



BRITISH
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The Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter



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April 2010

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*“We will really make a
difference to officers,
staff and the railway
community in
Scotland.”*

Scottish Area Commander Ellie Bird

Scottish Neighbourhood Policing Conference

The Scottish Area recently hosted a one day Neighbourhood Policing Conference at the Abode Hotel on Bath Street, Glasgow.

Officers from Neighbourhood Policing Teams throughout the Scottish Area came together to share best practice and discuss matters which directly affect individuals and groups within their geographical areas.

A number of presentations given by organisations which work directly with hard to reach groups, including: Deafblind Scotland, Glasgow Homelessness Network and LGBT Youth Scotland. Those delivering each presentation offered an insight into some of the difficulties and problems which their hard to reach group may encounter.

Officers also received an input from SO15 which forms part of the governments counter terrorism administration. Those attending were show a very engaging and thought provoking PowerPoint presentation which helped to reinforce the importance of remaining vigilant at all times.

Sgt Arlene Wilson (Neighbourhood Policing West) who assisted with the arrangements prior to the conference said: “I am absolutely delighted with the feedback received from conference delegates and looking forward to the next conference which should be taking place some time in August this year. The Area Commander has given a commitment to holding six monthly Neighbourhood Policing Conferences which will hopefully incorporate more partners to join in our learning experiences. Any ideas or suggestions for forthcoming conferences should be intimated to Sgts Wilson, McEwan or Brownlee”.



tellus, ulla mcorper eu, adipiscing ullamcorper, tincidunt in, ligula. Adipiscing ullamcorper, tincidunt in, ligula. Ut nunc sem, tincidunt nec, laoreet sit amet, dictum ut, sem.

Ut nunc sem, tincidunt nec, laoreet sit amet, dictum ut, sem. Integer libero



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NPT Officers Behind Bars

On Tuesday 30th March 2010, PS Dougie Brownlee, PS Arlene Wilson and PC Stuart Cowan attended the BTP National Neighbourhood Policing Conference at Central Park Mosque, in London.

The conference was opened by ACC Pacey and had a range of guest speakers, from ACC Steve Mortimer of the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) giving his views and suggestions on Developing Neighbourhood Policing and Inspector Chris Bunyan, the Force Crime Reduction officer based at Force Headquarters advising on Best Practice in Problem Solving Plans the morning input was high on standard and content.



Behind bars on one of Polmont YOI wings

SCOTTISH AREA NPT'S CONTACT INFO

Glasgow Central - 07917071191
glasgowcentral.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

North Electrics - 07917052091
northelectrics.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

Glasgow Subway - 07917174320
glasgowsubway.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

Edinburgh to Glasgow - 07919528953
edinburgh.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

Edinburgh Waverley - 07917068630
edinburgh.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

Stirling - 07880503581
stirling.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

Cathcart Circle - 07919528954
cathcartcircle.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

North Ayrshire - 07917052099
northayrshire.npt@btp.pnn.police.uk

Ellie Bird Appointed Scottish Area Commander

Chief Superintendent Ellie Bird recently joined BTP Scotland as Scottish Area Commander, taking over from Martyn Ripley who recently retired after 30+ years policing service.



Chief Superintendent Ellie Bird (Scottish Area Commander)

Not only is she the first woman to be promoted to the rank of chief superintendent with BTP, but she is the first female to be appointed an area commander. She brings with her 27 years of policing experience. Previously the force's Director of Intelligence, Ms Bird started out as a beat cop in the West Midlands. She has been a firearms and public order ground commander as well as being seconded to the Home Office to help set up the National Internet Safety Centre. Ms Bird joined the London North area of BTP in 2006.

Ms Bird said, "We have one of the highest detection levels in the force (40%) and the greatest reduction in crime on the railways (26%) in the past year with 1100 fewer victims of crime," she said. "BTP Scotland has a 94% quality of service rating. We now have to build on that success."

Visit To Regent Park Mosque

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The conference was opened by ACC Pacey with a range of guest speakers, from ACC Steve Mortimer of the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA) giving his views and suggestions on Developing Neighbourhood Policing and Inspector Chris Bunyan, the Force Crime Reduction officer based at Force Headquarters advising on Best Practice of Problem Solving Plans.

Omar Saddique, the Educational Visits and Public Relations Officer for the Mosque welcomed us and gave an input on the relationship between the Muslim Community and the police. This was an input that certainly didn't pull any punches but one that was welcomed by all attendees and gave an insight into



Regent Park Mosque - London

the Muslim communities perception of the police.

The highlight of the day was arguably the presentation by Sgt Stephanie Reynolds relating to an NPT case study - 'Tackling Youth Disorder' at Doncaster railway Station. Stephanie outlined an in depth analysis of an action plan her team devised for a Dispersal Order surrounding Doncaster railway station. Clear from the outset was that preparation, teamwork and engagement with local police and the community resulted in a productive and successful operation.

This conference brought the opportunity to Network with colleagues throughout the force and allowed the opportunity to share experiences, best practice studies and was met with extremely positive feedback from all those attending the conference.

It's Been A Busy Few Months Engaging With Local Schools



North Electrics NPT Officers Scott McCallum and Drew Cutler recently took part in a joint initiative with Strathclyde Police, Strathclyde Fire & Rescue and the Scottish Ambulance Service to deliver a crime reduction and safety education programme in the Carmyle area of Glasgow.



The initiative saw officers visit both St Joachim's Primary School and Carmyle Primary School to outline the dangers posed by the railway network. It is hoped that this will give pupils in the local area a greater understanding of the dangers the railways network poses when misused.

Constable Peter Quinn (Education Engagement Officer) based in Glasgow, recently visited Oban High School to deliver a hard hitting railway safety presentation to pupils from First to Forth Year.

