



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

Working together for a safer London

**CAMDEN**

## Foreword by Chief Superintendent Dominic Clout



**“Together with our partners, we will work on the issues that matter to you.”**

Welcome to the May edition of our monthly newsletter.

The World Cup is upon us and that means we have to make sure the event runs smoothly in Camden and that we have a safe and enjoyable tournament. We will be working in partnership with Camden Council and licensees to ensure we prevent drunken behaviour and keep anti social behaviour to a minimum.

As you may know, I objected to the use of Regents Park for the 'Big Screen', in support of a high number of objections from local residents. We will be putting extra resources out at the locations where there is potential for disorder. Lets hope England go the full course and that everyone has a tournament to remember.

Our third partnership 'Week of Action' has taken place in Kilburn ward this week. This was an opportunity for residents to meet their local Safer Neighbourhoods

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Team. There was been a wide range of activities throughout the week, including free cycle theft prevention and safety advice, a Community Safety Stand and Health Bus.

We have listened to residents and local traders and taken on board the need to review the policing of Kilburn High Road and all that that entails. I have put additional resources into the local Safer Neighbourhoods team and I will keep you updated of any developments.

We have a new administration in the Town Hall and I look forward to working with the new leader Councillor Ali to continue our strong partnership working to make Camden safer. Together with our partners, we will work on the issues that matter to you.

Regards,  
Dominic Clout

**Camden police can be  
contacted on 0300 123 1212**

**In an emergency, always  
dial 999**

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

## Burglars posing as window cleaners

Camden detectives are appealing for information and witnesses and advising residents to remain vigilant, following two burglaries involving men posing as window cleaners.

The offences took place in Ryland Road and Gaisford Street NW5, during the early afternoon of Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 (with summer fast approaching, police believe further offences may occur). On both occasions, two men approached residents and offered to clean their windows inside and out. The suspects, described as extremely charming and professional in their approach, aroused no suspicion at the time. Having gained entry to premises, they stole items of property.

The suspects are described as white and British with short hair, one aged in their 20s/30s and the other in their 40s/50s.

**Detective Constable Thomas Pearse, from Camden's Burglary Squad, said:** *"Always think twice before letting a stranger into your home; it's far safer to go with a friend's recommendation or use a reputable company. If you think you may have been targeted by these men or have any information that may assist, then please contact me."*

**Anyone with information is urged to contact DC Thomas Pearse on 020 8733 6901, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.**

## Summer burglary prevention

As the summer approaches Camden residents are reminded to ensure that windows and doors are secured. During the warmer weather people can easily forget to close their windows and lock their doors.

There have been a number of opportunist burglaries where suspects have entered through insecure windows and doors.

An open window is an open opportunity, no matter how high up you live.

Consider the use of grilles if you must leave your window open but be aware of the 'fishing' method, when an extendable form of rod or cane could be used to 'fish' the house or car keys. In the case of sliding sash windows, fit window stops, so that the window can only be opened a few inches when unlocked. Good quality locks should be fitted to all windows, not just ground floor ones but also those that are accessible by means of climbing. Use anti climb paint on drainpipes that lead up to flat roofs or accessible windows.

Paint this on from head height upwards and place a warning sign nearby.

Should you see anyone acting suspiciously please call 999 and report them to Police.



### Give Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) the **RED CARD!**

The World Cup will begin again on 11th June and Camden police want residents to feel able to enjoy it safely and peacefully. Officers will be working closely with Camden Council and licensed premises to reduce ASB during the football period.

During events like the World Cup there is a lot of excitement and excessive drinking, which can lead to an increase in ASB. This year Camden police will give ASB the **red card** with additional patrols and resources on the dates of high profile games.

ASB, violence and disorder will not be tolerated, we ask that you drink responsibly, don't drink and drive and are aware of your personal property.

Camden residents can feel reassured that officers are fully prepared for any associated increase in crime and disorder and we hope you enjoy the tournament.

## **WANTED!!!**



Ashley Husbands aged 22 (16.06.1987) is alleged to have committed a robbery and false imprisonment in Camden in 2010.

