



## TEENAGERS TAKE PART IN A MOCK ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISION EXERCISE

The emergency services comprising of the South Wales Fire Service, South Wales Police, and the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust carried out a collective Road Traffic Collision (RTC) awareness initiative, on Thursday 9th February 2006.

The mock Road Traffic Collision initiative took place at Bridgend Fire Station, and involved teenagers from the Aberkenfig Pupils Referrals Unit. South Wales Fire Service Officer Ceri Higgon, South Wales Police PC Patrick Joyce (Road Death Investigation Team), and Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust Paramedic Terry George led the initiative.

The mock exercise replicated a typical RTC scene, with vehicles from all three emergency services present. As part of the exercise a member of the South Wales Fire Service was removed from a damaged car, using hydraulic cutting equipment. The entire exercise was carried out to set RTC procedures, and included vehicle stabilisation, paramedic attention, vehicle glass removal, door removal, roof removal, and passenger extraction via a long board.

The mock RTC exercise was carried out under strict safety conditions, and allowed the Aberkenfig teenagers to experience the consequences of vehicle speed, and poor driver behaviour at first hand.

South Wales Fire Service Officer Ceri Higgon noted "This mock RTC exercise fully represents how the emergency services

work collectively together to raise public awareness of RTC matters, and how the emergency services rapidly respond to RTC incidents. This practical exercise will provide the Aberkenfig teenagers with a strong RTC lesson".

South Wales Police PC Patrick Joyce noted "The mock RTC exercise provided a valuable lesson on the consequences of inappropriate vehicle speed, and inappropriate driver behaviour. On speaking to some of these youths they informed me that they had already been involved in a number of RTCs and were lucky to escape with minor injuries. Seeing this exercise first hand close up has given them a better insight as to what really goes on with the emergency services at a serious RTC"



Picture includes South Wales Fire Service Officer Ceri Higgon, South Wales Police PC Esther Towell, and teenagers from the Aberkenfig Pupils Referral Unit.

## Call Time on Violent Crime Campaign Targets Bridgend

The Safer Bridgend Partnership launched a campaign called "Call Time On Violent Crime", which was supported by Bridgend town centre licencees.

The campaign aimed to reduce violent crime in Bridgend town centre pubs, by showing the impact violent crime has on everybody. This important message ("Call Time On Violent Crime") was delivered with posters, t-shirts (worn by bar staff), and plastic drinking glasses.

The posters featured slogans that include "Violent Crime has more than one victim". The posters were also displayed in local colleges and hospitals, and will emphasise the wide-ranging impact that violent crime has on everybody, including increased hospital waiting times, and the cost to the tax payer.

The campaign was developed via a collective effort between the Safer Bridgend Partnership, South Wales Police, Bridgend town centre licencees, the Health Authority, and the Education Department.

PC Gwyn Batten noted " The campaign delivered hard hitting messages on the impact violent crime has on community members. Furthermore it showed that collective partnership working can make our communities safer."



# BRIDGEND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

# Safer Bridgend

ANNUAL COMMUNITY REPORT 2005

## Neighbourhood Policing

South Wales Police launched Neighbourhood Policing in April 2006, with the aim of providing accessible policing that is responsive to community needs.

South Wales Police wants local people to identify crimes and other issues that they would like the police and partners to address. Local people are then encouraged to become involved in providing the solution to the identified issues.

Chief Inspector Paul Murphy, who leads the Neighbourhood Policing Implementation Team, notes "Neighbourhood Policing will provide every ward within the borough of Bridgend with a police service that has the flexibility to best deal with their concerns, whether it be a police matter, or whether it requires partner actions".

Divisional Commander Superintendent Tim Jones notes "Neighbourhood Policing is all about the development of partnerships between the police, our partners, and most importantly our communities working together to tackle issues which effect the quality of peoples lives".

Importantly Neighbourhood Policing will deliver clear benefits to residents:

- Neighbourhood Beat Officers will work with local people to address their concerns, so they are, and feel safer.



- Local people decide what issues are most important in their neighbourhoods, and the right partner then tackles them.
- People know who their Neighbourhood Beat Officers are and how to contact them.
- It is recognised that neighbourhoods have differing needs, and these needs will be addressed.

The Neighbourhood Policing Programme will also include the introduction of PACT meetings, which is an abbreviation of Partners and Communities Together. These meetings are designed as a dynamic process of action that delivers on the matters of most importance as defined by neighbourhoods.

The meetings which have already started in some wards, are held on a monthly basis, and will generate three priorities, that will be dealt with by the police where appropriate, and / or partners.