PC Quinn's visit was prompted after locals highlighted their concerns regarding the removal of the bridge linking Soroba housing estate with Drummore Road which is closed until early next month while a new bridge is being fitted.

PC Quinn openly discussed safety issues and dangers relating to trespassing on the railway network and also outlined the criminal consequences of making such a decision. He said "The pupils have been very attentive. I really hope that they take heed of what we have said because the last thing we want is a child to be killed on the railway line."

Chief Superintendent Ellie Bird (Scottish Area Commander) recently invited representatives of LGBT Youth Scotland to Scottish Area Headquarters to officially receive a presentation cheque for the funds raised at the recent LGBT tailored quiz organised by staff from our Neighbourhood Policing Team. Hugh Torrance and Steph Skilton (pictured below) both enjoyed a cuppa with the Area Commander and discussed issues which they felt directly affected the LGBT community outlining ways in which both organisations could work collaboratively to benefit the LGBT Community in the future.

Steph works as a volunteer with LGBT Youth Scotland and one of the roles she carries out is as a youth worker with a LGBT youth group within Glasgow city centre. Steph spoke of the difference that £250 would make and discussed how she intends to spend the money continuing the vitally important work which her organisation carries out.

Ms Bird said "As a Senior Management Team we are keen to work with LINK (A BTP LGBT Staff Support Network) to provide support to our staff, and to work with them to ensure that our communities have the trust and confidence in British Transport Police to report crime. The attendance at the Quiz was exceptional and I believe demonstrated a commitment from all of us to work together. I am confident that through this approach we will really make a difference to officers, staff and the railway community in Scotland."

VISIT TO DEAFBLIND SCOTLAND

NPT officers from the Edinburgh to Glasgow route recently paid a visit to Deafblind Scotland in Lenzie.

The main reason for their visit was to discuss and gain a better understanding of problems and issues faced by those with an audio and/or visual impairment.

Looking forward the BTP plans to work in cooperation with Deafblind Scotland to host a number of in-house training sessions to provide an overview of the services it provides and ways in which police officers and staff can provide a better quality of service to those living with a visual or hearing impairment.

PC Keith Jamieson and PC Donna Davanna are planning to abseil 165ft from the Forth Rail Bridge to raise funds for the charity. Every little helps and should you wish to sponsor them for their efforts, further details can be found at www.justgiving.com/KeithandDonnabtp



Steph Skilton (LGBT Youth Scotland Volunteer) receiving a presentation cheque for £250 from Chief Superintendent Ellie Bird (Scottish Area Commander)

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NPT on a different Airwave...



PC Mark McCabe and PC Martin McDade where both recently interviewed on AWAZ FM, which is an Asian radio station based in Pollokshields, Glasgow.

Mark and Martin promoted the role of the Force, and the concept of Neighbourhood Policing, they also took the opportunity to highlight their own role as Neighbourhood Officers on the Cathcart circle line and provided contact telephone numbers, and website details.

Mark and Martin answered numerous questions from the Radio listeners, covering Safe Traveling on Public Transport, Recruitment, Special Constables, and Crime Reduction information. They have been invited back to the Radio Show in the near future. Mark and Martin both enjoyed their time at AWAZ Radio, and want to say a big thank you to their host MAHBOOB and look forward to working with him in the near future.

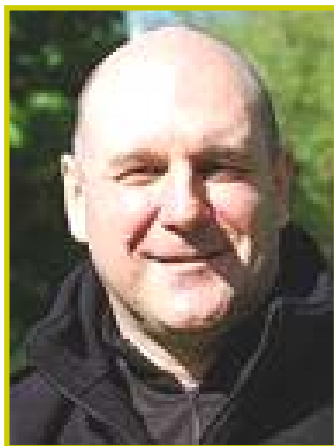
The station can be found buy tuning your radio to 107.2 fm. Further details can be found at www.awazfm.co.uk.

“This is great initiative and I would like to see it extended.”

Barbara Morgan - Station Team Manager



Sergeant Hart Steps Down After 28 Years Service



The Scottish Area will shortly say goodbye to Sergeant Graham Hart (Neighbourhood Policing West). Graham has worked with BTP Scotland for 28 years starting on the 7th December 1981.

He has worked in a number of interesting and wide ranging departments throughout his policing career, including: the Operational Support Unit, Training Department, Operational Planning Department, Criminal Investigation Department, Area Intelligence Bureau, and of course more recently Neighbourhood Policing.

Graham notably spent time down at Tadworth (BTP National Training Centre) which recently closed its doors after 40yrs. He assisted with the comprehensive training package which all probationary constables go through upon joining BTP and also with the continuous and ongoing training for all officers throughout the force during their policing service.

Graham hopes to spend more time with his family and ease into the life of a retired officer, playing golf and enjoying some well deserved R&R. The Scottish Area would like to wish Graham and his family all the best in the future.

First Scottish On-Train PACT Meeting Hailed a Massive Success

The North Ayrshire Neighbourhood Police team held its first on-train Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting this week.

Constables John McGuire and Elaine Johnstone were joined by Barbara Morgan (station team manager for the area) on board trains travelling between Johnstone and Largs stations.

On train announcements were made to encourage passengers to stop the officers and make them aware of any issues or concerns they may have.

Constable McGuire said: “This was the first time we have undertaken this approach and we will certainly repeat it in the future. Our thanks go to the ScotRail staff for their support and assistance.”

Barbra Morgan added: “This is great initiative and I would like to see it extended, especially in the summer months, to trains travelling as far as Ayr.”

To find out where your next local PACT meeting will take place, please visit:

www.btp.police.uk/neighbourhood_policing/scotland.aspx



Constables John McGuire & Elaine Johnstone with Barbara Morgan of First ScotRail Engaged in their recent PACT meeting