

# Richmond upon Thames Community Safety Partnership Newsletter July 2011



## Introduction

Welcome to the new look July 2011 edition of the Richmond upon Thames Community Safety Partnership newsletter for partners and residents involved in reducing crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime in Richmond upon Thames. The changes have been designed to reflect the feedback that we received from the on-line “have your say” survey in May with a more local focus on crime and community safety in the borough. If you have any comments please e-mail David Noakes at [d.noakes@richmond.gov.uk](mailto:d.noakes@richmond.gov.uk) or telephone me on 0208 891 7214.



## Richmond upon Thames News

- **Crime increases in Richmond upon Thames over the last 12 months** The Richmond and Twickenham Times reported that the overall number of crimes increased across the borough from 11, 525 crimes between April 2009 and March 2010 to 11,739 crimes between April 2010 and March 2011. This equates to 1.9% increase for last year compared to a general fall across London of 0.8%. The main challenge came in relation to increases in burglary although there were falls in violent crime, robbery and gun crime and despite this slight increase upwards in the total number of crimes Richmond remains one of the safest London boroughs.
- **New faces in the Council’s Community Safety Partnership team** The final posts in the Council’s new team structure for the Community Safety Partnership team have now been filled. The position of Community Safety Data Analyst has been filled by Nicholas Hall, the new Anti-Social Behaviour Officer is Mervin Msaya and the new part-time officer support for the Community and Police Partnership (CPP) is Julie Brownbridge, who is combining this role with her part-time role as a Community Safety Officer.
- **Twickenham Police Station Open Day** Richmond Police are holding a public open day at Twickenham Police Station on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July between 10am-4pm (with last entry at 3:30pm). The event will allow the public to see a working police station and include meeting and seeing the mounted branch, dog handlers, vehicles-old and new and the senior management team and members of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Admission is free and the building has disabled access. Children are welcome if accompanied by an adult but only guide dogs are permitted in the building.



## Current Crime trends, reports and campaigns

- **Campaign to combat summer violence** A campaign to combat the seasonal rise in violence in the borough’s town centres, running throughout June and July, has seen a 25% reduction in violent offences for the first 21 days compared to the same period last year.
- **Richmond to target residential burglary** As part of Operation Target, the Metropolitan Police London-wide Operation Target to combat rising levels of property crime and

violence, Richmond police have been targeting residential burglary. Early results have seen a 60% decrease in the last 2 weeks compared to the previous 2 weeks. Current areas of concern have centered on day time burglaries in Kew, North Sheen, Heathfield and West Twickenham and a spate of night time burglaries in Barnes although a number of suspects have been detained or arrested.

- **Police urge residents to be vigilant** Richmond police are urging residents, particularly women to be vigilant after 2 women reported being grabbed and a third reported that a man attempted to grab her. All the reported incidents happened in June over the weekend and happened near the river in Twickenham, Kew and Barnes. The man is described as being white, aged between 25-35, around 6ft tall with short hair. Extra police have been drafted in to patrol the borough, as the incidents are investigated.



## Westminster and London News

- **Prime Minister announces new sentencing reforms** David Cameron, the Prime Minister announced new reforms around sentencing that will be included in the Sentencing and Legal Aid Bill. The proposed reforms include a mandatory prison sentence for threatening someone with a knife, a new criminal offence for property squatting, plans to release more defendants on bail rather than holding them in custody and making prisoners work harder, longer, and pay more compensation to their victims. Mr Cameron confirmed that plans to let prisoners who pleaded guilty at the earliest stage 50% off their sentences would not be included.
- **Policing in London** A London Assembly Report on the future of shape of the Metropolitan Police Service was released at the beginning of the month. The report considers the issues and challenges of a move to get more police officers out on the street. To read a copy of the report click on the following <http://www.london.gov.uk/publication/policing-london-london-assembly-report-future-shape-metropolitan-police-service>
- **Londoners continue to back Mayor's booze ban** Around 9 out of 10 Londoners say they back the alcohol ban on public transport. The ban was introduced 3 years ago by Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London, and over the last 3 years there has been a 15% reduction in the number of assaults on staff.



## Dates for Your Diary in July 2011

- **Operation Lockout events (crime prevention information, bike and phone marking)**  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2011 10am-4pm** St Margaret's Fair, Moormead Park
- **Community and Police Partnership Meeting** (bi-monthly public meeting of the community, police and council. All welcome) - **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at 7pm** in York House, Twickenham.