



# ACTON NEIGHBOURHOOD

# POLICE UPDATE

THE FORTNIGHTLY NEWS SHEET OF THE FIVE ACTON SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAMS

NUMBER 16 DEC 18 2017

In this issue we'll be giving you a good idea what to look out for if you find someone you are not expecting on your doorstep, in our "Profile of a Bogus Caller" feature. You will also see the positive results of one SNT sergeant dusting off his cycling kit, and learn a bit about a new police team operating across the Acton area specifically dealing with Anti Social Behaviour.

## SOUTHFIELD WARD

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Twitter @MPSSouthfieldW4

See the Southfield Ward Team on Facebook

Southfield officers have been reaching out to vulnerable and elderly residents throughout the ward following on from some worrying scams that have been perpetrated throughout the ward.

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators have been identifying people who fall into this category on their watches and giving the team their details.

They have then been approached with the offer of free security checks on their houses and considerable advice as to the best way to avoid bogus callers and the scourge of door to door scams.

If the team have missed you and you would like to avail yourself of this service please contact us at the number

at the top of this article and somebody will get back to you.

Also have a good look at the Bogus Caller Profile that appears between this section and the Hanger Hill report. It clearly shows that you need to be very careful with people who call unannounced at your door.

The best advice is to never open the front door to anyone you are not expecting. You could also consider fitting a spy hole in your front door which would enable you to identify anyone standing on your door step.

The Team have been very busy speaking to members of the public about home and personal security at this time of year when the nights are long and the days are short.

They spent some time at the Southfield Triangle Residents Association Christmas Breakfast meeting where, between Bacon Sandwiches and Croissants, they discussed the need for extra vigilance while on the street in the half light and the need to avoid leaving empty large electronic devices boxes on the street for

recycling, thereby advertising the presence of a brand new Smart TV in the house beyond. (Always break up the packaging into small unrecognisable bits before putting it out)

The Team also spoke to Boy Scouts and Beavers on consecutive nights in the Scout Hut in Rugby Road where they talked at great length about the role of the police. Hopefully they learnt that the police were their friends and they were always the people they should trust and turn to in any kind of emergency.

On the 6th of December the Team had a comprehensive meeting with John Stanton from the Ealing Safer Communities Team. A number of topics were discussed but one subject that kept coming up was the public concern about the London Wide increase in Moped Enabled Crime, a subject which has surfaced in these columns a number of times in the past.

The Team noted that the Met as a whole were very concerned and numerous measures were being put in hand. The officers did note however that on a local level in Southfield scooters involved with crime were regularly using the footpath that goes from Rugby Road to Stanley Gardens. There is a small but totally ineffectual barrier at the Rugby Road end which stops absolutely nothing.

It has been noted that scooter and motor bike riders regularly use the path as a cut through. This obviously is very dangerous bearing in mind the close proximity of a children's nursery and so many pedestrians, some with prams or pushchairs, in such a small confined space.

A major problem faced by the police in general with regards to this though, is that the criminal elements on scooters use this cut through to avoid being caught by officers in cars.

John will take this problem back to the council, and the police team would advise anyone concerned to write to the council and let their views be known.

### Forthcoming Events

#### **Cuppa with a Copper**

Thurs 21 Dec 11-12pm Sparrow Café 181 Acton Lane

Thurs 28 Dec 11-12pm Plum Duff 62 Southfield Rd

Tues 9 January 11-12pm Laveli Bakery South Parade

### **Street Briefings**

Weds 27 Dec 6-7pm Reynolds Road

Weds 3 Jan 6-7pm Temple Road

Thurs 18 Jan 6-7pm Rothschild Road

Tues 30 Jan 6-7pm Ravenscroft Road

## **PROFILE OF A BOGUS CALLER**

### **Bogus callers may be:**

- Smartly dressed
- Convincing and persuasive
- Men, women or children
- Working in pairs or even teams
- Attempting to prey on people who are older or vulnerable
- Claiming to be from the council, health organisations, gas, water or electricity companies, or even the police
- Claiming to be a workman or a salesman
- Looking official and even using props such as an Identity card or wearing overalls with a company logo
- Asking for something that seems perfectly innocent such as a drink of water, to use your toilet or to use the phone
- Wanting you to help them outside the house eg. say they are looking for a lost pet
- Asking for urgent help and trying to confuse you by saying they are in a hurry

### **Bogus Workmen**

Sometimes people will call at your door and say they are builders or gardeners working in your area. They may try to carry out unnecessary repairs on your home and can be quite persistent and convincing.

Never open the door to a workman that you are not expecting.

