

BROMLEY BOROUGH COMMANDER'S NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2012

Welcome to June's newsletter.

Preparations are in their final stages as the Metropolitan Police Service readies itself to police the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at the start of June, followed by the arrival of the Olympic Torch in London on 21 July and then the Olympic Games. Across London however, normal policing will continue with officers on patrol and responding to calls from the public.

If you are intending to travel into London for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations or the Olympics, there is plenty of safety advice and general information available on the Metropolitan Police Service's website www.met.police.uk to assist you. You can also receive free community updates via the MPS's Neighbourhood Link community messaging service and I urge you to sign up to receive these messages. Neighbourhood link provides news and information about policing activity or initiatives, crime prevention advice and major incidents, both pan-London and locally to your own borough. Registration is free and easy to follow, so please visit www.neighbourhoodlink.met.police.uk and sign up.

Last month was a busy month with the Queen's first visit to Bromley since 1986 as part of her Diamond Jubilee celebrations, along with the MPS Commissioner Bernard Hogan-Howe visiting a number of venues across the borough before holding his evening Roadshow for residents to hear his vision for policing London and ask questions of him.

I also held my Borough Commander's Commendation ceremony, where sixteen Police Officers, Police Staff and members of the public from Bromley were honoured for their acts of professionalism, teamwork, bravery, courage and dedication to duty.

This month again we've had some fantastic results, making some great arrests in respect of burglaries and robberies. The suspects are currently making their way through the Criminal Justice System. One case that has now gone through the Courts concerns a number of men arrested as part of Bromley Police's Operation Alkes, an operation set up to target Class A drug dealers in the Penge and Beckenham areas of the borough. Sixteen men have been sentenced to in excess of 45 years imprisonment after being caught supplying drugs to undercover police officers. A great result!

Finally, as no doubt you are aware, the Olympic torch relay has begun and our Torch Security Team are protecting it as it travels around the country. This marks the beginning of our Olympic operations which will see officers and staff work incredibly hard and show the World just how good a police service we are. The Team will be arriving in London with the torch on 21st July and on Monday 23rd July it passes through the borough of Bromley. One of our Bromley officers – Sergeant Alex Baldwin – is part of the team and making this once in a lifetime opportunity even more special, he'll be celebrating his birthday whilst protecting the torch. You can read more about Alex in next month's newsletter, to tie in with the torch arriving in the capital.



Steph Roberts
Borough Commander

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Sixteen jailed for 45 years after undercover drugs operation

Sixteen men have been sentenced to in excess of 45 years imprisonment after being caught supplying drugs in an undercover police operation.

The men, aged between 18 and 44, were arrested as part of our Operation Alkes, an operation set up to target Class A drug dealers in the Penge and Beckenham areas of the borough.

In total sixteen people were arrested and charged with offences relating to supplying controlled drugs and firearms offences. 1 Kg MDMA crystal (street value £40,000), 250 rocks of Crack Cocaine (street value £2,500), 1050 wraps of cocaine (street value £52,500), one handgun, ammunition, sawn off shotgun and a CS canister were recovered, along with £10,000 cash.

The message that we're sending out is clear and unequivocal: Bromley Police are committed to tackling those people involved in the supply of illegal drugs and will continue to target such offenders and proactively seek to disrupt their criminality. If you sell drugs in Bromley, prepare to be arrested at any time.



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The Queen's visit to Bromley

The Queen was given a wonderful welcome when she visited Bromley on 15 May, as crowds of well wishers lined the streets for her first visit to Bromley since 1986.

Around 30,000 people turned out, despite the weather. Our police cadets were out in force, assisting officers with controlling the crowds. Happily there were no arrests during the visit, it all passed off very peacefully and was a very memorable day for everyone involved.

War on economic crime launched

At the end of May we held an operation tackling financial crime against businesses and the public, as part of the latest operation in our Total War on Crime.

Operation Stimtone was the largest day of action the MPS has ever put together focussing on economic crime. Over 300 separate operations took place across London throughout the day to target those involved in money laundering, identity fraud, handling stolen goods, conspiracy to defraud and those who target the vulnerable and elderly sections of our community.

People who steal from businesses or their employers are also on our radar and can expect a visit from officers.

Economic crime costs businesses and the taxpayers of London tens of millions of pounds every year. We are all victims of this type of crime - either directly as victims of theft or fraud, or indirectly through higher prices in shops, higher insurance premiums and taxes to cover the cost of what is being stolen. It affects all law-abiding members of the public.

Over the last few years there has been a massive growth in online business. Many people routinely order products over the internet. As technology has advanced, criminals have found new ways to steal and get their hands on expensive goods. The MPS will be working closely with the British Retail Consortium to catch and arrest people who hijack online shopping accounts for their own gain.

Operation Stimtone is about taking the profit out of crime and letting criminals know that, together with partners, the MPS will pursue them to recover their criminal gains.

In the last 12 months alone the MPS seized over £15 million in cash from criminals. We have successfully obtained proceeds of crime restraint orders to stop criminals from hiding or disposing of assets worth in excess of £61 million. Following successful convictions, secured confiscation orders from courts have also totalled in excess of £28 million; these are orders saying that criminals have to give up monies and assets gained through their crimes.

We are determined to make sure crime does not pay but criminals do. We want to show communities criminals who comfortably live off the proceeds of their crimes are being brought to justice.

