

Newtown Neighbourhood Update from PCSO Sue Roff

I have been a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) since 2005 and was one of the first recruited for the Reading area.

I first joined Thames Valley Police in 1981 before leaving eight years later to join the then "Royal Berkshire Ambulance Service" as an Ambulance Woman, after a period of time out on the road I moved into their Control Room using all of the skills I had learnt out on the road, to preserve life, over the phone, along with taking emergency calls. I returned to Thames Valley Police in 1994.

Since then I have learnt sign language for the deaf, Hindi and I am qualified as a tutor for the new PCSO's.



The 3 top priorities for Newtown are,

- 1) Drugs,
- 2) Anti-social behaviour,
- 3) Environmental issues.

Drugs,

The neighbourhood team have issued a high number of street cautions for the possession of cannabis mainly in the Orts Road area by PC Khezzzadeh and PCSO Gary Johnson

Anti-social Behaviour,

An update on the Rupert Square ASB; the Neighbourhood team, along with our partners, RBC Housing Officers and Street Wardens, have been doing extra high Visibility Patrols in the area.

We have arrested a person, who is now on police bail, for Racially Aggravated Public Order Offences, and criminal damage.

We have responded to calls from the residents and the RBC's housing officers, on parking and youths smoking drugs in the stairwells of the flats.

PC Khezzzadeh had another on site meeting with Councillor Tony Paige.

These actions, high visibility patrols and visits by RBC staff will be on going.

Environmental Issues,

On Wednesday 5th March, Newtown had its first Environmental Visual Audits (EVA) On Area 2 (Cumberland Road to Cholmeley Road and all the side streets). We did have 2 local residents turn up for the EVA; it was good to see them there, **but we do need more local residents involved.**

This was as well as its normal monthly Area 1 EVA (Orts Rd to Cumberland Rd).

Area 3 = Cholmeley Road to Liverpool Road EVA will be on Wednesday 2nd April we will be meeting at the East Reading Community Arch Police Station at 10:00.

Other News,

We welcome PC Neil Callaway, who is on our area for the next 8 weeks attachment he is assisting PC O'Brien on the Kennet Walk area.

Neil is a new PC and has hit the ground running, along with another new PC; they prevented a man from fatal burning, through their swift and decisive action.

PC Khezzadeh and I will be walking the Newtown areas again this month, so if you do see us about, let us know of any problems you may have.

March saw our Newtown Neighbourhood Action Group meeting held at St Johns Church, we seemed to have gained some new NAG members from the Public Meeting in February but we need more local resident's involvement especially if you have IT or Note Taking skills.

PC Khezzadeh and Rowan Friend, from Leighton Park School have been working hard on this seasons Youth Football Leagues.

There are 2 leagues one for under 11's and one for the under 14's.

The under 11's have just finished results will be published in next months news letter, the under 14's start in April.

PCSO Platt has passed the reigns of the Girls Rounders competition over to me; it is a big responsibility for me, to follow in her shoes.

The event will take place at the East Reading Festival on 18th May, so if you would like to enter a team please get in contact with me on 079 701 454 93.

This year the winners will be playing a TVP PCSO's team in a fun game.

The Newtown's Rescue Weekend was held this month it was a resounding success, the difference in Cumberland Rd, is amazing. Everyone worked extremely hard though out the Newtown Area; let's hope it a start to new beginnings.

Police Surgeries in Late March and April.

Thursday 3 April: Sun Street Community Centre, Sun Street at 11:00.

Unfortunately the one due to be held at the Polish Church on Sunday 6th April has had to be cancelled.

Sunday 13 April: St Giles Church, Southampton Street, after Morning Worship.

Sunday 27 April: St Johns & St Stephens Church, Orts Rd, after Morning Worship.

On a final note both PCSO Gary Johnson and I have been nominated by PC Khezzadeh (Buzz) for the PCSO of the year award. It is not only a surprise but an honour as well, as Buzz won the PC of the year award last year; both Gary & I thank him for nominating us.