

Derry DPP Promotes Neighbourhood Watch at 'One Good Reason'

On 13th January staff from Derry District Policing Partnership attended the 'One Good Reason' event in Clooney Hall. The DPP used the event to promote the concept of Neighbourhood Watch to members of the public aged over 60. Citizen's Advice Bureau, PSNI, Prince's Trust, RNIB, Medicare and Trocaire also hosted stands at the event.

The 'One Good Reason' campaign is part of the Unlocking Potential project run by the Volunteer Development Agency in conjunction with the Northwest Volunteer Centre. The aim of the project is to encourage and support people aged 60+ into worthwhile and rewarding volunteer roles based on what they want to do and what time they have free.

About 25 members of the public attended the event.



The District Policing Partnership will also have a stand promoting Neighbourhood Watch at the Waterside Community Forum event in Clooney Hall on 4th March

Picture above: Derry DPP manager, Dermot Harrigan, discusses Neighbourhood Watch with Thomas Carlin of North and West Housing and Sarah Jane Goldring of Northwest Volunteers.

If you are interested in setting up a neighbourhood watch scheme in your area please contact:

**Derry City Council
Community Safety Partnership**

028 7137 6576

Derry District Policing Partnership

028 7137 6565

Or your local Neighbourhood Police Team

www.psni.police.uk

www.districtpolicing.com

www.derrycity.gov.uk

Foyle Waterside Rural Neighbourhood Police Team

Tel: 0845 600 8000

Ask for **Foyle Waterside Rural Neighbourhood Police**

Waterside Rural Neighbourhood Police Team is based in the village of Eglinton and is led by Sergeant Frankie Smyth along with Constables John Parke, Adrian McCloskey, Raymond Gray and Mark Cathers, and is supported by nine police officers part time.



Foyle Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

ISSUE 4

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Recent Distraction Burglary

Residents are warned once more to be very careful about who they let into their homes given a recent distraction burglary.

On 4th January 2010 a male called at the home of an 88 year-old woman at Grainan Drive. The male stated he was from the Water Board and needed access to the house to check the pipes due to the recent cold weather. The householder permitted the male entry and remained with him while he ran the taps in the kitchen for several minutes.

After the male had left the householder discovered an upstairs bedroom had been searched and £3000 cash was taken from a handbag.

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators are again reminded of the Quick Check freephone number, 0800 0132290 and home leaflets available from the PSNI, DPP or CSP Manager. Home security equipment, including door locks, view cams and oil tank locks are also available on request from the CSP Manager.

Commenting on the Quick Check free phone scheme, Cllr. Elisha McLaughlin, Chairperson of Derry District Policing Partnership said,

"As the winter nights draw in, the more vulnerable members of our community become increasingly susceptible to bogus callers. The Quick Check leaflet advises everyone to be cautious of unexpected callers. It is a quick and easy way to check if a caller to your home is legitimate and I would urge people to make their 'at risk' neighbours aware of the scheme."

Information on how to deal with unknown callers



Stay safe
Stay secure

In your home



In an emergency dial 999

Shred-it Campaign Combats Identity Fraud

In light of the 62 per cent increase in identity fraud cases throughout GB and NI police in Foyle are supporting the annual 'Shred it' campaign in Derry. This initiative aims to encourage the public to take all necessary steps to prevent identity theft.

These community-shreds enable the general public and businesses to bring along confidential documents for shredding free of charge. Whatever people want to shred, be it personal documents, old bank statements or outdated business accounts and invoices, the state-of-the-art shredders do the job quickly and securely. The first Community Shred event took place on 20th January at First Trust Bank Crescent Link in Derry between 10.30am-2.30pm.

Commenting on the initiative PSNI Crime Prevention Officer, Cons. John Wilson said:



"Criminals will take advantage of any piece of information that could make them money and leave you out of pocket. Personal information can be used by fraudsters to steal your identity and commit crime. Everyone needs to be very careful when storing or disposing of personal information. I would encourage the public to shred these documents regularly and never disclose such information to any unauthorized persons."

Picture above: Helena Hasson, CSP Officer with a member of the public and Cons. John Wilson, Crime Prevention Officer, Foyle PSNI at the Community Shred Event on 20th January

Tough New Powers to Tackle Under-age Drinking

Tough new powers to tackle under-age drinking in public places have come into effect on Friday 29th January 2010. Confiscation of alcohol, tougher penalties for persistent drinking in a public place and police returning teenagers under 16 to their home for suspected drinking in a public place are all part of the new laws.

The new powers have been introduced under the Policing and Crime Act 2009, which extends to Northern Ireland.

NIO Minister, Paul Goggins MP said:

"Government has a duty to do all it can to try and eradicate the scourge of under-age drinking. Young people under 18 can now be prosecuted for persistently possessing drink in a public place and if caught three or more times within a 12 month period could face a maximum penalty of a £500 fine."

Welcoming the new powers PSNI Assistant Chief Constable Will Kerr said:

"The sale of alcohol to minors has far reaching effects on young persons and the wider community. We welcome the new powers to confiscate alcohol. We are also running a number of pilot test purchases of alcohol exercises to address the illegal sale of alcohol to minors. Test purchasing of alcohol will have a significant impact on restricting the supply of alcohol to young persons and in reducing under-age drinking."

Allied to Derry City Council's newly extended on-street drinking bye-laws it is hoped that this legislation will help curb under-age drinking in the city. Under-age drinking was ranked as the biggest policing issue in the District Policing Partnership household survey carried out in July 2009.



Neighbourhood Officers in Your Area

Your Neighbourhood Policing Teams aim to improve quality of life for all local residents, promote community safety and reduce anti-social behaviour. By working closely with you, they can shape local policing to meet your needs.

Foyle City Centre Neighbourhood Police Team

Tel: 0845 600 8000
or 028 7121 0756

Email: FoyleCityCentre@psni.pnn.police.uk

Ask for Foyle City Centre Neighbourhood Police

City Centre Neighbourhood Police Team covers the areas of the Bogside, Brandywell, Fountain, City Centre, University and Pennyburn. The team is led by Sergeant Sam Young along with Constables Max Cook, Bruce Rhymer and Karen George, and supported by one police officer part-time.

Foyle City North Neighbourhood Police Team

Tel: 0845 600 8000
or 028 7121 0747

Ask for Foyle City North Neighbourhood Police

City North Neighbourhood Police Team covers the areas of Galliagh, Shantallow, Culmore and Steelstown. The team is led by Sergeant Phil Martin, Constables Martin Deehan, Joe Austin, Michael Gahan, Tara Vance, Andrew McCormick and Patrick Buckley, and supported by six police officers part-time.

Foyle City West Neighbourhood Police Team

Tel: 0845 600 8000
or 028 7121 0720

Email: FoyleCityWestNPT@psni.pnn.police.uk

Ask for Foyle City West Neighbourhood Police

City West Neighbourhood Police Team covers the areas of Creggan, Beechwood, Oakfield, Creevagh, Rosemount, Foyle Springs, Ballymagroarty, Coshquin, Hazelbank and Springtown. The team is led by Sergeant Ray Wilson along with Constables Neville Martin, Gina Henry, Liam Phillips and Paul Burns, & supported by five police officers part-time.

Foyle Waterside Urban Neighbourhood Police Team

Tel: 0845 600 8000
or 028 7137 9758

Ask for Foyle Waterside Urban Neighbourhood Police

Waterside Urban Neighbourhood Police Team covers the Urban Area of the Waterside. The team is led by Sergeant Cherith Craig along with Constables Jane Carton, Ian McGonigle, Mervin Cochrane and Maria Murphy, and supported by seven police officers part-time.