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Commissioner's Bromley Roadshow

On 16th May residents from across Bromley were able to meet the Commissioner, Bernard Hogan-Howe, and question him about what was happening in the Met as well as in our borough.

Residents heard first hand from the Commissioner about his vision for policing in London at an evening Roadshow. He then spent over an hour addressing questions from the public which ranged from Safer Neighbourhood officer numbers to how the Olympics would effect policing in their boroughs. The feedback from those attending the event has been very positive, with people commenting that the event was well worth attending and a good opportunity to find out what the police are doing in their borough.

Throughout the day the Commissioner had attended a programme of events across Bromley, meeting residents and school children for informal chats. The Commissioner started off at the Charles Darwin School, taking the time to hear the issues that most concerned the pupils and which impacted on their everyday lives. He had an interesting conversation with a group of pupils from the School who asked challenging questions regarding the Olympics, last summer's disorder, dispersal zones, the Met-Track athletics scheme, budget cuts, privatisation of police services, protecting celebrities and the relationship between the police and young people.



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The Commissioner next attended Ringlands Riding Stables in Darwin ward, at a Saddle and Tack marking event to see firsthand the local police team's innovative solution to deal with the theft of saddles and other tack in the area. This gave the Commissioner a chance to see how we address people's real life local issues around crime in the more rural wards of the capital.



The Commissioner then moved on to the Glebe Housing Association's Adams Hall in West Wickham to speak to some of the borough's older residents. The Commissioner gave an enthusiastic audience his views on Total Policing and Total Victim Care, and told them that that he hoped to replicate the crime successes that he had whilst in charge on Merseyside across London whilst serving as MPS Commissioner.

Throughout the day there was a great range of questions asked of the Commissioner and the level of interaction at the venues he attended across Bromley was fantastic. The Commissioner's message that that he wants a total war on crime making the Metropolitan Police the best Police Service was very well received by everyone we spoke with.

The Commissioner stated "Meeting Londoners face to face is very important to me and supports my vision for better communication with communities. I'm looking forward to continuing the events across the boroughs and making myself accessible to more of London's residents."

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Commendation Ceremony

This month I honoured sixteen people from Bromley for their acts of professionalism, teamwork, bravery, courage and dedication to duty my Borough Commander's Commendation Ceremony.

Six officers were commended for their involvement in an undercover operation targeting drug dealers in the Penge and Beckenham areas of Bromley, which resulted in the arrest of the nine people, along with the recovery of 13 Kilos of Amphetamine, 50 rocks of Crack Cocaine, 150 wraps of Heroin and 10 wraps of Cocaine - with a combined street value of £155,150 - and £33,000 cash. Prison sentences totalling in excess of twenty seven years have been handed down the nine people arrested.

Two officers were commended for apprehending a naked drug dealer armed with a shotgun, during which one officer suffered a broken rib.

One officer was commended for an investigation leading to violent armed burglar being captured and jailed.

Two members of public, a father and son, received a commendation for detaining two burglars they saw leaving scene of burglary. Both burglars received significant custodial sentences. The grateful victim's belongings were recovered.

Four officers and a member of police staff received commendations for a complex investigation into a series of burglaries against the elderly and vulnerable committed across Bromley and the Home Counties, which resulted in the burglar being jailed for eight years and his accomplice wife for two years,



The Mayor of Bromley Councillor Michael Turner and myself commending Mr Mark Birch and his son Joe, who detained two burglars they saw leaving the scene of a burglary in Bromley

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Free Cycle Security Marking

**Non Damaging
Non Intrusive
Takes Five Minutes!**

Last year the Metropolitan Police recovered thousands of cycles that they were unable to return to the owner.

For more information go to
www.bikeregister.com

Mobile Phone Registration

Come to ORPINGTON BR Station on Saturday 9th JUNE between 11:30am and 17:00pm where we will security mark and register your cycle with SELECTAMARK and register your mobile phone with IMMOBILISE free of charge.

**Bromley Safer Transport
Team**

Mobile Tel: 07825 386414
STT.Bromley@met.police.uk
Office Tel: 0208 284 8264

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*****Sign up now to regularly receive information from the Police*****

Neighbourhood Link

Neighbourhood Link is a free service that enables you to regularly receive information from the police about crime and safety in the areas you sign up to. It will also be used by the Metropolitan Police Service to keep you informed in the event of a major incident impacting on London.

To register please visit www.neighbourhoodlink.met.police.uk.

Contact numbers for Bromley Police's Safer Neighbourhood Teams

Bickley	07920 233 852
Biggin Hill	07880 783 736
Bromley Common & Keston	07920 233 855
Bromley Town	07887 826 502
Chelsfield & Pratts Bottom	07920 233 857
Chislehurst	07920 233 850
Clock House	07920 233 847
Copers Cope	07766 804 406
Cray Valley East	07880 788 942
Cray Valley West	07920 233 851
Crystal Palace	07920 233 858
Darwin	07920 233 859
Farnborough & Crofton	07920 233 856
Hayes & Coney Hall	020 8649 3548
Kelsey & Eden Park	07920 233 846
Mottingham & Chislehurst Nth	07880 781 483
Orpington	07766 804 412
Penge & Cator	07843 065 880
Petts Wood & Knoll	07920 233 853
Plaistow & Sundridge	07920 233 849
Shortlands	07920 233 848
West Wickham	07920 233 854

Internet Address: www.met.police.uk/bromley

Non emergency contact number 101 **In an emergency always dial 999**

Bromley Community Engagement Forum 020 8658 7168