



in safe hands

Issue No.2

Working to reduce crime and disorder in the district

Students sound the alarm

Three hundred personal safety alarms have been given to young people in Harpenden following two incidents in the town.

Harpenden Youth Town Council has made the personal safety of young people a top priority following the incidents.

Harpenden Youth Town Council secured funding from the Hertfordshire Police Authority to distribute the alarms to sixth form students at



Sir John Lawes, St Georges and Roundwood schools in Harpenden.

The alarms are small and stylish and can be easily carried when you are out and about, but they emit a very loud noise which can deter a potential attacker. For further information about the work of the Harpenden Youth Town Council go to www.hytc.co.uk.



Community Sergeant Lewis Duckett demonstrates the personal alarms to members of Harpenden Youth Town Council.

Who we are...

St Albans Community Safety Partnership is:

- St Albans City & District Council
- Herts Constabulary
- Herts Fire & Rescue Service
- Herts County Council
- Herts Police Authority
- St Albans & Harpenden Primary Care Trust
- Herts Probation Service
- Youth Offending Team

The Partnership also works with a range of community organisations such as Neighbourhood Watch and Victim Support.

Visit our website on www.stalbanscsp.org.uk

Contact us at:

Community Safety Unit,
St Albans City & District Council
St Peter's Street, St Albans AL1 3JE
or email communitysafety@stalbands.gov.uk

Anti-social Behaviour Unit
(St. Albans City & District Council):
01727 819416 / 819566

Log on for Drug & Alcohol advice

A-DASH (Adolescent Drug & Alcohol Service Hertfordshire) is a free and confidential service aimed at people up to the age of 18 years who have a Hertfordshire GP.

A-DASH provides an outreach service offering face to face assessment, which may result in an offer of specialist help, including advice, support, drug counselling/ education and prescribing.

The service is suitable for young people with a significant Alcohol or Drug problem which usually means misuse of class A substances, or daily consumption of class B or class C drugs including cannabis.

Lesser substance misuse causing ongoing mental health issues may also be appropriate referrals.

Young people and parents can call the service direct on 01923 427288 or phone/ text mobile number 07770 537227. Other people can contact the service to discuss a possible referral.

- **Fire & Rescue Service** (Hertfordshire): 01727 818919
Email: stalbandcmdr@hertscc.gov.uk
Website: www.hertsdirect.org.uk/yrccouncil/hcc/fire
- **Frank** (national drug information line): 0800 77 66 00 Website: www.talktofrank.com
- **Police** (non-emergency): 0845 33 00 222
- **Police Crime Prevention Officer:** 01727 796020
- **Police Hate Crimes Officer:** 01727 796187
- **Police Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer:** 01727 796087
- **Primary Care Trust** (St. Albans & Harpenden): 01727 831219
- **Victim Support** (Central Area): 01707 354626
Email: vsherts.central@uk.uuimail.com
Website: www.victimsupport.org.uk
- **Youth Talk** (confidential counselling service): 01727 868684 Website: www.youthtalk.org.uk

Rogue Trader – another first for St Albans

A trader who intimidated and upset customers has been issued with the county's first Acceptable Behaviour Contract for business related activities.

The block-paving layer, who cannot be named for legal reasons, has signed the Contract which restricts him from insulting, intimidating or upsetting anyone during the course of his work. In addition he cannot abuse, threaten, swear, use violence or encourage others to do the same.

If he fails to comply with the terms of the ABC he could be given an Anti-social behaviour Order.

The ABC was issued by St Albans City & District Council working in partnership with Herts Police and Trading Standards. The Council's Anti-social Behaviour Caseworker, Tony Clark, said "This council does not accept that its residents should have to tolerate anti-social behaviour in any form"

Its Manic in Herts!

Launched in May 2004, the www.itsmanicinherts.com website is for 13 - 17 year olds in Hertfordshire. The website aims to educate young people about the risks associated with alcohol misuse and to realise that if they are going to drink, then they need to drink sensibly and avoid, in particular, 'binge' drinking.

Did you know

- It is an offence to allow an unaccompanied child under 16 on premises holding a licence, when the premises is used wholly or primarily for the supply of alcohol. Premises used primarily as restaurants are therefore exempt from this requirement.
- It is an offence for any person to sell alcohol to anyone under 18.
- It is an offence for anyone under

18 to buy or attempt to buy alcohol.

- It is an offence to send anyone under 18 to buy alcohol.
- It is an offence to allow the sale of alcohol to anyone under 18.
- It is an offence to purchase or attempt to purchase alcohol for anyone under 18.
- It is an offence for anyone under 18 to consume alcohol on a licenced premises.

HOWEVER - THERE IS ONE EXCEPTION

A 16 or 17 year-old, can be bought alcohol (beer, cider or wine) by a person aged 18 or over when the alcohol is for consumption at a table meal when the 16 or 17 year-old will be accompanied by a person aged 18 or over .