## School Based Initiatives to Combat Arson Incidents

The South Wales Fire and Rescue Service successfully obtained funding from the Safer Bridgend Community Partnership, and the Local Education Authority, towards school based projects that have reduced incidents of arson.

The projects involved Garth Primary School, in Maesteg, where funding was used to install an Automatic Fire Alarm System, and CCTV. In addition Ysgol Cynwedd Sant, another Maesteg School had security fencing installed around the perimeter of the premise, along with the installation of walkway lighting.

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service Officer Neil Brown stated "The funding allowed the fire service to target educational establishments that had been subject to vandalism, arson attacks, and general anti social behaviour. As a direct result of the initiatives the schools have seen dramatic improvements, with a decline in arson related incidents."

Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr  
Mwy Diogel



## LAUNCH OF THE DERWEN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CRIME

McArthurGlen Bridgend has helped to slash crime by more than 67 per cent after launching a new award-winning partnership on the Derwen Business Park in South Wales.

The designer outlet and its neighbours have joined forces with South Wales Police and the Safer Bridgend Community Partnership to set up the Derwen Business Partnership Against Crime.

It's the first time any retail park outside Bridgend town centre has teamed up to help continue to make the area a safe place to work and shop.

The success of the initiative has been recognised by the Home Office which has awarded the scheme the Safer Business Award. This recognises partnerships that have helped reduce crime. It will be presented during the official launch on Thursday 6th October by Richard Barron, regional business crime manager of the Action Against Business Crime.

The partnership includes McArthurGlen

Bridgend, Sainsbury's, The Harvester Restaurant and Holiday Inn Express as well as HMP and YO1 Parc prison, South Wales Police and various consultants and contractors.

Wayne Morgan MBE, chairman of the partnership, and facilities manager at McArthurGlen Bridgend, said: "Since we formed the business partnership, retail crime in the Derwen area has been reduced by an astonishing 67% over the past three months. This is great news for all local businesses and we'll continue to work together in future to make Derwen Business Park a safe place to visit."



## ALSO INSIDE THIS ISSUE....

- Call Time on Violent Crime Campaign Targets
- Operation Amersham Targets Anti-Social Behaviour

## CONTINUED REDUCTION IN YOUTH CRIME FOR YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM

The Youth Offending Team (YOT), has again recorded a reduction in youth crime figures, a trend that has continued over the last three years. The YOT runs a range of programmes together with our partners to tackle the underlying factors that cause youth crime, and provide diversionary activities that engage young people in a positive manner.

The YOT team also focuses on assisting the victims of youth crime, via consultations and involvement in the restorative justice process. Through Referral Order Panel Meetings in communities, victims and victim representatives see young offenders being directly confronted over the impact of their behaviour.

Other aspects of YOT include young people taking part in reparation work within communities. This has been evident at the Bridgend Recreation Centre, with young people involvement in graffiti removal, litter picking, and painting. In Maesteg, with Town Council links, young offenders have been involved in bus stop painting along the main Maesteg to Bridgend bus route.

Furthermore the YOT and the Princes Trust have been involved in environmental projects, that have included the development of a garden project in Nantyllyllon, and the creation of four huge willow sculptures at Parc Tondau.

Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr  
Mwy Diogel



Safer Bridgend

## Bridgend Welcomes Youth Works Ukraine Delegation

A delegation from the Ukraine visited Bridgend for a two-day visit in regard to the Youth Works Ukraine Project.

Despite the geographic distance between Wales and the Ukraine, the two countries have some notable similarities, including bilingual populations, and coal mining backgrounds.

The agenda for the first day included a visit to the Safer Bridgend Partnership office, where Safer Bridgend Partnership Co-ordinator John Davies welcomed the delegates. Partnership members that included South Wales Police Sergeant Nick Picton made presentations. This was followed by a presentation from Ukrainian delegate Andriy Donets, on the Donetsk Debate Centre. There was extensive scope for information sharing through a question and answer session.



Safer Bridgend Partnership Co-ordinator John Davies noted "It was a pleasure to welcome the Ukrainian visitors to the Partnership office. The visit provided the Youth Works Ukraine Project with a good example of how various agencies can work in partnership to enhance communities."

The delegation party then moved onto the Valleys to Coast Housing Association offices, and the Youth Works Wildmill / Marlas / Caerau Projects.

Ukrainian delegate Leonid Komarov noted "This exciting and interesting visit to Bridgend has clearly shown us how agencies can work together in partnership. The partnerships in Bridgend represent a successful model that I hope to replicate in the Ukraine. Both Wales and the Ukraine have similar community problems, and it is encouraging to see practically how such problems can be solved."