Camden's Dedicated Warrant Team will continue their efforts to apprehend Mr Diamond.

If you see this man, do not approach him yourself.

**Please dial 999 or contact Crimestoppers anonymously, on 0800 55 5 111.**

### **Kilburn Safer Neighbourhoods Team tackle nuisance moped riders**

Sergeant Eddie Odita and his team seized a moped on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May after it was ridden in an anti-social manner near the football pitch on Rowley Way Estate NW6.

Officers gave chase at about 8.45pm and found the moped abandoned nearby. They were able to seize the bike using powers under section 59 of the Police Reform Act 2003. The legislation means that a bike can be seized if it is driven in a manner that causes 'alarm, distress or annoyance' and if the driver has already been given a warning within the previous 12 months.

**Sergeant Eddie Odita said:** *"The warning to young people driving recklessly on mopeds and mini-motorbikes is that we have got significant powers to deal with anti-social driving and we will not hesitate to use them in order to seize their vehicles."*



**PCSO Ben Kendall with the recovered moped**

### **St Pancras & Somers Town Safer Neighbourhoods Team held an open day at St Mary and St Pancras Primary School on Thursday 27th May.**

During the open day, officers talked to the children and parents about a range of subjects including 'stranger danger', and the Green Cross Code.

The Safer Neighbourhoods Team was joined by officers from Mounted Branch, Motorcycle Traffic Police, Camden Street Wardens and British Transport Police, including three of their police dog handlers and dogs. Students were able to sit in police cars and get up close to the police dogs and horses. Children received a goody bag from officers containing souvenirs of their day.

**St Pancras & Somers Town Safer Neighbourhoods Team Sergeant Gary McGovern said:** *"St Pancras & Somers Town have carried out several joint agency events in the past twelve months to highlight Community Safety. Today we carried out a 'Police Day' at St Mary and St Pancras Primary School in Somers Town. The event was aimed at breaking down barriers between the police and local children, therefore increasing public confidence in the local police and making the children and staff feel safer."*



**Mounted branch with children at St Mary and St Pancras Primary School**

## ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - What YOU need to know...

**Anti social behaviour** is any intimidating, threatening or destructive activity that scares people or damages their quality of life. Anti social behaviour includes things like:

- Drunk or rowdy behaviour in public places
- 'Yobbish', intimidating or inconsiderate behaviour by young people
- Vandalism, graffiti, fly-posting and other damage to property or vehicles
- Using, dealing or buying drugs on the street
- Rubbish, litter, flytipping and abandoned or burnt out cars/vehicles
- Aggressive begging, street drinking and prostitution
- Noise nuisance like noisy neighbours, loud parties or setting off fireworks late at night
- Nuisance or intimidation caused by irresponsible dog owners

Although often described as 'low level', being a victim or witness of anti social behaviour can be **extremely distressing and upsetting** and **have a serious effect on many people's lives**. Unlike a lot of crimes, antisocial behaviour is often ongoing and the perpetrators may live in close proximity to the victims.

**Tackling and stopping anti social behaviour is a top priority for Camden. We want every member of the community to enjoy their home and neighbourhood safely and peacefully.**

Camden's minimum standards - what **YOU** can do to help:

- We will **work together** to deal with the anti social behaviour problems residents tell us matter most in their local area and that they report to us.
- We will **use the full range of powers and resources available** to us whenever we can to try to resolve problems.
- We will **take reports of anti social behaviour seriously** by recording and investigating all cases, and we will **keep victims and communities informed** about what action we take.
- We will ensure **victims and witnesses** of antisocial behaviour are given appropriate **support and help** wherever needed, especially where they may be **more vulnerable** or **at risk**.

## The following is an example from the Crown Prosecution Service of how a trial can be kept effective and have a successful outcome

Gary Woodcock was charged with intentional harassment (section 4A Public Order Act 1986) towards a bus driver and criminal damage to the bus.

