



SAFER Gloucester

News from the Community Safety Partnership

PRODUCED QUARTERLY

November 2016

Knife Crime

Tragically there have been several incidents of knife crime in the county and Safer Gloucester is very keen to raise awareness of the dangers of carrying knives with young people.

Another new initiative commenced on Saturday 1st October at the Skillzone where twenty young people took part in a workshop to consider not just how dangerous knives are, but also the effects of a fatal stabbing can have on the friends and family of the victim and perpetrator. The event "Your knife or your life" included some first aid and self preservation training and it is planned that it should be repeated every three months.



If you know a young person that you feel would benefit from this programme, please phone the Harm Reduction Office on 01452 907244.

During the afternoon, parents of the young people were invited to come along and discuss any issues that they had concerns about. Items of most concern on this occasion were drug and alcohol misuse and cyber safety.

Further sessions will be arranged in the near future to speak with experts on these issues— watch the Safer Gloucester website www.safergloucester.co.uk for information.

We are also working with local communities and creating vital relationships which are allowing us to make better use of activities in local areas, produce educational programmes, and improve communication between adults and young people. It is important for families to talk together and have the conversation that carrying a knife is unacceptable.

To find out more information about the work partners are undertaking to tackle knife crime and raise awareness of the dangers and consequences of carrying a knife, please google:

goo.gl/MSRTmE .

Christmas Crime Prevention!

Don't miss the Christmas Crime Prevention Event - Remember to come along to King's Walk on December 7th to meet officers from Safer Gloucester and to collect your free 2017 Crime Prevention Calendar!

Safer Gloucester Partnership
Herbert Warehouse
Gloucester Docks
GL1 2EQ

Tel: 01452 396984
Email: cdpartnership@gloucester.gov.uk
www.safergloucester.co.uk



Stolen Memories

Your home contains all sorts of special memories. If your home is ever burgled, those memories could be stolen. This year, in the run up to Christmas, when the days are getting shorter, take steps to protect your home and keep your memories safe.



Last year during the anti-burglary campaign research was conducted throughout Gloucestershire to find out how secure we keep our homes.

Out of a survey of over 400 people the following results were found:

- Half of us still advertise our empty homes on social media by ‘checking in’ to other places or posting about being on holiday
- A quarter of us give burglars the tools they need to break in by leaving ladders and tools in our gardens
- Three quarters of us still don’t set our burglar alarms at night or if we go out, even if we have them in our homes
- More than a third of us don’t routinely put our valuable items out of view of burglars
- One in five of us don’t lock our doors every time we leave the house
- A quarter of us don’t leave a light on when we go out

Advice and information is available on the Safer Gloucester or Gloucestershire Police websites on how to protect your home but why not, this Christmastime, pledge to look out for our neighbours in 2017? Start the year by speaking to a neighbour you’ve never spoken to before. Research shows that people who know the names of at least 10 neighbours feel safe!

Project Solace have moved!

Project Solace, Gloucester’s Anti-Social Behaviour Team have relocated to Gloucester City Council Offices in the Herbert Warehouse.

Project Solace tackles ASB where it exists in private tenancies, owner occupied property and public open space. The team is made up of officers from the Police and Gloucester City Council.

To find more about Project Solace and/or the referral criteria google: goo.gl/bLcqZb If you wish to make a referral ring 01452 396396.



Be a Clive this Christmas!

Many licensed premises in the city centre will be taking part in the

“Be a Clive” campaign to be launched on 1st December.

Drivers will be offered free soda if they show their car keys at the bar.

Participating venues will display the window sticker and poster below.



The initiative will form part of the Gloucestershire Road Safety Partnership’s Christmas campaign but this one will continue way beyond the festive season—Be a Clive—Don’t Drink and Drive!

For details of participating venues visit Safer Gloucester.co.uk



Barton and Tredworth Cultural Fayre

Despite the downpour of rain and the howling wind on 20th August, the Barton and Tredworth Cultural Fayre still went ahead, almost as planned.

It was too windy to risk gazebos and marquees in St James' Park so everyone moved furniture and equipment, to hold the fayre inside St James' Church. Space was limited so unfortunately we had to make some frantic phone calls to cancel some of the information stands but with the platform at the front of the church there was an excellent stage area for all our performers and there was a usual selection of gorgeous cultural food to sample and enjoy. This year, children made hats and head dresses judged in a competition by The Sheriff of Gloucester, Cllr Said Hansdot.

The Cultural Fayre is a great community event, planned by members of the community and enjoyed by residents from many different cultures in the area.

Thanks go to the sponsors: Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner, Gloucester City Homes, Sainsbury's, Barton and Tredworth Neighbourhood Partnership, Gloucestershire Constabulary and the Barnwood Trust.



Advice from Glos Fire and Rescue



Check your Christmas tree lights carry the British Safety Standard sign

Never place candles near your Christmas tree or materials that can catch alight easily



Test your smoke alarm regularly and only remove batteries when replacing them

Most fires start in the kitchen. Avoid leaving a cooker unattended. Avoid cooking when under the influence of alcohol



Make sure your family and visitors know how to escape in an emergency

Decorations can burn easily so don't attach them to lights or heaters



Make sure cigarettes are put out properly

Keep candles, lighters and matches out of children's reach. Never leave burning candles unattended



Never overload electrical sockets. Always switch Christmas lights off and unplug them before you go to bed

Take care around open fireplaces as clothes can catch fire



Take time to check on older relatives and neighbours this Christmas as they are at greater risk from fire

Street Beggars and Homeless

In the August edition of the Safer Gloucester newsletter, we reported on the “Safe and attractive street policy” which had been adopted in Gloucester following many complaints from members of the public about beggars and street homeless people in the city centre.

The Policy employs an “engage, support, enforce” plan to address the issue of begging and homeless people.

Gloucester City Council’s community safety team and the city centre police team worked together with partners to help beggars and rough sleepers to access the help they needed. Letters of concern have been issued to beggars to provide advice and make referrals to organisations who can help people get off the streets. Any who have continued to beg have been issued with warning letters saying that they must engage with the support that is available. Any who persistently beg will face criminal action.

Already there have been some successes and some beggars have moved to supported housing enabling them to access appropriate services.

Latest operations report a large reduction of street beggars in the city centre.

Businesses, residents and visitors are encouraged to report anyone they see on the street to StreetLink by calling 0300 500 0914, or via their website at www.streetlink.org.uk so that they can be helped by outreach workers to access help. StreetLink also have a smartphone app, where reports can be made directly. Search for “StreetLink” in the app store. Any information that you send will be treated in confidence.

Anyone who witnesses begging occurring or are affected by begging related nuisance should report it to the Police using the phone number 101.

Young People’s Mental Health Advice

The Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group has launched a new mental health advice website for children and young people at www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk

The website provides information and signposting across a range of topics to help young people who might be struggling with their emotions and difficult situations in their life.

The website will be promoted through schools but please share widely within your families, friends and colleagues.

Advent Calendar

Don’t forget to log on to the Safer Gloucester website to check the Advent Calendar for a seasonal crime prevention message for each day of December leading to Christmas. From the home page, just click on the icon below and receive your advice on how to stay safe this Christmas.



Safer Gloucester would like to wish all our readers a Very Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year