



Open Session

Police Authority Meeting

Friday 31st July 2009

LOCAL POLICING UNITS

BLAENAU GWENT LPU

National Tackling Drugs Week 8th – 12th June

Throughout the week officers from Blaenau Gwent's Neighbourhood Support Team executed six warrants. There was a significant find of Crack Cocaine at an address in Brynmawr. A man was arrested and is currently on Police Bail. Following a warrant at an address in Nantyglo, £4,000 in cash was seized under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Schools Officers were involved in a number of events, including the multi-agency awareness days at the Festival shopping site Ebbw Vale. The Blaenau Gwent Substance Misuse co-ordinator, Fusion and Drug -Aid representatives, along with Schools Officers, were on hand to offer advice and guidance on a number of alcohol and drugs related issues.

Pupils from Nantyglo Comprehensive School visited the 'Kaleidoscope' drugs treatment and rehabilitation premises at Tredegar, where they received information from staff members about what services the centre provided in the community and answered any questions that the pupils asked which were relevant to the topic of drugs and alcohol.

Abertillery

Local Roads' Policing Initiative

On the evening of Sunday 24th May 2009 a pre-planned operation was conducted by the Neighbourhood Team in conjunction with officers from the Force ANPR team. During a two hour period a total of fifteen fixed penalty notices were issued to drivers and two warnings were given under the Police Reform Act 2002, for using a vehicle in a manner likely to cause alarm or distress to the public.

PACT/Community Issues

On the evening of Friday 22nd May 2009 Abertillery Neighbourhood Team conducted an action day which consisted of targeted activities aimed at addressing the current PACT priorities.

In the evening the team were assisted by the Neighbourhood Support Unit and a member of the special constabulary. Patrols were conducted of all the identified anti-social behaviour hotspots resulting in the seizure of a substantial amount of alcohol including:

- 93 cans of lager
- 33 bottles of Stella
- 2 litre flagon of cider
- 1 bottle of wine

One youth was arrested for a public order offence and resisting arrest

Neighbourhood Team Operation

On Friday the 19th June, Abertillery Neighbourhood Team carried out an Action Day where they concentrated on PACT priorities. Officers from BGCBC Trading Standards and Licensing Sections joined the Police Officers and Support Staff in visiting the anti-social behaviour hot spots. It was generally quieter than the previous Action Days but the following was seized;

- 8 cans of strongbow cider
- 5 cans of lager
- 1 bottle wine
- 1 70cl bottle of vodka

- 6 bottles of Stella
- 1 bottle of alcopop

This will result in approximately 30 letters being sent out to parents and one off licence being revisited by Trading Standards as a consequence of underage sales.

Neighbourhood Team Operation

On Sunday the 21st June, Abertillery Neighbourhood Team conducted an operation targeting the anti-social use of motor vehicles in both Abertillery and Brynmawr. Assisted by officers from the force ANPR Team, a secondary objective of the initiative was also to address the current PACT priorities for both areas in respect of speeding.

It was intended that the pre-planned co-ordinated activities would be conducted so as to ensure maximum high visibility impact. As a consequence of the enforcement, the following process was generated;

- 28 non-endorsable fixed penalty notices issued
- 2 endorsable fixed penalty notices issued
- 1 Section 59 Warning under the Police Reform Act
- 1 driver reported for no insurance
- 1 arrest for excess alcohol
- 1 arrest for fail to stop RTC / Excess Alcohol / Disqualified driving
- 60 breath tests were administered, of which two were positive

Update - Attempted Robbery at Eastside Post Office - Cwmtillery Nov 2008

NSU and CID arrested two local Abertillery men, aged in their twenties, for an attempted robbery that occurred on 18th November 2008 at Eastside Post Office, Cwmtillery when the staff were threatened early in the morning shortly after opening time. The offenders threatened to set fire to the shop and were armed with a petrol can, but failed to get through the security screen around the counter and fled empty handed. The investigation has been painstaking and the charges were made possible when a breakthrough occurred as a result of the continued enquiries by the officer in the case. The two men have pleaded guilty and await sentence.

