.

During August, children from Holland Park School and members of Age Concern Kensington and Chelsea took part in two performances at the Electric Cinema in Portobello Road to give a performance of the theatrical production entitled 'Acting Up'.

Using a combination of drama, music and dance, the group performed over 30 different sketches, focusing on themes such as what people like and don't like about their age, cultural and ethnic differences between generations such as language, fashion and issues they share such as stereotypes and fears of crime, violence and drug abuse.

The performances proved to be a hit with the audience, who were entertained with a mixture of lighthearted sketches and more hard hitting and challenging subjects.

'Acting Up' is a community engagement project organised by Age Concern Kensington and Chelsea and PC Kathy Aubeelack from the Community Safety Team, in partnership with Police Community Support Officers and Holland Park School.

15 year-old Mason Haslock, said, "As an aspiring young actor, 'Acting Up' has helped me with my stage fright. It has helped me with career advice and most of all it has helped me with my people skills.



"Before I did this two years ago, I wouldn't have thought that old people were also young once and wouldn't have benefited from their past experiences.

"This experience will stay with me forever and I would recommend other young people join Acting Up in the future. It is a positive project that will keep them away from the streets during summer."

Marie Kamara, Ray Shaw and Sheila Benson from Age Concern Kensington and Chelsea said: "It's been a real pleasure working with the young people. We have learnt so much about them because we had our own misconceptions. These were changed and young people changed theirs about us. Most of all, being with them reminded us that we were young once. This is wonderful and we look forward to future Acting Up."

Ask the boss about policing in your borough



The police have launched a question and answer service where residents and employees in the borough can ask senior Kensington and Chelsea police officers about local crime and policing matters.

'You to Us' went live on Wednesday 25 August and allows residents to email questions directly to senior members of the police. Answers to questions are published on the Kensington and Chelsea Met Police website on the last Wednesday of every month.

The service aims to encourage residents and employees to communicate with the police and provide a direct link to local policing.

Questions already answered by the police include a request for more information on how to deal with antisocial neighbours and if there could be a designated police 'zero-tolerance' month at Tavistock Gardens.

Borough Commander for Kensington and Chelsea,

Chief Supt Mark Heath, said, "Crime in Kensington and Chelsea is low and continues to fall. However, we are well aware that sometimes that will be of little comfort to anyone who has either been the unfortunate victim of crime or experienced some form of antisocial behaviour.

"We hope that people will use the service to share with us concerns they may have about local crime or antisocial behaviour in their area and provide us with an opportunity to let them know what we are doing to try and address their concerns."

One question per person may be submitted via email to youtous@met.police.uk and include your first name and the area or ward where you live or work.

Questions can be submitted up to five days before the last Wednesday of every month. Any questions sent after this day will not be included. Questions and responses will be published within four to five days on the Met Police website at www.met.police.uk/kensingtonandchelsea



Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Safe features a regular snapshot of the work done by our Safer Neighbourhoods Teams, 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 or street briefings. If you are interested in becoming a neighbourhood panel member please contact your local SNT. Details and dates of drop-in surgeries and street briefings 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**.

Colville Ward update

Priorities

1. Bike theft
2. Youth engagement
3. Street drinking
4. Shop lifting/Shop watch

Ward update

Officers have been carrying out high visibility patrols in bike theft hot-spots, visiting and providing advice to victims of crime and holding prevention surgeries at cycle shops in the area.

SNT are also planning an operation to catch offenders by using a decoy bike.

During August, officers gave crime prevention advice to commuters around Ladbrooke Tube station, supported Lancaster Youth Club's ongoing 'Ready Steady Cook' evening, and helped a local theatre group's performance about drugs.

The SNT has increased its ward patrols in response to concerns raised by local residents and shopkeepers about rough sleepers and street drinkers.

Combating street drinking is a current policing priority for residents and in the past month the SNT has made two arrests and stopped and confiscated alcohol from 30 people.

Officers have carried out high visibility patrols and visited local shops to combat retail crime and shoplifting. The Shopwatch scheme has been operating for three years and since it started there has been an increase in the number of retail crimes being solved in the area.



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

Drop-in surgery

When: Tuesday 23 November from 4pm to 6pm
Where: Unit C, Royalty Studios, 105 Lancaster Road
London W11 1QF

Street briefing

When: Tuesday 21 December from 1pm to 3pm
Where: Portobello Court, Portobello Road, W11

For more information telephone **020 8721 3013**
Email: Colville.snt@met.police.uk

Cremorne ward update

Priorities

1. Responsible dog ownership
2. Youth antisocial behaviour
3. Drug use and drug dealing

Ward update

Officers seized two pit bull dogs from the World's End Estate and the Guinness Trust Estate. One of the dogs was believed to be involved in dog fighting and as a result a 44 year old man was arrested. Officers continue to enforce dog control orders.

Combating youth antisocial behaviour is a priority for residents and officers have been working with Chelsea Youth Club, giving advice to youngsters about joining voluntary organisations and encouraging them to join the youth club.

Officers raided a property that was being used to deal drugs and following two raids on another property where drugs were found, a man was put on an Acceptable Behaviour Agreement.

Drop-in surgery

When: Thursday 10 November from 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Where: World's End Health Centre, 529 King's Road,
London SW10

Drop-in surgery

When: Wednesday 17 November from 1.30pm to 3.30pm
Where: World's End Health Centre, 529 King's Road,
London SW10

Drop-in surgery

When: Saturday 20 November from 10am to 12pm
Where: Safer Neighbourhoods Base, Worlds End Piazza,
461 Kings Road, London SW10

For more information telephone **020 8721 2005**
Email: Cremorne.snt@met.police.uk

Get involved!

Some dates for your diary...

The Community and Police Engagement Group

The Community and Police Engagement Group (CPEG) is an important 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
29 November 2010	The AGM will be followed by Councillor Victoria Borwick, London Assembly Member, speaking about police retaining DNA records as well as discussion about the Council's Community Safety Partnership Plan in Committee Room 1, Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street, W8 7NX from 6pm.

Please check the group's website for further details of the venue, themes and speakers for the meetings:

www.e-voice.org.uk/kccpeg

CPEG is looking to engage with local people as widely as possible including those with specialist community knowledge. Anyone who would like to become more actively involved in policing and the community is welcome to get in contact with the CPEG by emailing Jerome.treherne@rbkc.gov.uk

Alternatively why not attend a public meeting and speak to the chair and others involved with CPEG.

An active link to your community

There is now a community website available for residents in Kensington and Chelsea.

Active Link includes regular coverage of local news and events, policing and community safety, health, community groups, places of worship and faith groups, as well as useful contacts and other helpful links. It also allows registered members to contribute to the site through editorials, blogs, photographs, advice and information. The site currently has over 7,000 members and it is free to register.

You can sign up to Active Link for free by visiting www.activelink.org.uk/ Click "Register Here" and enter the Invitation Key: **T4P4R4**

Have your say on volunteering in Kensington and Chelsea

Are you interested in helping to shape the activities and services in your local area?

The Kensington and Chelsea Partnership, which brings together the Council, police, health and voluntary sectors wants to encourage more local people to volunteer and help support voluntary organisations. They have launched a survey for residents and organisations to give their opinions about volunteering in Kensington and Chelsea.

To take part in the survey and have your say visit www.kc-pct.nhs.uk/haveyoursay or email volunteer@rbkc.gov.uk

The closing date for the survey is **Friday 19 November 2010**. If you would like a copy of the questionnaire or would like it in an alternative format, please call **020 7598 4633**.

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 provide feedback on **Safe** please see contact details on page 8.

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