



# in safe hands

Issue No.3

Working to reduce crime and disorder in the district

## St Albans Business Against Crime



**New Partnership aims to crack down on crime against businesses in the City centre.**

A new initiative called SABAC – St Albans Business Against Crime was launched at the District Council offices recently and was attended by over 70 people including representatives from local businesses.

This Community Safety Partnership initiative, backed by Herts Police, St Albans City & District Council and the Chamber of Commerce, aims to reduce business and retail crime in the city centre by linking members with the CCTV control room and the Police.

Shops are being provided with hand held radios to be able to summon assistance should known offenders or persons behaving anti-socially enter their premises. The initiative also aims to reduce the number of verbal and physical assaults on staff.

Currently it is estimated that an astonishing 70% or so of all business crime goes unreported nationally. SABAC will encourage businesses to report all crime-related incidents, regardless of police intervention or involvement, with a view to gathering information that will give a true picture of what is happening in St Albans, so that it can take action appropriately.

As part of the SABAC scheme, members are given access to information about prolific offenders, including persistent shoplifters, individuals subject to ASBOs and known pickpockets, together with up to date photographs to enable quick identification. Hand held radios provide members with a direct link to the CCTV control room giving security for staff and customers and enabling shops and businesses to call



*Business Crime Launch, Linda Treasure and the Mayor presented the safer business award.*

for immediate attention if a problem arises.

Linda Treasure, SABAC's Business Crime Reduction Manager, said *"Initially I will be working with businesses in the city centre but I hope that over the next year to eighteen months we will be able to roll the scheme out to Harpenden, London Colney, the retail and industrial parks and even the small parades of shops across the District"*.

For more information about SABAC contact Linda Treasure on 07900 135075.

**Linda Treasure**, Business Crime Reduction Manager  
St Albans Business Against Crime  
C/o St Albans Police Station  
Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3JL  
Tel: 01727 796030  
Email: linda.treasure@herts.pnn.police.uk

## 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, for more information please visit our website on [www.stalbanscsp.org.uk](http://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  
[community.safety@stalbands.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@stalbands.gov.uk)

## Keeping Young People Safe and Out of Trouble

### ASDAN PROJECT

St Albans fire crews provided a 5 week course during June & July which closely mirrored the Princes Trust XL programme of last year. School students forming part of a local inclusion group gained an insight into the career structure of Herts Fire & Rescue Service which allowed them to have a better understanding of the day to day duties of an operational firefighter.

The programme included the organisational structure, pumps & ladders, road traffic accident training, breathing apparatus and the work of the Community Fire Safety department.

Station Commander Barry Pryke said *"Both the Asdan & Princes Trust projects provided a unique opportunity to stimulate these vulnerable students, providing something meaningful to aspire to"*.



*The photo displays students about to embark on the breathing apparatus session within St Albans Community Fire Station smoke training complex.*

# Christmas CRIME MENU



Christmas is a busy time of year for everyone, including criminals.

A large portion of crime is opportunist, so this Christmas we are seeking your help to stop thieves in their tracks.

Have a happy and safe Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



## Starters

Your car and all its trimmings

Car thief's classic, car left unlocked, with windows open  
(Always lock doors and windows and use a steering lock)

Starters orders, keys left in ignition  
(Never leave keys in the ignition and the car unattended)

Santa's surprise, presents on passenger seats  
(Keep presents out of sight. If they can be seen, they can be stolen)

Hot wired saloon, parked in dark car park  
(Park in a well-lit area or your car could make someone else's Christmas)

Chef's treasure chest, served with valuables  
(Thieves look in glove compartments first for mobile phones and other valuables - take them with you)



## Main Course

Your house on a plate

House hotpot, doors and windows insecure  
(Make sure all windows and doors are locked)

Santa's parcels, presents displayed under the Christmas tree  
(Keep presents out of sight)

Tasty takeaways, car keys and handbags left in handy places  
(Hall tables are the first places thieves look for valuables)

Holiday haven for thieves, it's obvious no-one's home  
(Going on holiday? Leave lights and a radio on timer switches; ask a neighbour to go in and collect mail)