Brynmawr

Community Involvement and Crime Prevention Initiatives

On the 7th May, a crime prevention/community engagement initiative was conducted at the ASDA store in Brynmawr. During the initiative the following took place:

- 121 mobile phones were post coded.
- 100 crime packs encouraging people to post code their property at home were given out to interested parties.
- 15 personal attack alarms were given out.
- 9 referrals were made to the bobby scheme.

Youth Diversion/Engagement

On the 27th May, a youth diversion initiative was launched which involves taking youths off the streets and encouraging them to go fishing by offering free coaching lessons. Tackle was provided by the local authority and the launch was very successful with a great deal of positive feed back. It is anticipated that the coaching will encourage approximately 20 youths to attend and hopefully having been shown what to do they will then continue to pursue the hobby on their own.

Ebbw Vale

Neighbourhood Team Initiatives

On Wednesday 24th June, the Ebbw Vale Dedicated NPT team together with the colleagues from the Neighbourhood Support Unit conducted a 'Neighbourhood Team Day'.

The day involved the execution of drugs warrants in the Ebbw Vale area. As a result of the warrants, a number of cannabis plants were recovered and offences relating to the use and possession of drugs were dealt with.

The later part of the day was spent targeting PACT priorities including speeding vehicles, where the force 'Speed Board' was deployed by CSO's, items on view were targeted in higher crime areas, fixed penalty notices were issued in PACT areas where parking was a problem. The day was a success and the high visibility of officers was welcomed by the local communities. In addition a number of pledge leaflets were distributed to residents in the localities visited.

Tredegar

Drugs Warrant

Tredegar officers executed a warrant at an address in the Central and West area of the town in response to information from local residents regarding drugs. This was as a result of the community relations built up with residents and the ward team.

Officers located 44 cannabis plants being cultivated in an upstairs bedroom. The owner of the property had moved to the Sussex area but was returning on a regular basis to tend to the plants. The offender was subsequently interviewed and summoned to court in regards to the offence of cultivation of a controlled substance.

BLAENAU GWENT NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT UNIT

Vehicle Crime Initiative at Brynmawr

NSU staff along with the Serious Crime Tasking Team worked together throughout May and June 09 to deal with an increase in vehicle crime that had been occurring in Brynmawr, Ebbw Vale and Blaenavon. 5 people were arrested and over 70 offences were detected.

Robbery at Bryn Bach Park Tredegar

In June, two 15 year old youths were attacked and their pedal cycles were stolen. One of the victims suffered a fractured eye socket. After a detailed investigation 5 persons arrested for offence and Charged to Court.

PARTNERSHIP TEAM

Blaenau Gwent Road Safety Forum - Child Safety Week

During the week 22 - 26 June Gwent Police and partners from Gwent Fire Service and Capita Symonds joined together to undertake a seatbelt safety campaign, specifically aimed at Child Safety in cars. A number of vehicles were stopped and eight people were found not to be wearing seatbelts. Seven of these people opted to watch a presentation at the local fire station about road safety and one individual opted to accept a fine.

Licensing Update

A recent weekend of activity saw a number of Community Safety partners working together to tackle underage drinking and licensing issues in Blaenau Gwent. During the operation

- 63 items of alcohol were confiscated
- 31 people were stopped and searched
- 5 individuals were directed to leave and area and not return within 48 hours

- 6 adults were ordered to stop drinking and had their alcohol confiscated

As a result of the operation and close partnership work, the old Dunlop factory at Brynmawr has been secured and cleaned up and youths are no longer hiding there misusing alcohol.

SCHOOLS LIAISON OFFICERS

May 2009

Schools Officers assisted in a Safe Cycling initiative along with Capita Symonds and Gwent Fire Service. This was held at the Ebbw Vale fire Station where young cyclists were given advice and instruction on road safety matters. In addition to this, they were also issued with cycle locks.

June 2009

Officers were deployed to resource the Blaenau Gwent Crime Prevention Trailer at the Eisteddfod Proclamation Ceremony. The role performed was to promote the policing pledge to members of the public and answer any questions they may have had in relation to it.

At the request of Glanhwy Primary School, a school assembly was held to address the pupils on the subject of 'Hate Crime'.

Throughout the last three months, pupil mentoring sessions have been held at Ebbw Vale and Tredegar Comprehensive schools. This involves students having the opportunity to have one to one conversations with Schools Officers regarding their future.