*Picture includes Youth Works Wildmill Programme Manager Reg Denley (far left), and Safer Bridgend Partnership Co-ordinator John Davies (middle), CYPP (Children and Young People Partnership) Research and Information Officer Michelle Jaynes, and CYPP Framework Co-ordinator Les Jones (far right), at the Safer Bridgend Partnership Office.*

## New offices for Bridgend Community Safety Partnership

Many of the agencies that make up the Bridgend Community Safety Partnership now operate out of the same premises, new office accommodation was officially opened at Derwen House in Court Road, Bridgend on Thursday 30 June 2005 at 4pm.

The new office allows organisations that include the South Wales Police, Neighbourhood Watch, Victim Support, the Children and Young People's Partnership and Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Abuse and Community Safety and Welfare co-ordinators to pool their relevant areas of expertise under one roof as they work towards establishing a safer local community.

The partnership was set up under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to tackle a range of crime and disorder problems under the co-ordination of John Davies. At the official opening, details of three-year strategies for dealing with Crime and Disorder and Substance Misuse in Bridgend County Borough will be revealed.

Says Keri Lewis, former chair of the Bridgend Community Safety Partnership and Chief Executive of Bridgend County Borough Council: "These new premises will bring together many of the agencies that make up the Bridgend Community Safety Partnership and will provide them with a convenient base from which they can continue to tackle the causes of crime and disorder in our local communities with innovative schemes and projects."

## PUB WATCH SCHEME MEMBERS DISPLAY IMPACTIVE POSTERS

The Pub Watch scheme consists of licencees working collectively with South Wales Police, the Local Authority, and the Safer Bridgend Community Partnership, to ensure licensed premises are safe and enjoyable places, for both staff and customers.

The scheme involves regular meetings between the licencees, to ensure a collective approach is taken to issues that include violence, damage, and theft. Persons behaving in an anti social manner can also be banned from member licensed premises.

The licencees within the Division operating in the Pub Watch scheme are now displaying "bright yellow" posters, which feature information on Pub Watch, along with the

slogan "Behave or Be Banned". The posters are now on display in Bridgend, Maesteg, Kenfig Hill, Pyle, Cornelly, and Cefn Cribwr.

Licensing Officer PC Kevin Ellis noted "The Pub Watch represents how community partners work together to control disorder in licensed premises. It further provides an example of how collective working can contribute to making communities even safer".



In January 2006 a training and prevention co-ordinator for alcohol and drugs issues started working in Bridgend. The service is funded through the Substance Misuse Action Team and is aimed at support families and communities in dealing with drug and alcohol problems.

Work undertaken already includes working with parents' group to increase

their knowledge of alcohol and drug use, providing training to housing staff on substance misuse and developing information to provided in pharmacists about safer drinking.

It is hoped that this role will play an important part in encouraging people to drink more sensibly and to avoid the use of illegal drugs.

## Operation Amersham Targets Anti-Social Behaviour

Operation Amersham was conducted during the busy February half - term period with an aim of providing an effective police response to anti social behaviour. The pilot operation was initiated in response to the large amount of anti social behaviour related calls that are received at control rooms.

Dedicated resources responded quickly and effectively to such calls, and provided high visibility policing that reassured the divisions communities. Pre - operation activities included research to identify both anti social behaviour "hotspots", and persistent offenders.

Positive policing actions included alcohol confiscation from underage persons, confiscation of cigarettes, an arrest for public order and shop lifting, and the recovery of a bike. Furthermore officers approached groups of youths on foot patrol, where contact information was collected.

Chief Inspector Andy Morgan of South Wales Police noted "Operation Amersham provided a positive policing strategy in regards to tackling anti social behaviour, that resulted in both an efficient and effective service to our Bridgend communities. We are committed to engaging with young people via two - way communication, and will work to provide sustainable solutions for our communities".



## THE "GATHERING" BATTLE OF THE BANDS 2005 PROJECT

The Gathering project focused on popular music development, and provided training on music industry marketing, and media awareness, along with the delivery of important drug and alcohol misuse messages.

The battle of the bands concept provided a showcase for the boroughs youth bands talent and commitment to positive activities. Furthermore it provided benefits to young people throughout the borough, as well as youngsters from Neath Port Talbot, Vale of Glamorgan, and Rhondda Cynon Taff.

The Gathering project consisted of music industry and media training days, which were attended by over 100 young musicians, three battle of the bands heats which involved over 800 young people, and a grand final consisting of 7 bands that attracted over 500 concert goers.

The Gathering events were recorded in a documentary feature, that was put together by students from the Bridgend College Media Department, and represented part of their academic coursework.

This successful project to engage young people was made possible with partnership working, along with funding from the Safer Bridgend Community Partnership, the Substance Misuse Action Team, and BCBC Sports and Recreation Department.