PRODUCED QUARTERLY

August 2016

Street Beggars and Homeless

Throughout the Spring and Summer, Gloucester has seen a dramatic increase in complaints from members of the public about beggars and street homeless people in the city centre.

Gloucester City Council has adopted a "Safe and Attractive Street Policy" which covers issues of street drinking, rough sleeping, begging and legal highs. This policy follows an engage, support and enforce structure with help from StreetLink, Project Solace, a new city centre police team and Gloucester City Council. At the present time, focus is on begging issues.

The beggars are all being addressed individually and if they are found to be homeless and/or in need of support to address a drug or alcohol habit, or health issues, they will be helped initially by StreetLink and referred to the appropriate support agency to help them. Sleeping on the streets is neither healthy nor safe.

Many of those begging in Gloucester are not homeless and are receiving the appropriate benefits. Some are operating in groups to obtain money to purchase drugs.

Monitoring of the current begging situation is happening daily. We have seen some positive action already, but we rely on reports from

local businesses and members of the public to help us direct resources.

If you have concerns regarding somebody sleeping rough please report to Streetlink by calling 0300 500 0914, or via their website at www.streetlink.org.uk . Streetlink also have a smartphone app, where reports can be made directly. Search for "Street Link" in the app store. Any information that you send will be treated in confidence.



Safer Gloucester Partnership Herbert Warehouse Gloucester Docks GL1 2EQ Tel: 01452 396984

Email: cdpartnership@gloucester.gov.uk

www.safergloucester.co.uk





Paws on Patrol 2016

Safer Gloucester is delighted to report that another successful event was held in Gloucester Park on May 7th. The sun shone for most of the afternoon and even when the rain came, it did not deter our hardened Patrollers!

The police dog handlers were in top form as were their trusty canine stars. Thanks go to our brave, newly re-elected Police and Crime Commissioner for running from and being caught by PD Ace (our Paws on Patrol mascot).



Prior to the event, Safer Gloucester held a competition for young people to design and draw their own "hero" dog.

Competition winners
Honie Mae (pictured with
family) and Holly,
assisted Dog Handler PC
Rich Hunt with his
displays, giving bold
commands to the dogs in
action.





Once again we were pleased to welcome LG Agility to the arena to

show the skills of the highly trained dogs—they were amazing.

We were also delighted to welcome back to the arena Meirion Owen



and The Quack Pack. Meirion's wonderful Border Collies herded the ducks around the arena in a very amusing demonstration, involving children from the audience.

The dog show attracted various gorgeous dogs of all ages and sizes, many of whom had witty stories to share with the crowd. Some categories had 60 entries—what a difficult task for the Sheriff of Gloucester Cllr Jim Beeley and Carol Hutchins from the Lady and the Tramp Grooming Salon and Spa.

As always our grateful thanks go to 2our sponsors, without whom the event would not



take place.

90 new members joined Paws on Patrol on the day. Please remember to report anything you spot in your neighbourhood that is untoward—eg graffiti, fly tipping,

excessive litter etc. If you see a crime taking place, please do not get involved to try to stop it; please stand back and get as many details to be a good witness and ring 999.



Residents Asked to Reduce False Alarms

In the past 12 months Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service (GFRS) has attended more than 400 false alarms at homes with automatic fire alarms, and now ask residents to inform 999 as soon as the alarm is falsely activated.

GFRS have been called to 442 false alarms over the past 12 months as a result of automatic fire alarms being accidently activated.

Attending false alarms from automatic fire alarms takes resources away when they are needed in a real emergency so residents are being reminded of the below points:

If the automatic alarm has been activated accidentally (e.g. cooking fumes, steam, dust) or due to a fault with the alarm, dial 999 and inform the fire control room, to stop a fire engine from being dispatched.

If the alarm is linked to a call centre, please ensure that it has your current telephone number (including a mobile telephone number), so that you are contactable to ensure you are safe and well, in the event of alarm activation. Inform the alarm call centre if an alarm engineer is testing or maintaining the fire alarm system.

The most common false alarms in domestic properties are due to cooking fumes and technical faults with the alarm system.

Despite these false alarms, fire alarms are designed to give early warning in the event of a fire. If you discover a fire, dial 999 immediately and evacuate everyone from the property.



The World Changes-Children Don't

The Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP) have launched their latest campaign to get parents and carers thinking and talking about the importance of discussing sex, relationships and the internet with their children.

They have produced a short film "The World Changes—Children Don't" which tells the story of Romeo and Juliet with a modern twist. It shows how the lives of these young lovers might play out today, including the Lark 'tweeting' and Romeo 'friending' Juliet.

Although technology and social media can seem overwhelming and forever evolving, children and young people don't change. Parents are reminded that (just as when they were young), their children are still exploring and creating their identities, keeping up with their friends and dealing with adolescent pressures. Although much of this happens online now, parental support and advice which keeps their children safe 'in real life' will keep them safe online too.

To view the film and find help with supporting your child, visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk.





Best Bar None 2016

Following the success of Best Bar None in Gloucester in 2015, where 15 licensed premises in the city centre reached Best Bar None accreditation standard and we won best new scheme in the national competition, Safer Gloucester has launched the scheme again.

This year the scheme has been extended right across the city and includes two additional classes of entry. The full list is:

- · Best Chain Bar
- Best Chain Pub
- Best Independent Bar
- Best Independent Pub
- Best Local Pub
- Best Family Friendly Pub

If you feel that your local pub deserves to be recognised, please encourage them to take part. Entries should be in by the end of August but we could accept a slightly later entry for premises that were keen to join. Full details and an application form can be obtained from the partnership website: www.safergloucester.co.uk as well as the scoring booklet and the toolkit to help members with the work involved.

The assessors have all been trained and full support will be given to licensed premises to help them reach the required standard.



Picture shows National Coordinator Mick McDonnell with the Right Worshipful Mayor of Gloucester Cllr Neil Hampson, Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Jennie Dallimore and the Best Bar None Team at the launch of Gloucester Best Bar None 2016.

Safer Gloucester would like to apologise for the § delay in issuing the August newsletter, due to unexpected technical difficulties. ₹~~~~~~~~~~

Car Crime

Please everyone take care not to leave valuables on display when you park your car-even if it is outside your house or on your driveway.

Gloucester has suffered a dramatic increase in car breaks in the last month and it is usually because a purse, handbag, laptop, shopping bag, sat nav or other valuable item has been left on display.



You wouldn't leave your cash on display so don't leave your sat nav (or valuables!)

Gloucestershire Constabulary

OPEN DAY

Saturday 17 September 2016 Gloucestershire Constabulary HQ

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1 Waterwells Drive, Quedgeley

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Talks from top detectives and experts

- Child protection
- Forensic science
- Force intelligence
- Safer cyber

Demonstrations from police dog handlers, horse riders, firearms unit, tours of the **Custody Suite and Force Control Room and** exhibits on projects supported by the $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Longrightarrow}$ PCC—Safer Gloucester will be there!

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