CAERPHILLY LPU

Blackwood

Arrest for Theft of Motor Vehicle

On 2nd May 2009, in the Hollybush area, a routine stop check was carried out on a vehicle. Consequently a female from the New Inn area of Pontypool was arrested for theft of this motor vehicle from the Cardiff area.

Threats to Neighbours

On 14th May, a local male was arrested for offences against public order having allegedly threatened neighbours in the presence of council community safety wardens. This male has been charged with offences against public order and bailed to court.

Arrest for Theft of Motor Vehicle / Fail to Stop for Police

On 21st May, police officers received a report of a vehicle failing to stop on the A472 at Pontllanfraith. When officers stopped the vehicle the occupants were arrested for theft of the vehicle.

Risks to Serious Harm

On 25th May, police received telephone calls from concerned relatives and friends of a man from the Newbridge area stating he was threatening to jump from the Chartist Bridge in Blackwood. Officers quickly located him near to the bridge and took him away to safety.

Arrest of Bus Driver for Disqualified Driving

On 3rd June, a custody detention officer working for Heddlu Gwent Police saw a male, who he recognised as a disqualified driver, driving the rail link bus from Ystrad Mynach train station. As a result of this information the man concerned was arrested and charged with various traffic offences.

Eviction of Anti Social family

The local CADRO and the CCBC tenancy enforcement team attended Blackwood County Court on 4th June 2009 in relation to eviction proceedings against a problem family in the Pontllanfraith Ward who have a significant impact on the council estate concerned. As a result of this initial hearing a trial has been listed for early July when several partners including local elected members will give evidence.

Off Road Biking

The local ward officer and a representative of the forestry commission conducted joint patrols of the area of Manmoel Common in response to off road bikes in that area causing a nuisance. As a result of this, a man has been reported for various offences.

Drugs Warrant

A warrant was executed by local officers in the Blackwood area on 9th June 2009. This led to the discovery of cultivation of cannabis plants for which a male adult was arrested and cautioned.

Operation Shed

In May and June 2009, a specific operation was set up targeting thefts from sheds and garages within the Blackwood Section. As a result of this operation 3 people have been arrested.

Caerphilly

Drugs Warrant

On 10th June a Drugs warrant was executed in the Morgan Jones Ward which resulted in a man being arrested for possession of cannabis with intent to supply. A large quantity of hydroponics/growing equipment was seized along with cannabis. The man was bailed pending advice from the CPS.

Drugs Warrant

On 24th June a drugs warrant was executed in the Penyrheol area of Caerphilly which resulted in a man being arrested for possession of cannabis and amphetamine. The man was subsequently bailed pending CPS advice.

'Operation Townsafe' Tackles Anti Social Behaviour

Operation Townsafe was instigated in Caerphilly to combat vehicle crime and the effects of Anti Social Behaviour on the night time economy. The operation resulted in the following:

- 3 arrests for breach of bail
- 2 arrests for public order offences.
- 15 intelligence logs
- 6 stop checks
- 7 ASBO referrals
- 1 car seized under the powers of Section 59 of the Police Reform Act
- 4 section 27 warnings

Risca

Assault with a Baseball Bat

On the evening of Saturday 9th May 2009, in St Mary Street, Risca, Neighbourhood Officers saw a large group of males in the street, one wielding a baseball bat. On seeing the officers, the male threw the bat down and ran down Tredegar Street. Two males were quickly arrested.

Dispersal Order Granted

On 19th May 2009 Cabinet members granted the Dispersal Order for Ty Sign where anti social behaviour involving young people has been affecting the quality of life of local residents. South Wales Argus was present when the Order was granted and published the details. The Order runs from 1st June 2009 until 27th July 2009.

Monmouthshire LPU

Abergavenny

Drugs Action Week

During Drugs Action Week, five warrants were conducted under the Misuse of Drugs Act. Numerous quantities of cannabis and ketamine were seized, including a large seizure of amphetamine along with £2,000 in cash. The suspect is already on bail for supplying offences and he was arrested for supply and money laundering. At all addresses leaflets were posted to local residents informing them of our activity and successful outcomes.

