



PRODUCED QUARTERLY

August 2012

## Gloucester Carnival Success

On Saturday 28th July, Safer Gloucester were triumphant with their Gloucester Carnival entry of Paws on Patrol.

Officers from Gloucester City Council, Project Solace and the Police were joined by Police Dogs Ace and Holly who travelled in style aboard their usual police car which had been transformed into a dogmobile.



Ace and Holly kindly brought their friend Boo who proudly posed as a Dog Poo Fairy – part of Safer Gloucester’s dog fouling campaign “There’s no such thing as a Dog Poo Fairy— please always pick up after your dog!”



Back at the park, busily signing up new Patrollers, when we were happy as Lassie to find that we had won the Carnival’s Star Trophy. Thanks to all who cheered us along the way.



## Discounts

Many thanks to local companies who have offered discount to Paws on Patrol members. At the time of going to print local companies

- Lead-On Pets
- Head 2 Tail Pet Grooming
- 4 Legged Friends

have all offered discount on proof of membership. Keep an eye on the Safer Gloucester website for details of further offers.

## Puppy Competition Time!

Are you buying a new puppy this summer? If so, register with Paws on Patrol during August and September and you will be entered into a competition to win a free 6 week course of puppy training classes courtesy of Brockworth Puppy and Dog Training School.

Just note clearly on your registration form that you have a new puppy and give his/her date of birth and you will automatically be entered into the draw. In order to qualify for the prize draw, your puppy must be under 11 months old.

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## Paws on Patrol Latest Results

We are delighted with reports already being received from observant Patrollers. One report, reaching the Citizen headlines on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2012, was of a Patroller who foiled attempts to raid a city centre jewellery store. Quick actions enabled the offender to be arrested and appear in court the following day. Read the full story at [www.thisisgloucestershire.co.uk/Burglary-attempt-foiled-Paws-Patrol-campaigner/story-16461078-detail/story.html](http://www.thisisgloucestershire.co.uk/Burglary-attempt-foiled-Paws-Patrol-campaigner/story-16461078-detail/story.html) Another Patroller called the Police about a serious assault that was happening in the street. Ace attended this incident and the descriptions and circumstances that were supplied by the witness were excellent enabling two arrests to be made!

Well done to everyone - each report enables officers to investigate and ultimately make Gloucester a safer place!

We now have 470 members - if you are a dog owner and have not yet joined, please sign up without delay - membership forms can be downloaded from the website [www.safergloucester.co.uk](http://www.safergloucester.co.uk) and emailed back to [cdpartnership@gloucester.gov.uk](mailto:cdpartnership@gloucester.gov.uk)

## Paws on Patrol on Twitter

Paws on Patrol has adopted police dog Ace, a 3 year old German Shepherd as a mascot. Follow Ace on Twitter on [@glospoldogblog](https://twitter.com/glospoldogblog) and learn of his exploits with friend Holly a 4 year old passive drug dog. At the end of July, Holly and her handler, PC Rich Hunt went to the Olympics - follow her adventures with the Olympians on Twitter.



Ace relaxing after a busy shift on duty

## GL4 Together Event

Safer Gloucester will be at the GL4 Together event that was postponed from July. The event will be held at the Abbeydale Community Centre and surrounding area on Sunday 9th September (note for all Patrollers—this is a day later than that advertised in the Paws on Patrol July news). Officers from Gloucester City Council and Police Officers will be signing up new members for Paws on Patrol as well as giving crime prevention advice and information. There will be a novelty dog show at this event so we will be supporting all Patrollers who enter!

## Christmas is Coming!

Safer Gloucester will be holding their annual Christmas Crime Prevention Event in King's Walk on Friday 9th November. Once again we will be distributing our infamous crime prevention calendars with a seasonal message for every month of 2013.



## Street Pastors

Gloucester's Street Pastors have been patrolling the city centre on Friday nights between 10pm and 4am for over two years and during 2012 have also been patrolling on two Saturday nights as well.

Volunteers from local churches help to create a safe environment, helping people to get home safely, offering first aid and supporting vulnerable members of our community like the homeless.



In their first two years they have assisted 824 people, attended 36 anti social behaviour incidents and collected 3,347 glasses scattered around the city centre that could have potentially been used as weapons if an incident occurred.

## Police Tackle Prostitution in Barton

“If the police hadn’t come to get me I’d probably be dead now.” - sobering words of



Cindy, a former Gloucester sex worker.