Useful numbers

- **Anti-social Behaviour Unit** (St. Albans City & District Council): 01727 819416/ 819566
Email: communitysafety@stalbands.gov.uk
Website: www.stalbanscsp.org.uk
- **Cleaner District Hotline** (for reporting abandoned vehicles, fly-tipping, dog fouling, litter and dumped rubbish): 0845 125 8000
Email: a.cleanerdistrict@stalbands.gov.uk
Website: www.stalbans.gov.uk/acleanerdistrict
- **Crimestoppers:** 0800 555111
- **Drugs Intervention Programme** (Hertfordshire): 0800 652 3169
- **Domestic Violence Help Line:** 08088 088 088

Teenagers told don't be fast and furious

It is a sad fact that a disproportionately high number of crashes involve the young, not only those who may be newly qualified, but also those who drive whilst unqualified. To address these issues, the partners have devised the Megadrive project.

Megadrive is a day-long initiative organised by Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service in partnership with St John's Ambulance Service, the Driving Standards Agency, Herts County Council's Road Safety Unit and Hertfordshire Alcohol Problems Advisory Service, with the British School of Motoring who provide an interactive stand.

Targeted at Year 12 students in secondary schools, it raises awareness of the many issues and responsibilities surrounding road use as a new or potential driver. Two St Albans schools - Marlborough School and Nicholas Breakspear RC School - took part during the three week project held this month.

In the morning sessions students were taught about the roles and responsibilities of driving safely and the afternoon session gave a graphic demonstration of the consequences of unsafe driving behaviour.



Marlborough School sixth formers and staff observe Fire Officers in action.

This photo (above) shows a reconstruction of a newly qualified young driver colliding with a moped rider still using 'L' plates. St Albans Red Watch firefighters along with St Johns ambulance staff then demonstrated how they would cut the driver free of the car wreckage. Nigel Harden, Community Fire Safety Coordinator for St Albans explained to the young people about different methods which the emergency services use during a serious rescue operation.

Three 'live' casualties took part including two student volunteers who then relayed their experiences to fellow classmates during a debriefing session.

Barry Pryke, Station Commander, St Albans said "Road traffic collisions involving younger drivers are unfortunately an increasing part of our core activity. This type of initiative can get the message across to young people at an early age and can prove life saving."

Nuisance Mopeds and Boys Toys

Be warned Mini motos, go-peds and buzzboard riders - know the law or face having your wheels confiscated.

If you ride any of the above you risk:

- Your vehicle being taken away by Police
- Receiving an ABC or ASBO.
- You could be prosecuted for traffic offences

They should NOT be ridden on:

- Public footpaths
- Parks/playing fields, Public woodlands
- Public woodlands, any public place

It is also illegal to ride vehicles on other people's private property without their permission.

To use these vehicles on a road, including pushing them, you require:

- An MOT certificate
- Number Plates
- Insurance
- Drivers licence
- Road tax
- Crash helmet

It is illegal to supply petrol to anyone under 16. Parents be warned you are aiding and abetting if you do so.

If you ride a moped/bike which is legal in such a way that it causes harassment, alarm or distress to others you can still have your bike seized, or be issued with an Acceptable Behaviour Contract or Anti social Behaviour Order.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED BE SAFE NOT SORRY

The Community Safety Partnership has produced a leaflet about the law relating to mini motos, go-peds, buzzboards and off-road bikes. If you would like a copy of this helpful guide please telephone Tony Clark on 01727 819566.

Cash support for local projects



Keeping young people safe and raising awareness of domestic violence are just two projects that have been funded by the Police Authority Initiatives Fund.

The Fund was set up to help finance projects that promote community safety and meet the objectives of the local Community Safety Strategy.

Since its establishment, it has helped around 200 projects get started, in particular those that may have had difficulty in attracting funding.

In St Albans during 2005/06 the Police Authority, in consultation with the

Community Safety Partnership, financed the following local projects:

- To keep young people safe and out of trouble
 - Youth Talk was awarded £3000 to continue its counselling service to young people in the St Albans district, with a view to diverting them away from crime, drug and alcohol misuse and anti-social behaviour before their behaviour escalates. Youth Talk's service is available to anyone between the ages of 14 and 25 living, working or at school in the St Albans and Harpenden district. Youth Talk

can be contacted on 01727 868684.

- Following a very successful poetry project, £670 was awarded towards the cost of printing 500 poetry books containing verse created by children with emotional, social and behavioural difficulties.

- To reduce personal theft - a keychains project, designed to combat purse snatches in the town centre, received £1000.
- To raise awareness about domestic violence - £1000 was granted to St Albans Domestic Violence Forum towards the cost of organising a conference held jointly by the St Albans and Welwyn Hatfield Domestic Violence Fora in February 2006. The conference, attended by 150 professionals who come into day to day contact with victims of domestic violence, raised awareness of the Hidden Victims of domestic violence.

All awards were part of the Police Authority's drive to provide practical alternatives to criminal and nuisance behaviour. The Initiatives Fund budget for St Albans in 2006/07 is £8,500.

For an application pack or further information, please contact Roger Bardle at Hertfordshire Police Authority on 01992 555628 email: roger.bardle.hpa@herts.pnn.police.uk or follow the link on the Police Authority website at www.herts-police-authority.org.uk