If a workman says you need repairs, tell them you will get some quotes for the work from other companies before deciding. Always use a reputable company to carry out repairs or work on your property and

If you think you have had dealings with a bogus trader, contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06 for information about your legal rights and advice on how to resolve your complaint



TOTAL POLICING

## **HANGER HILL WARD**

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**See the Hanger Hill Team on Facebook**

On Tuesday 28th November 2017 Hanger Hill SNT held their weekly Cuppa with a Copper at the Travel Lodge in NW10

The staff at the Travelodge have recently had a number of motor vehicles thefts, so Hanger Hill SNT pop into the venue as much as possible to provide a visible deterrent to crime, as well as giving security advice to the staff on a range of crimes.



Hanger Hill SNT are trying to contact the security directors of the hotel to suggest some security improvements that can be made. Since these events have been advertised on social media, Hanger Hill SNT have had a number of hotels in the local area contact them with a view to holding more events of this nature at their venues.

This forms part of the ward Hotel Engagement Strategy and we are looking to improve the safety around all hotels on the ward.

On Tuesday 28th November 2017, Hanger Hill SNT issued to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's) to individuals causing ASB.

The purpose of the ASB is for an early intervention strategy and warning individuals of their behaviour and placing certain conditions to prevent future ASB conduct. The ABC's were issued with Ealing Council's Safer Community Team present as the agreement is between the local authority and the individual.

We will monitor the individuals and if necessary take further action.

On Friday 1st December 2017 we conducted high visibility patrols around the ward. These were done on the feedback of residents who raised concerns around ASB. We have continued to hand out verbal warnings as part of the ward Community Protection Notice and these have deterred the regular ASB calls.

We continue to work closely with the Safer Community Team in order to address long term issues.

On Sunday 3rd December 2017 Hanger Hill SNT conducted high visibility patrols around the ward. Using a marked car officers visited hotspots around the area tackling ASB.

During the second half of the shift we conducted plain clothes patrol targeting motor vehicle crime. These patrols proved useful as important intelligence was gained. All this information helps ward officers compile data on activity that takes place around the ward.

With the festive period fast approaching we will look to use plain clothes patrols again in order to combat crime. On Wednesday 6th December 2017 ward officers held their weekly street briefing session and this time it was at Hanger Green, W5. This

We have a report from a local business in the area of Anti Social Behaviour coming from behind the shop of Hanger Green. This street briefing allowed us to engage with local businesses and hear the concerns they had. An intelligence report has been put on the location and we will continue to monitor the area and conduct a mixture of high visibility patrols and plain clothes patrols.

The weekly street briefings have been great and well received by local residents and we have certainly found that newer residents in the area are making the efforts to attend and meet their local officers.

On Thursday 7th December 2017 ward officers held their Cuppa with a Copper session at McDonalds, Quill Street, W5. The session which lasted one hour from 5-6pm was well received by members of the public. It was nice to speak with local residents and with the weather becoming increasingly colder; we enjoyed the opportunity to have a hot cuppa!

Ward officers are running the Community Protection Notice and in recent months there have been reports of anti-social behaviour around the location. We have given a number of verbal warnings to people causing ASB in the area and the local businesses also gave us positive feedback stating they have seen the reduction.

On Friday 8th December 2017 ward officers worked alongside their colleagues from the Acton cluster in a joint operation with UKBA and HMRC. This joint operation consisted of visiting a number of venues across the ward in order to ascertain if there was any illegal activity taking place.

Officers worked with the Licensing Team for this joint operation and due to the scale two teams were formed. Both teams were given a number of venues to attend and ensure there was no obstruction or other offences being committed at the time. We held a similar operation on the Hanger Hill ward earlier this year and

from experience the uniformed presence has helped and allowed the other agencies to carry out their work with minimum interference.

The result of this operation amounted in a large number of illegal tobacco seized from these venues and important intelligence gained in order to develop further operations like this.

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **Cuppa with a Copper**

Friday 22nd December 2017 Mcdonalds Quill Street W5 12noon - 1pm

Sunday 31st December 2017 Travelodge North Circular Road 12noon - 1pm

#### **Street Briefings**

Wednesday 13th December 2017 - Hanger Lane Station, W5 - 9am - 10am

Wednesday 20th December 2017 - Park Royal Station, W5 - 5pm - 6pm

Wednesday 27th December 2017 - North Ealing Station - 4pm - 5pm

## **SOUTH ACTON WARD**

**Telephone: 0208 649 3574**

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**Twitter @MPSSouthActon**

**See the South Acton Team on Facebook**

South Acton's newest officer, PC Rachel Sullivan, was involved in mandatory training during this reporting period up at Hendon. All officers have to do this at various times in their career to keep up to date with new developments in policing and to hone their existing skills.