This offence took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010 on the route 134 bus in NW1. It was an example of all too common conduct, which those serving the public are frequently exposed to. Mr Woodcock had boarded the bus expecting to get on without paying. He was told he would either have to pay or get off the bus and reacted by shouting abuse at the bus driver, repeatedly banging hard with his fist on the plastic screen of the cab and tried to force his hand under the gap between the screen and the door attempting to grab the bus driver. Having been unable to grab hold of the bus driver he then tore off the plastic tray on the side of the door.

This behaviour was particularly unpleasant and was captured on the bus CCTV. Blood had been left on the screen when Mr Woodcock had banged on it. A DNA blood match subsequently traced him and police arrested him on 20<sup>th</sup> April and brought him before the Highbury Magistrates' Court.

Understandably the bus driver was very shaken by the experience and was signed off sick from work. Due to the limitations of the CCTV (no audio, time lapse) the complete picture of what Mr Woodcock had shouted at the bus driver and the harassment he caused, could not be properly proven by the prosecution case without the bus driver attending and telling the court what had happened.

Without the commendable input from witness care staff (specifically Catherine Penn and Sue Short) and the officer in the case, PC Alan Mills, it could have been an ineffective trial. There had been a problem contacting the bus driver and warning him of the trial date due to him being signed off work. It was not until his employer was contacted that it was established he was signed off sick until the trial date of the 20<sup>th</sup> May. No further contact could be made with him and there was no evidence on the sick note provided showing he was unfit to attend on the 20<sup>th</sup> May. As Mr Woodcock was on remand awaiting his trial it was very likely the court without further evidence would refuse an adjournment. Witness care liaised with his employer, it being established the driver was returning to work on the day of trial and his employer agreed to send him direct to court when he reported for duty.

Having met with him at court it was clear he was extremely anxious about giving evidence. We decided to make an application for screens, which was successful.

The prosecution of this matter was successful. The driver gave his evidence, which was unshaken in examination and a clear account of the abuse he suffered, in addition to the CCTV the court had the benefit of a 'story book' compilation of the CCTV stills. It is not every day a prosecutor has the benefit of having 64 still images in sequence showing a 'blow by blow' account. This was used to devastating effect in cross-examination in front of the District Judge. Mr Woodcock's case stated the driver had been aggressive towards him. Cue the CCTV stills, which showed the driver with his hands either still on the wheel, open palm trying to reason with Mr Woodcock or leaning away from him. Mr Woodcock had to concede the driver was anything but aggressive in comparison to Mr Woodcock's overtly aggressive behaviour as shown on the CCTV.

Mr Woodcock was convicted on both charges and sentenced to 16 weeks imprisonment on each charge (to run concurrent). This case illustrates how excellent team work can ensure cases of this nature are robustly prosecuted, emphasizing the message that those who threaten others serving the public will face the full weight of the criminal justice system.

Two men found guilty of grievous bodily harm at Blackfriars Crown Court have been sentenced. Following a two-week trial, the judge personally thanked the detective in charge, for her professional handling of the case.

Steven Hand aged 46 (born 05.01.1964 of Middlesex UD8) received 3 years imprisonment for grievous bodily harm with intent and 9 months for grievous bodily harm, to run concurrent.

John Clark aged 46 (born 02.07.1963 of Middlesex UD8) received 45 weeks imprisonment, suspended for 2 years, starting with a 28-day home detention curfew from 8pm to 6am. He was also ordered to pay £2,000 compensation to his victim and must pay thousands of pounds in defence costs.



John Clark



Steven Hand

The assault took place at The Fly Bar, New Oxford Street CW1A on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at approximately 1am. Having been told he could not take a glass bottle outside, John Clark began arguing with a member of door security and a fight broke out. John Clark smashed a glass in the head of a 30-year-old security guard, causing a deep laceration to his face. Steven Hand and John Clark also assaulted a 29-year-old man who sustained a cut above his eye.

Clark and Hand were arrested at the scene and later positively identified during I.D procedures.

**Detective Inspector John Marriott of Camden's Violent Crime Unit said:** *"This was an unprovoked attack that left two people with serious facial injuries. I'm pleased with the sentencing and hope it goes some way to providing justice for the victims."*

