

Sergeant's message

Sergeant Connor is again performing 'other duties' for a short period; so it is with great pleasure that I address you in my supporting role Calne's Acting Sergeant. As last time, the over riding theme as far as I am concerned is the continued hard work performed by the Calne NPT in conjunction with our partner agencies and networks.

I feel it is appropriate at this point to mention the fact that Sergeant Connor has recently received an award (as some of you may have seen in the local paper) The Divisional Commanders Certificate of Merit was awarded to Sergeant Connor for the outstanding detection rate in the town, and the huge reduction in crime (24%) Sergeant Connor fully deserves this praise, and I have no doubt that you will all wish to join me in congratulating him for all his efforts!

We continue to support Calne Town CCTV, and since the last document was produced I am pleased to announce that the Drug Presentation has been delivered to around twenty of the volunteers. Feedback has been very positive from those who attended! It is planned that a further presentation may be made in the near future, and consideration is also being given to 'widening the audience' in terms of those groups who we make the presentation to.

Whilst on the subject of 'volunteers', I am currently trying to set up a scheme within Calne NPT to have civilian volunteers working at the station carrying out a variety of duties. The overall aim is to allow the Officers and PCSO'S more time out on the street, something which I am sure we would all welcome!
If you are interested in volunteering, or know anyone who may be, then please make contact with either myself or Sergeant Connor.

Calne NPT is currently working hard with the local authority, and other partners, to get an ASBO on one of Calne's persistent offenders. It is never an 'easy' process but I am pleased to say that the combined efforts of all involved have meant that good progress has been made and it is my anticipation that a successful application will be made within the coming few weeks!

These are examples of just some of the ways in which we aim to make the local community as safe as possible. Should you have any suggestions or queries for us then please feel free to contact me, or one of the Calne NPT members.

Lastly an update about the new Police Station. Work is progressing well, and the schedule remains on track. There is already a roof structure visible over the exterior safety boarding and the external walls are all but completed. As the completion date draws closer we are considering how best to open the new station, various ideas have been put forward but if you have a suggestion then please feel free to make it! As last time, please remember that we are here for the local community and still maintain a constant presence in the town. We can still be contacted via the normal means.

Simon Wright
Acting Sergeant Calne NPT

Crime Statistics:

The following statistics compare a 3 month period (Dec/ Jan/ Feb) in 2008/09 and 2009/10. They have been taken from the Wiltshire Police Website and represent the average number of crimes in the area.

Town Centre:

| Date/ Type of Crime: | Burglar y: | Anti- Social Behaviou r: | Violenc e: | Vehicl e Crime : | Robber y: | Total Crimes: | Explanation: |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------------|--|
| Dec/ Jan/ Feb 2008/0 9: | 3.3 | 47 | 10.3 | 1 | 0 | 47.3 | Anti-social behaviour shows a steady increase. It should be noted that under Home Office rules ASB includes public order offences. Recently due to partnership working with CCTV and active patrolling FPN's have been issued for section 5 offences, littering and possession of cannabis. |
| Dec/ Jan/ Feb 2009/1 0: | 7 | 73.7 | 8 | 2.3 | 0 | 37 | Violent Crime: shows a decrease in incidents which is a reflection of positive police presence within the town and targeted evening patrols. |

Calne Rural:

| Date/ Type of Crime: | Burglary: | Anti-Social Behaviour: | Violence: | Vehicle Crime: | Robbery: | Total Crimes: | Explanation: |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|--|
| Dec/ Jan/ Feb 2008/09: | 3.7 | 17.3 | 3.7 | 0.7 | 0 | 18 | Anti-social Behaviour: has recently decreased. We received a lot of reports of ASB last year due to youngsters in Lower Compton, however they have been identified and letters sent home to their parents. This seems to have solved the problem. |
| Dec/ Jan/ Feb 2009/10: | 6 | 7.7 | 18.3 | 4.3 | 0.3 | 58 | |

