

London Borough of Kingston

## Grove Team

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[www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods](http://www.met.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods)



# News

from your local police Spring/Summer 2009



The Grove Safer Neighbourhood Team

## Message from Kingston's Ch/Supt Laura Nicholson

Safer Neighbourhoods Teams are a fundamental aspect to our policing. Your team has worked closely within the community to ensure that local concerns are addressed. Police working on



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your ward priorities are key to making Kingston a safer place and have made a significant contribution to the overall reductions in crime we saw on the borough during 2008-2009.

## **Late Night Patrols to Combat Anti Social Behaviour**

On selected Wednesday and Friday nights since the end of November 2008 the Grove Safer Neighbourhood team has been working extended shifts to deal with anti social behaviour in Mill Street and the nearby roads. Our team had received numerous complaints from local residents' stating that their quality of life was being affected by late night noise, vandalism, and disorderly behaviour by people travelling through the area. As a result of these complaints we have ensured that uniformed officers have been patrolling the area through to 4am on selected nights.

These extra patrols have served to deter anti-social behaviour and ensure that where a police response to something was required it has been a speedy one. Since conducting these patrols we have noticed a reduction in the number of complaints and have received positive feedback from local residents. Our team has and will continue to liaise closely with Kingston University, local pubs and the Royal Borough of Kingston Council in order to find ways to tackle anti-social behaviour in this area. If you would like to raise any concerns about this or any other crime or disorder issue please contact the team.

## **Community Payback Improving the Area**

In February, officers from the Grove Safer Neighbourhood team joined forces with the London Probation Service to bring Community Payback to the ward. Community Payback is a



project that utilises people serving unpaid work orders (Community Service Orders) to clean up areas that have become run down, overgrown and are in need of some attention. The teams worked in the alley from Penrhyn Road through to Denmark



Community Payback in action

Road via Watersplash Close and cleared all the over-grown bushes, removed all litter and repainted the walls. The end result is that the alley is now cleaner, less enclosed and feels safer. To keep them looking and feeling this way please report any fly-tipping or graffiti to Kingston Council on 020 8547 5757.

## **Supporting the Homeless in Kingston**

Kingston traditionally sees a visible increase in the number of homeless people in the town centre during the winter months. As a result homelessness on Grove ward was highlighted as a priority by the local community. For this reason our team was pleased to welcome the first ever Kingston Churches Night Shelter project which ran throughout February. The project, organised by Kingston Churches Against Homeless (KCAH) brought together 70 volunteers from 7 churches across the local area, and made it possible for 20 homeless people to find shelter in what were the coldest weeks for many years. As a result of the work by KCAH, church halls around Kingston were transformed into night shelters throughout February. During the project members of staff from the KCAH were able to work



closely with those individuals staying at the shelters to offer advice and support. As a result seven people have now been provided with temporary accommodation. Sgt Trevor Quay from the Kingston Police Problem Solving Unit was heavily involved in this project and comments, "...this was a tremendously successful pilot and it is hoped that it will be possible to run it for three months next year. The project would not have been possible without the many volunteers that came forward to help. Anyone that would like to find out more or get involved next year should contact me on 020 8721 5879."



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## **Bike Marking - Protect Your Property**

Our team run monthly bike marking days in partnership with RBK outside the main entrance to the Bentalls Centre in Clarence Street. The sessions run from 11am to 3pm and the next dates are Saturday 13th June and Tuesday 28th July. This is a free service so please come along with your bikes to meet the team and protect your property.

## **Policing Pledge - our promise to the public**

The Metropolitan Police Service takes pride in providing the best possible service to people in London and our Policing Pledge sets out the standards of service you can expect from us.

As well as giving you information on our service, the Pledge indicates how you can become more involved in working with us for a safer London, such as through volunteering or local community groups, and it outlines how you can give us feedback on our service so that we can ensure we are meeting your needs as best as possible.

For more information on our Policing Pledge please go to [www.met.police.uk](http://www.met.police.uk) or contact your local Safer Neighbourhoods team.

If you require this newsletter in a different format or language, please contact your Safer Neighbourhoods team.