This didn't get in the way of an important meeting at the Bollo Youth Centre on December 10. Rachel attended along with PCSO Sarah Kearney, Dr Suzanne Tanswell, the chair of Acton Neighbourhood Watch, the youth centre manager Colin Brent, and last but certainly not least our local MP, Rupa Huq.

Each guest gave a presentation to the community and spent some time answering a number of pertinent questions put to them. A number of people were concerned that the police did not intervene when bailiffs attended peoples residences. It was explained that bailiffs have legal power of entry acting on behalf of a court. To obstruct a bailiff is actually a criminal offence.

The only way the police would get involved would be to prevent a breach of the peace.

Officers also answered questions about the Youth Panel, an initiative already covered in a previous issue of this newsheet.

PC Sullivan also interviewed a suspect involved in a burglary at the aforementioned Youth Centre as well as spending some time at the Crown Street Surgery where there has been significant anti social behaviour of late.

Team officers also gave a ticket for an illegal tyre in Churchfield Road, and, working with Ealing Council, conducted a blue badge enforcement operation, which resulted in a number of people had their badges seized for misuse.

One more thing that the team are attempting to get changed are the parking bays on Crown Street. They feel that it would be much easier to regulate illegal parking if they were made into Pay and Display Bays. They have approached the council to consider this

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **Cuppa with a Copper**

23rd December 3pm Jungle Café

31st December 11am Starbucks

27th January 3pm Jungle Café

## **EAST ACTON WARD**

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**Twitter @MPSEastActon**

**See the East Acton Team on Facebook**

During this reporting period officers from East Acton SNT collected their brand new Tablets.



These Tablets have all of the programs that they require to carry out their day to day activities.

The idea is that every officer has a personal Tablet which they can take with them while out on patrol. This will mean that Officers can complete reports away from their bases rather than having to return to the Office.

This in turn will mean that they can spend more time out on the ground and less time stuck behind the desk.

Officers also attended a MARAC meeting at Ealing Council. This is a meeting between local partners including mental health services, social services, Police, The London Fire Brigade and local housing associations.

This meeting was in relation to a vulnerable person on the East Acton ward who has been identified by officers as being in urgent need of help. This local partnership approach means that we can tailor our plan to ensuring that this vulnerable person gets the help they need.

Later in the week officers were patrolling Trinity Park W3 when they noticed a strong smell of Cannabis. Officers quickly identified two men who were smoking cannabis, which is an illegal class B drug.

The men were stopped and searched under Section 23 of the Misuse of Drugs Act. Three cannabis "spliffs" were found and both men were dealt with for this offence.

Checks revealed that both of them were prolific burglars, and the relevant intelligence reports were created. We will be keeping a very close eye on these two to ensure that they do not offend on our ward.

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **Cuppa with a Copper**

The Team hold regular Cuppa with a Copper events at the Café in Acton Park. For more details of when you will next be able to join them, please contact them at the number indicated

## **ACTON CENTRAL WARD**

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**Twitter @MPSActonCentral**

**See the Acton Central Team on Facebook**

As you may well be aware we recently experienced a spate of burglaries in and around the Noel Road area. To combat this the team conducted numerous high visibility patrols, and in order to do this dusted off their cycle kit, or in the case of the skipper, ordered some!

What started out as an anti-crime tactic ended up being a brilliant engagements opportunity, with local residents stopping and speaking to officers, one person even shouting "Hey it's the twitter guys!". We got the opportunity to speak to a whole host of local residents, about a range of issues, but mainly providing crime prevention advice and reassurance.

The message that the team are keen to get through is that we are friendly and approachable bunch, so if you see us out and about, or sat having a tea/coffee come and speak to us. We will be happy to listen to any issues you have, or just chat about random stuff, if you are really lucky you'll come away with a sticker to mark the occasion.

On 30/11, a resident from Rufford Tower called police to report four men smoking drugs in the stairwell of the flats. Sgt Matt Buckland and PC Dave Loveday, who were out on foot, attended and located the four gentlemen, who were sat in the stairwell on level 13.

The stairwell smelt heavily of cannabis and so the four men were detained for the purpose of a stop and search. One of them was found to be in possession of a small amount of herbal cannabis, and was issued with a warning.

All four of the men, none of whom resided in the block, were escorted from the venue.

The following day, 01/12, a similar call was received from a resident at Moreton Tower. On this occasion response officers attended, but were unable to locate any suspects. Later that evening all four of the Acton Central team undertook a patrol and located a pair of men on the 13th floor. Both were searched and one was found in possession of cannabis. A warning was issued and both males escorted from the premises.