“I worked on the streets - for twelve hours a day sometimes. I slept in car parks, on park benches, in the rain. All I’d think of is where am I going to get the next fix, the next buzz. When they found me I was admitted to hospital. They saved my life. I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for them.”

Police in the Barton area helped to get Cindy accepted on to The Manor Project, a not for profit drug rehabilitation residential centre in Walsall. Since then she has been free of drugs and alcohol and has not been involved in prostitution. She has also given birth to a healthy 1-year-old boy.

PC Dawn Collings, who has taken on the new role of vulnerable persons officer for the city, says that Cindy’s story shows that the Constabulary’s approach to the issue, is paying dividends.

Many of those women are from broken homes and have been victims all their lives. They’re preyed upon by men who shower them with gifts and introduce them to drugs so that they end up working the streets to fund their habit.

“Often they might loathe the police, and it might take years to get them to engage with different agencies. Whilst every effort must be taken to persuade the girls to engage, officers also have to be prepared to take tougher action where needed. We have to remember that the community suffer because of prostitution and the associated crime.

Earlier this year a woman was charged for loitering with the intention of prostitution as she had refused to engage with us or other agencies over a long period.

We don’t want her fined or imprisoned though—just to be referred to the Manor Project where she will get the long term help she needs”.

## Domestic Abuse Support Service

The new Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) was launched on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

The new service focuses on providing outreach support with the intention of reducing the numbers of high risk cases of abuse, and cases where people are forced to flee their homes. One to one support will be provided at a safe place, in a victim’s home, a local venue or other agreed place. The support will continue until the victim has reached a point of safety and confidence where they no longer require help.

There is no longer a women’s refuge in Gloucester although there is one refuge in the county with 5 beds in Stroud. Instead, there will be places of safety within the community that have additional security measures built in.

GDASS will be running a programme - of 12 workshops to enable women (who may or may not have left their partner) to come to terms with and overcome their personal challenges. There will be a different topic each week, including:

- What is domestic abuse
- Cycle of violence
- Baggage and triggers
- Thoughts, feelings and behaviour
- Impact on children
- Healthy relationships

Don’t suffer domestic violence in silence—phone the (office hours) helpline number - **0845 602 9035** for impartial advice and support. You can also download a referral form from the website [www.gdass.org.uk](http://www.gdass.org.uk) .

Gloucestershire Domestic Violence Support and Advocacy Project will also provide support services for people at risk of domestic and sexual violence, exploitation or grooming and honour based violence/forced marriage. Their (office hours) helpline is **01452 500115**.

## Gloucestershire SkillZONE

SkillZONE built by Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service, is a state-of-the-art life size village. It is a fully interactive learning environment to teach people of all ages how to recognise dangerous situations and stay safe.



There are 16 zones, which will cover a range of scenarios including road, rail, building site and water safety, an internet cafe, as well as opportunities to cover home and personal safety.

Small groups will be taken through each zone where their senses will be bombarded with sights, sounds and smells to make it a more realistic and memorable learning experience .



SkillZONE opens on 17th September and booking can be made through the website: <http://skillzone.glosfire.gov.uk/booking/> although there is a charge for admission .

## Police and Crime Commissioner Elections

On 15th November 2012 residents across Britain will elect their first Police and Crime Commissioners (one per police force area in England and Wales outside of London).

The Police and Crime Commissioner will be

- appointing the Chief Constable
- holding the Chief Constable to account
- setting and updating the police and crime objectives for their area by producing a police and crime plan (in consultation with the Chief Constable)
- setting the force budget and Council Tax precept
- regularly engaging with communities

October 2012 is the latest time that candidates can declare their intention to stand for election.

In Gloucestershire a Police and Crime Panel (PCP) has already been set up, made up of 10 local Councillors with 2 independent members (non elected) still to be appointed.

For further information check out the Home Office Website: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/police/police-crime-commissioners/partners/police-and-crime-panels/>

Who is Safer Gloucester?

Safer Gloucester is the name of Gloucester's Community Safety Partnership, made up of Gloucester City Council, Gloucestershire County Council, Gloucestershire Constabulary, Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service, Gloucestershire Probation Trust, Public Health and Gloucestershire Police Authority (until 15th November).

Our purpose is to reduce crime, the fear of crime and anti social behaviour in Gloucester. By working together in partnership to resolve crime related issues, more can be done together than an individual agency working alone.

For more information about Safer Gloucester's activities, and for crime prevention advice and information, please check out the website: [www.safergloucester.co.uk](http://www.safergloucester.co.uk)