Open sesame, opening your door to strangers  
(Use a door chain and viewer, only open the door to visitors when you are happy with their identity)



## Dessert

Your portable property

Pedal power, bicycles not secure and marked  
(Lock bikes and get them marked with your postcode and house number)

Shed surprise, valuable tools for the discerning thief  
(Secure your shed with a bolt and padlock and consider fitting an alarm)

Devil's drink, don't leave your drink unattended  
(Don't leave your drink alone, not even for a minute)



## Coffe @ Mints

Surprisingly sour, cheap goods passed on could be stolen  
(If you are offered a quality product for a bargain, ensure the source is genuine)

# Napsbury Football Frenzy



Young people at Napsbury playing football.

The World Cup may be over but football mania at Napsbury continues!

There are more than 40 young people currently taking part in football training on Wednesday Nights from 5pm to 7pm at Verulam Rugby Club.

After consulting with young people in the area the Anti-Social Behaviour team, together with other partners including the Verulam Rugby Club, have organised sessions for young people aged 8-18.

A representative from Verulam Rugby Club said "We are very pleased to be involved in giving back to young people in the community and hope to continue working with the Community Safety Partnership to deliver events". Without the use of the Rugby club's floodlights the football would not have been able to continue though the winter".

The football sessions are supported by a

number of different agencies in the area including; The BASE, local police and BSG Building Contractors for St Albans District Council.

Tony Clark from the Anti-Social Behaviour unit at St Albans District Council said "The football sessions have had a positive impact on anti-social behaviour incidents in the area and we are delighted to be working with local businesses and sports clubs to increase opportunities for young people and provide them with activities that they wish to do. We wish to make these activities available throughout the year not just for a few weeks. We now have football training running in London Colney and Sopwell; we wish to extend this and eventually have sessions in other estates to form a inter-estate football league". Anyone wishing to be involved in this should contact Tony Clark 01727 819566.

## Working with St Peters Church

The Community Safety Partnership has been working with St Peters Church to improve public safety there by tackling the anti-social activity and public drinking of alcohol which takes place in the church yard.

The church is installing CCTV cameras which will be monitored by the District Council's CCTV control room on a 24 hour per day basis.

Additionally, the Council's Leisure department has undertaken a programme of cutting back hedges and low tree branches to ensure better visibility and deter people from sleeping rough there.

Police Community Support Officers continue to patrol the area on a regular basis.

A positive outcome of the CCTV installation is that the Church is kindly allowing the Council to install a webcam which will be able to transmit pictures of St Peters Street on the Council website. This will show the old Town Hall, French Row, the Abbey, and the market on the days it is operating. Hopefully this will help promote tourism and economic development, but more importantly it will help generate a view that St Albans, despite the occasional odd problem, is a safe place in which to live, work or visit.

This is another example of joined up working in practice, and how we look to add value to schemes.

## Useful numbers

- **Anti-social Behaviour Unit** (St. Albans City & District Council): 01727 819416/ 819566  
Email: [communitysafety@stalbans.gov.uk](mailto:communitysafety@stalbans.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.stalbanscsp.org.uk](http://www.stalbanscsp.org.uk)
- **Victim Support** (Central Area): 01707 354626  
Email: [vsherts.central@uk.uumail.com](mailto:vsherts.central@uk.uumail.com)  
Website: [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk)
- **Youth Talk** (confidential counselling service): 01727 868684  
Website: [www.youthtalk.org.uk](http://www.youthtalk.org.uk)
- **Drugs Intervention Programme** (Hertfordshire): 0800 652 3169
- **Domestic Violence Help Line**: 08088 088 088
- **Fire & Rescue Service** (Hertfordshire): 01727 818919  
Email: [stalbanscmdr@hertsc.gov.uk](mailto:stalbanscmdr@hertsc.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.hertsdirect.org.uk/yrccouncil/hcc/fire](http://www.hertsdirect.org.uk/yrccouncil/hcc/fire)
- **Licensing Hotline** 0777 0701 720
- **Complaints or Breaches of Licensing** 01727 819453
- **Licensing Call Centre** 01727 811155
- **Police** (non-emergency): 0845 33 00 222
- **Police Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer**: 01727 796087