Priorities & ongoing activity:

Town Centre Priorities -

- **Anti-Social Behaviour Newcroft Road:** This priority began in mid November 2009 after receiving a number of complaints from residents in the area of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage; also including verbal abuse of a homophobic nature particularly towards the area of the flats. Reassurance patrols are being carried out and Westlea Housing Association are currently installing cameras to help gather intelligence and evidence. Police are actively engaging with local residents to target the issues effectively. Since the last report two people have been arrested in from the Street in connection with the priority. No further issues have been reported and it is anticipated that the priority will soon be closed.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour Broken Cross Health Centre:** This is another new priority that was started at the end of December 2009. There are complaints from the staff at the Broken Cross Health Centre of youths congregating at night. There is a significant amount of litter and broken glass found after the weekends. Discussions are taking place with staff from the family health centre with the possibility of installing CCTV cameras. Regular patrols in the area have been made but to date very few groups have been found. Police have requested the Health Centre address certain issues relating to site furniture to help alleviate the problems.

Rural Priorities -

- **Police Visibility and Reassurance patrols in villages surrounding Calne:** This in an ongoing priority which has been running since July 2009, we believe it's very important to continue these patrols as there have been some Rogue Trader and Distraction Burglaries in the area over recent months which have caused the residents some concerns. This also involves the use of Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and Public Consultations. The Police will be conducting regular patrols through all villages in the Calne Rural Neighbourhood Police Team area. This will help to reassure members of the public, enable the police to gain intelligence through vehicle and person stop checks, and be a visible deterrent to traveling criminals. Trading Standards Officers will be contacted for their advice and input when required.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour in the Lower Compton area/ Hills Waste:** This priority was started at the end of Nov 2009 due to a number of reports that were received relating to anti-social behaviour on the estate and thefts and criminal damage at the Hills waste/ recycling centre. In Dec numerous anti-social behaviour warning letters were issued to youths that live on the Lower Compton estate that were suspected of being involved. This seems to have worked as we haven't received any further complaints. Patrols will continue to be carried out, specifically in the evenings and at weekends. We will also continue working alongside management from Hills Waste. This priority is likely to be closed soon as no further reports have been received.

Examples of Ongoing Positive Arrests/ Warrants/ Targeting ASB in the Calne area over the past weeks.

1) The Blues and Zuz discos have continued to go from strength to strength; the latest Disco at Easter saw a record attendance of 220 young people. The event saw the Chief Constable, Mr. Brian Moore, arrive for the last hour and he was given the privilege of drawing the winning raffle ticket. The prize was a Nintendo Wii, and a very grateful young lady from Calne was the winner! The next disco is planned for Friday 16th April and will be held at John Bentley. PCSO Sarah Hardwidge has been nominated for an award to reflect the excellent work achieved in this area.

2) A successful warrant was executed at an address in William Street where a known drug dealer lives. A quantity of drugs was located and two people were arrested from within the property. One person was charged with three separate offences of Possessing Class A and C drugs. A second person was charged with possessing a Class B drug.

3) A Cannabis factory was located in Fynamore Gardens, Calne following some good work by the PCSO'S; they had been given a lead by a neighbourhood watch coordinator in the area. The factory was a significant find and as it stands two people are still on Police Bail pending further enquiries.

4) The NPT have made significant efforts in recent weeks to broaden the ways in which it engages with the community. The PCSO's now regularly attend the Boxing Club at the new Beversbrook Sports facility; this has gone down well with organizers and those attending too! Links with the Springfield School have been tightened with officers attending and speaking with both teachers and students on a regular basis. The 'Hub' is now open in the old Goldman's shop on the High Street, Calne. Consultations are held here by the NPT every Wednesday afternoon between 1400 and 1530hrs. The PCSO'S now make a weekly appearance on the Mobile Library that visits the outlying villages, another ideal opportunity to engage with the community!