



SAFER News from the Community Safety Partnership GLOUCESTER

MAY 2010

Who is the Safer Gloucester Partnership?

In 1998 the Gloucester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership was launched. The Partnership is made up of representatives from organisations across the city, all of which are committed to working together to reduce the harmful effects of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and reduce re-offending. Residents had said the name was hard to remember, so we have re-launched as the Safer Gloucester Partnership.

Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Unit News

Staff from the Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Unit (ASBRU) have joined the Anti Social Behaviour team at Gloucester City Homes. The team will form part of a new look city based hub dealing with anti-social behaviour for both the social and private sectors it will be managed by Gloucester City Homes, and City Council.

Family Intervention Project

The Family Intervention Project (FIP) Team helps to deliver interventions and challenge behaviour of families displaying serious anti-social behaviour in their communities. The Family Intervention Project have recently re-located to join with the Youth Crime Prevention Team of the Youth Offending Service. The team have been busy setting up a new office, and have been joined by two new members of staff. Providing a range of support to families not only in the city but reaching out to families across the county.

Shopwatch

Safer Gloucester Partnership supports Gloucester Shopwatch Online. When an offender is caught shoplifting, or behaving in an anti-social way in one of the participating shops in the city, they will be banned not only from that shop but from all participating shops. Shopwatch now has 155 members including many in Gloucester Quays Designer Outlet. Currently 48 offenders are banned from stores and research shows it is rare for an offender to reoffend when the ban is lifted.



Crime is Down - It's Official!

Gloucester has seen huge reductions in crime over the last few years and once again we are delighted that 2009/10 was a good year with a further significant reduction in reported crime. In order to check the crime in your area, you can search using your postcode at www.maps.police.uk/view/gloucestershire.

We ask residents to take every precaution with securing their homes and cars. With warmer weather arriving, burglary figures often rise as ground floor windows are left open at bedtime or when popping out for a short time and car windows likewise. For further on crime prevention advice visit www.safergloucester.co.uk/cp_advice.aspx

“Have Your Say” Days

Members of the Partnership visit residents in specific roads to find out what it's like to live there.

In February we spoke to over 100 residents in Kingsholm. The response was very positive. 89% of residents felt safe while out alone in the area in the daytime, and whilst this dipped to 42% at night-time, only 14% said they felt very unsafe after dark.



The perception of drug dealing remained a concern for many residents, and intelligence received was passed to the Police. As a response, a mobile CCTV camera has been deployed to focus on certain locations.



In May the Partnership, including officers from the City Council, Police, Fire Service, Gloucester City Homes and volunteers from the Crime Prevention Panel, Neighbourhood Watch Association and residents took part in a “High Street Have Your Say” day. We visited residents in High Street, Tredworth, seeking their views about crime & disorder to see what improvements can be made. We also distributed free SmartWater property marking kits and shed alarms.

Safer Homes Funding

In 2009, the Partnership supported a successful bid by Care and Repair Gloucester to the Home Office for funding to provide security measures for older and vulnerable people living in the city.

Trained staff from Care and Repair Gloucester undertook security reviews of resident's properties. Over 800 residents benefited from the scheme.

Although the Safer Homes Funding has now ceased, **small security grants are still available** from Gloucester City Council for those over sixty who receive income related benefits. Enquiries should be made on 01452 396789 or email ehdom@gloucester.gov.uk .

Trickster

In March, over 200 Gloucester residents attended two performances of the musical 'Trickster' performed by the Solomon Theatre Company, which tells the story of George, once a proud soldier, as he battles against conmen, distraction burglary and beats the bogus caller.

The Gloucester Community Safety Partnership, in conjunction with Age Concern Gloucestershire, were delighted to host the event at Gloucester Rugby Stadium, Kingsholm.

The play, designed to empower older and vulnerable people to refuse strangers entry into their homes, was presented in a light-hearted and positive way, and included an old time musical style sing-a-long afterwards. Other crime prevention methods and information were also shared with the audience.



Quedgeley residents Michael and Connie Law said "We did enjoy our afternoon at Kingsholm Stadium. So much

genuine fun was had by us all, and though the subject of safety in the home is a serious one, the manner in which it was told, was far more telling and acceptable to the mainly older audience, because of the humorous and well presented musical ways used in Trickster. It was a happy event with useful and informative stands and helpful experts in attendance."

Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation Conference

In March, the Partnership hosted a one-day conference for strategic leaders of agencies and practitioners from statutory and voluntary agencies to look at forced marriage, honour based violence and female genital mutilation, seeking to improve prevention, support and prosecution. A copy of the conference report is available from www.safergloucester.co.uk .

Operation Jackal

Gloucester City Council's project development officer worked with the Police Schools Unit to develop a lesson programme for Year 6 pupils in the city tackling the dangers of doorstep crime. As well as being advised on what to do when they are "home alone", they were given an information pack to pass to a grandparent or older relative.

All pupils were invited to take part in a "design a poster" competition. In April, the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Gloucester, Councillor Chris Witts and Chief Inspector Richard Burge presented the winners and their schools with book tokens in a ceremony at the civic suite. The winning poster was designed by Heather Christie of Abbeymead Primary School, 2nd Umme-Kulthum Patel from St Paul's Primary School and 3rd Callum Vaughan from The King's School.



(Left to right) Ella Crossman (representing Umme), The Right Worshipful Mayor Gloucester, Cllr Chris Witts, Heather Christie, CI Richard Burge and Callum Vaughan

Out and About

The Partnership is keen to reach all sections of the community with crime prevention advice and information. If you would like a talk to a community group that meets in Gloucester, please contact either Pat Dabbs on 01452 396984 or the Crime Reduction Officer on 0845 090 1234.

For news of the Safer Gloucester Partnership projects, interactive crime prevention advice and the latest press releases visit

www.safergloucester.co.uk