National Cycling Event

A national cycling event was held in Abergavenny over two weekends with a number of world and Olympic champion riders in attendance. This was organised in conjunction with the dedicated neighbourhood team in Abergavenny and involved several road closures and crowd management. The event was well managed and was considered a success by the event organisers.

Breath Test Campaign

During Gwent Police's Breath Test campaign Monmouthshire LPU identified an opportunity to involve and develop the enthusiastic Special Constabulary that work within the area. A training event was undertaken to bring officers up to speed with legislation and new breath test equipment. The result was that on one weekend the special constabulary in Abergavenny were involved in conducting 57 breathalyser tests in a pre planned operation.

Disposal point for Stolen Property

Information received from the local community identified that a scrap metal dealer in the Torfaen area may be a disposal point for stolen property. A warrant under the theft act was executed at the scrap dealer's merchants in Torfaen, where a stolen car from the Govilon area of Abergavenny was recovered.

Chepstow

Rifles Regiment Parade

In May, soldiers from the 1st Battalion The Rifles regiment returned to their barracks at nearby Beachley. A well organised Parade of over 500 soldiers took place through Chepstow. The parade and soldiers were greeted extremely well by over 5000 spectators.

Drug Enforcement Exercise

Starting 8/6/09 Chepstow officers were involved in a week drug enforcement exercise, three warrants were executed with amphetamine and cannabis seized by police, there was one arrest.

Chepstow Carnival

The last Saturday of June saw the yearly Chepstow carnival which proceeded from the Bulwark area into Chepstow town. Some 2000 persons attended the event and traffic problems were kept to a minimum due to planning arrangements.

Monmouth

Possession of drugs

Working on intelligence received from the neighbourhood team response officers stopped and searched a man in the Monmouth area and found him to be in possession of a number of wraps containing ketamine which is becoming the main drug of choice in the area. The man was arrested and is currently on bail for an offence of possession with intent to supply controlled drugs.

Cultivation of cannabis

In June information was received that a cannabis factory had been set up at a remote farm house somewhere in the Usk area. Using local knowledge and contacts a neighbourhood officer identified a suspect premise. A warrant was executed and over 500 plants were discovered on the first floor of the address. A Newport man has been arrested and is currently on bail for cultivation offences.

Neighbourhood Support Unit

Car thefts

Over the 01/06/09 and 02/06/09 numerous attempts were made to steal cars from around the Abergavenny area, some of these cars were damaged and set on fire. Two suspects were identified and arrested on the B4598 between Raglan and Abergavenny. Through protracted enquiries by Monmouthshire Neighbourhood Support CID the two people in custody were charged with ten offences ranging from arson to aggravated vehicle taking.

NEWPORT LPU

Newport Central Neighbourhood Team

Stow Hill Ward

Operation Dipper was implemented to tackle drug related crime on the City Centre. All of the Central Neighbourhood Team played a huge part in the success of this operation. The performance resulted in 27 drug related detected crimes.

Anti Social Behaviour

The ward has experienced a problem with anti social behaviour, specifically an area within the City Centre. Again, the whole team was instrumental in addressing the problem. A number of operations were run to proactively deal with the identified offenders. PC 484 Nicola Williams has tirelessly worked with partner agencies to plan and prepare a dispersal order for the effected areas. There has been an overwhelming positive response from local businesses.

The whole team continue to deliver an exemplary work ethic and are able to adopt and change their approach to the specific needs of their wards.

Newport West

Bettws Ward

Substance Misuse

Substance misuse is a PACT priority in the Bettws Section. Following intelligence being received, a drugs warrant was carried out in the Bettws Shopping Area. Quantities of cannabis, white powder and drug paraphernalia were found in a property. A man and a woman were arrested for these offences at the address.

Possession of drugs

Three persons have been arrested for possession with intent to supply cannabis following some proactive activity by the Bettws neighbourhood support unit. During a street search a male person was found in possession of a number of deals of cannabis. A subsequent search of his home revealed a further number of deals of cannabis and a substantial amount of cash.

Operation Deny

Operation Deny continued with a positive result. A warrant was executed at an address in Frome Walk. Approximately £7,000 worth of heroin was located hidden in the garden of his address. A man from the address was arrested for possession with intent to supply.

