

Volunteer Scheme: Awarded £5,000

West Mercia Police and their Community Support Volunteers in Herefordshire are celebrating the recent announcement together that they have been awarded £5,000 from the Access to Volunteering Fund. Gabrielle Wright, Police Strategic Partnership Manager, has been supported at both corporate and divisional level to lead on this application. This money from the Fund will be used towards the purchasing of special equipment for disabled volunteers. The equipment could include: Dictaphones, special telephones, Braille signs and customised keypads.

Gaby said, "We intend to involve the volunteers in their local policing teams so they can help the teams with tasks such as carrying out surveys, assisting at events and making those all-important contacts with the community that help maintain satisfaction and confidence in the police service."

Alison Dodds a volunteer for West Mercia Police is a seasoned veteran in the role having previously volunteered for Cleveland Police for 18 months. Alison said: "I moved from where I was living so I transferred from Cleveland to West Mercia Police. I was asked to help out with the volunteers as I already had some experience."

"I was initially placed in a clerical role to help me understand the structure and hierarchy within this police force; and I now support the Command Team in order to help the volunteers and I am thoroughly enjoying being able to help staff and the community alike."

House Burglary Is Down - Officially!

The records show that Herefordshire Division has seen a drop in house burglary. Information shows that in the 6 years since the 2003/4 performance year, there has been a 61% fall in the number of burglaries, and 15% fewer than 2008/9.

"This is a fantastic result," said Superintendent Kevin Purcell, who is in charge of the Division. "As the graph shows, house burglary in Herefordshire has been coming down steadily. Further proof, if it were needed, that we are living in one of the safest areas in the country.

"We are working very closely with Herefordshire Council and other local partner agencies to address house burglary. Because we now have less crime to investigate, we have more quality time to look at other issues and through education, and other activities with our partners, can come up with solutions that already have seen the levels of house burglaries drop making the county an even better place to live and work."

Anti-Social Behaviour Is Down – 15%

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) has dropped by 15% so far this year. This is due to a change in shift patterns that ensures local policing teams are on duty when they are most needed, which is generally late shifts, 2pm till 10pm. They are supplemented by their response colleagues whose shifts cover 24 hours per day seven days a week.

We have managed this by using resources effectively and reduce levels of ASB. The short term approach is to highlight target offenders who are involved in ASB or highlight vulnerable people or hotspots where this is occurring. We can use resources to find the causes of the problems via communication, liaison and building relationships in the community. Ensuring that we problem solve in the appropriate areas. The longer term approach is selecting priority policing areas based on the results of a previous crime and safety survey. Then we use a diverse range of data including: police data, data from Partners and Communities Together (PACT), Mosaic information, partnership data from Multi agency tasking and co-ordination meetings and crime and safety surveys have. This gives us a better understanding and allows us to make improvements at a local level.

Cop Cards

West Mercia Police have just launched 'Cop Cards' which is a brand new way of informing children about the work that police do in the force area, and are hoping that collecting the new cards will be a fun way for children to get to know their local officers and CSOs.

Cop Cards are a series of 25 playing card sized cards that carry pictures and descriptions of different policing roles throughout West Mercia. It is aimed at children aged 7 – 14 and the cards can be collected from front counters at any police station or by asking local community support officers. The cards are a limited edition, so children will only be able to obtain single cards at random on request. Cop Cards are designed for children to swap amongst themselves, and once all 25 have been collected, the reverse side of the cards forms a map of the force area.

So let the children in your family know about the cards. They can be obtained by asking members of the local policing team for the cards, who will be carrying a supply around with them and will give them out on request!

PACT

PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER



HAVE YOUR SAY!

PACT stands for Partners and Communities Together. It gives you the chance to tell your local policing team and partners about the issues that are causing concern within your neighbourhood and which ones you want us to deal with as a priority.

The current priorities for your area are:

- Speeding vehicles A49 at Much Birch.
- Speeding vehicles at Much Dewchurch.

Your next PACT surgery events are:

- Barton Hill Farm, Kentchurch, 2-30pm 13/06/2010.
- Much Birch Community Hall, 2-30pm 21/6/10.

Results

- The 36 year old male from Kingstone who was arrested for theft from a motor vehicle parked at Allensmore has attended court and now been sentenced to 2 months imprisonment for that offence.
- A 10yr old child from Kingstone has been given a community resolution for throwing a stone at a car. The resolution was to wash and polish two cars belonging to the victim, which has now been completed.
- Following a barn fire at Hillgates, near St Weonards, a 39yr old male was arrested for arson. He has been released on police bail for further enquiries.

The Role of Peterchurch Front Counter Clerk

The role of Christine Starnes our Counter Clerk is an important one in that she supports and assists our officers. As well as dealing with document producing, lost and found property, shotgun surrendering and helping visitors with directions, Christine is also responsible for dealing with traffic related enquiries, including road traffic collisions. You may come to the police station and wish to see an officer, but Christine will establish if your query can be dealt with easily and quickly by giving appropriate advice. If not, she will take your details and a police officer or CSO will contact you. The opening hours of Peterchurch Police Station are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10am to 2pm. On Thursdays 4pm to 8pm

Local Police Officer

PC 799

Andrew Bundy

Mobile **07855 385 844**

Community Support Officers

CSO 6173

Fiona Witcher

Mobile **07779 141 232**

CSO 6993

Kevin Powell

Mobile **07779 141 232**

E-mail

herefordruralsouth.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Answer phone

01432 346756

www.westmercia.police.uk

0300 333 3000



West Mercia
POLICE



SERVING - PROTECTING - MAKING THE DIFFERENCE