

North Reading

Neighbourhood Policing Monthly Newsletter

The Reading North Neighbourhood Policing Team have had another busy month. We have been dealing with a variety of community issues across thoroughfares of Caversham, Peppard, Mapledurham and Emmer Green.

The main part of Reading North NHPT's concentration has been aimed at disrupting and preventing anti-social behaviour across the 4 North Reading wards. There has been a variety of ASB that has had a number of different factors to address. We must stress that no job is the same so it does take a considerable amount of planning and strategic thinking along with working with our partner agencies to create a positive result. It can also be a rather lengthy process and often cannot be corrected overnight.

Mapledurham playing fields, situated off the Upper Woodcote Road has been one of our ASB hotspots with numerous complaints regarding vehicles parking up and playing loud music and doing so into the early hours of the morning. This was firstly brought to our attention via the North Reading Safer Neighbourhood Forum and. We firstly placed the area onto our daily NHPT patrol plan and along with the Problem Solving Team we were able to enhance the police presence and Anti-Social Behaviour "Operation in Progress" signs were placed around the car park. We then spent 4 consecutive nights sitting in the darkest corner of the carpark waiting for the suspects to arrive. We only issued 1 warning but we believe that the message was made clear and will be passed to their friends who more than likely were coming to meet them. We have received less complaints regarding this issue but it is still an operation that will continue to be on-going until a long term solution has been decided. We are currently in talks with Reading Borough Council to find long term preventative measures that we can put in place.

Another issue that we are currently dealing with is Anti-social behaviour around the Clonmel Close Children's Play area that is situated off Rothwell Walk in the Amersham Road Estate. This was a particularly hard issue to deal with as the children were not known to police and were all of a young age. We had a great advantage due to the help of a resident's CCTV system so we were able to get good quality footage of the trouble the youths were causing. We increased police presence in the area and was eventually able to identify all the offenders. We are working with the parents of the children to address the issue and assisting in the investigation of criminal damage. We are also working towards creating a long term solution to prevent further ASB in the area around the Park. The biggest problem when dealing with this job is the fact that the children were not aware of the impact that their behaviour was having on the local community. They just thought they were having fun and were oblivious to the impact on the residents around the area. This is where we hope to educate the children and their families to hopefully create a positive result. We are also plan on using the newly formed "Community Court" to address any further issue. If this is successful then we will explain in greater depth what the "Community Court" entails and how the process work in the next update.

Following reports of individuals speeding along Upper Woodcote Road and Henley Road, officers from our Special Constabulary conducted some Speed Enforcement operations. A total of 7 tickets were issued by the officers and words of advice given to other drivers. If residents feel there is a speeding issue in their road then please contact the NHPT using the below contact details.

The North Reading Safer Neighbourhood Forum and Have Your Say dates can be found on the Thames Valley Police website using the following links. Click on the links below to view these.

Peppard & Caversham Wards - <https://www.police.uk/thames-valley/N466/news-and-events/>

Mapledurham & Thames Wards - <https://www.police.uk/thames-valley/N465/news-and-events/>