On the 02/12 a number of patrols were conducted using officers in uniform and plain clothes. Both towers were checked at around 7:30pm, before officers returned just before 9:00pm and located 4 men on floor 6. All were searched, but no drugs were found on this occasion. One of the men was over 18 and was issued with a written warning under community protection notice legislation. This specifically lists behaviour that is anti-social and reduces the quality of life for residents.

Two of the men were escorted from the building, while the other two went to an address. The address was noted and will be passed onto the Safer Communities Team at Ealing Council.

Following issues raised by local residents the team have been working on resolving the issue of inconsiderate parking by patrons of the venue. Some of our twitter followers will be aware that Sgt Matt issued a large number of warnings to vehicle that were parked in such a manner. However it was clear that warnings were not enough, and so a number of late night joint patrols were arranged involving officers from the team and civilian parking enforcement officers from Ealing Council. On the Friday night 6 vehicles were issued with penalty notices, and a further 3 were issued on the Saturday. There was an obvious marked improvement between Friday and Saturday night. These patrols will be repeated over the coming months, and we have already been in contact with the owners of the venue, discussing what steps they can take to stop the issue.

We have changed the way that we conduct Street Briefings. We used to decide a venue and time in advance, however we have decided to take a more reactive approach. Acton Central Street Briefings will now take place in locations where a crime or crimes have occurred and will be geared towards crime prevention and reassurance.

As part of this we have been conducting leaflet drops to specific addresses. These leaflets have included crime prevention advice, a contact sheet for the team and a letter from Dr Suzanne Tanswell who is leading the expansion of Neighbourhood Watch around Acton. The letter explains what is required and is seeking people to volunteer to become co-ordinators. I would urge all of you who have a little spare time to consider taking on this challenge, either by yourself or with another neighbour. The idea is to promote a strong community that works together and looks out for one another.

If this is something that interests you, please get in contact with the team and we will forward details to Suzanne.

While on plain clothes patrols PS Matt Buckland witnessed a Pizza delivery rider on a moped drive along 20+ metres of pavements between Moreton and Rufford towers.

Although unable to stop the vehicle due to not being in uniform, the registration number of the vehicle was recorded and when back at the office checks carried out.

A notification of intended prosecution has now been issued to the company who own the bike. This is a legal request to supply police with the details of the rider at the time of the offence. Sergeant Buckland will be going back to the venue later this week to speak with the manager who will either supply the details of the rider, or will face prosecution themselves.

The attitude of delivery riders in the local area seems to be that road traffic legislation only partly relates to them. This is however not the case, and such activities witnessed or brought to the attention of the police will be dealt with in the most appropriate manner.

On Wednesday 6th December a woman was arrested for breach of her ASBO in relation to harassment of her neighbours. Her behaviour included shouting, banging on the walls etc

### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **Cuppa with a Copper**

COSTA High Street Monday 18/12 6-7pm with PCSO Karen Burgess

FRANKS Churchfield Road Sunday 24/12 10-11am with PC Dave Loveday and PC Chim Nweke

### **Street Briefings**

We conduct street briefings in response to any potential crime or anti-social behaviour patterns. These will be publicised via twitter/facebook and through emails sent.

## THE ASB TEAM

Ealing Police, in conjunction with Ealing Council, have recently formed two teams of police officers specifically to tackle ASB across the Borough.

Team 2 operates in the western side around Southall while Team 1 is concentrated mainly in the Acton Area

Within Team 1 there are four officers with intimate knowledge of Acton as they all used to work in Acton Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

They also work closely with all five SNT's to ensure a two way flow of relevant and useful information.

They have been specifically tasked to tackle repeat ASB offenders and they spend a significant amount of their time visiting known hotspots to deal with problems as they occur and to prevent them developing into long term issues.

## WARD CONTACT DETAILS

Southfield Ward	<b>0208 721 2946</b> <a href="mailto:southfield.snt@met.police.uk">southfield.snt@met.police.uk</a>
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East Acton Ward	<b>0208 721 2708</b> <a href="mailto:eastacton.snt@met.police.uk">eastacton.snt@met.police.uk</a>
Hanger Hill Ward	<b>0208 721 2947</b> <a href="mailto:hangerhill.snt@met.police.uk">hangerhill.snt@met.police.uk</a>
Acton Central Ward	<b>0208 721 2921</b> <a href="mailto:actoncentral.snt@met.police.uk">actoncentral.snt@met.police.uk</a>

This publication is produced by the Acton Cluster Police Teams.

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Each Ward is responsible for the accuracy of their reports

***All the Officers and PCSOs on the five Acton Safer Neighbourhoods Teams would like to take this opportunity to offer you all the compliments of the season.***

***The next issue of this newsletter will be published on Monday 15th January***



TOTAL POLICING