Malpas Ward

Misuse of Drugs

Newport West LPU officers conducted a search warrant under the misuse of drugs act in the Malpas area and recovered a substantial quantity of Class A controlled drugs. The source of the drugs is as yet unknown but one male is in custody for possession with intent to supply Class A drugs.

Marshfield Ward

Operation Lighthouse

This was a joint Operation involving Environmental Health, the Council and Police. The Operation was held to target driving offences such as off road bikes, speeding, unlicensed tipping and hauling of scrap metal. During the Operation, 11 Section 59 warnings were issued.

Pill Ward

Operation Crawler

The areas of Commercial Street, Williams Close and Francis Drive in Pill have been identified as hot spot areas for the street level supply of controlled drugs, which in turn leads to other forms of criminality such as Prostitution, Criminal Damage and acts of Anti Social Behaviour. Operation CRAWLER has been conducted to address the problem. The results for the operation are listed below.

- 196 stop/searches.
- 114 arrested for Possession Of Cannabis – Class B Drug
- 9 arrested for possession of Class A Drug
- 8 arrested for possession of a Class A Drug with intent to supply

Operation Commercial

The Neighbourhood Team has worked with the Council and Probation Service to tackle criminal damage and graffiti in the area. An Environmental Visual Audit has been conducted with local Councillors and the Chairman of Communities First. All the identified areas were cleaned and an offender has been identified, arrested and charged for the graffiti.

The multi agency operation was conducted in Pill with the Waste Management Team from Newport City Council. The operation has run throughout May and June. All commercial / business premises were visited.

- 11 waste enforcement warnings were issues,
- 2 commercial premises on Commercial Road prosecuted by Newport City Council for waste related offences
- 71 fixed penalties for traffic offences
- 37 vehicles seized
- 1 arrested for drink driving, disqualified driving
- 6 direction to leave issued
- 1 arrested for warrant

Tredegar Park Ward

Youth Engagement

Substance Misuse by youths upon the Duffryn estate has been identified as a PACT priority. The local Ward Officer and PCSO's have assisted staff from Communities First with the "Friday Night Project". This forum allows the neighbourhood team to engage with the local youths. Prior to activities such as football they recently completed a quiz with over 30 youths including subjects as Drugs and Steroid Abuse. This allowed them to explain the dangers to the youths.

School Liaison

Crucial Crew

Over 2,000 year 6 students attended this year's event. Over 3 weeks a multi agency group gave individual workshops on the traditional safety aspect, including road, personal hygiene, and environmental safety.

Wings to Fly

Over a 3 day period over 2,000 year 6 pupils attended The Dolman Theatre to watch the drug awareness play produced and presented by a local High School.

Disengaged special needs school

60 Maes Ebbw school senior pupils attended Maindee police station for a visit to the custody unit and interaction with the neighbourhood police team and response officers. This was extremely successful, not least in that the individual officers at the station had an excellent first hand introduction to youths with learning and physical difficulties.

Crime Prevention Officers

Welsh Assembly 'Violence & Aggression Project'

The Royal Gwent Hospital has been selected by the Welsh Assembly as part of the project. Funding has been made available for the redesigning of the Accident & Emergency department in order to reduce the opportunities and occurrence for violence and aggression against the staff. The project also included finance for further CCTV coverage of the department. Several visits and meetings have taken place at the hospital and the plans for the redevelopment have been assessed.

Torfaen LPU

Cwmbran

Exemplar Status

In March 2009 Cwmbran Neighbourhood team together with partners were awarded Exemplar status for the partnership work conducted within the Thornhill estate. This work was in recognition for the high level of partnership engagement which saw a 75% reduction in anti-social behaviour across the estate.

The exemplar status was awarded by a team of national experts which included The Home Office, Local Government Associations and also the association of Police Authorities. Cwmbran was one of twelve sites across the country to receive this recognition and the only one in Wales.

Summer Community Initiative

Cwmbran neighbourhood officers have set up an initiative to engage with local youths from the Thornhill estate during the summer months. The initiative involves taking the youths on fishing trips at Cefn Mably lakes.

This has been jointly funded by local partners who will also take part. Five trips have been planned which will give youths an opportunity to learn how to fish with the tuition of professional fishing coaches. The days will be jointly supervised by Cwmbran neighbourhood officers and community youth workers.

Off-Road Motorcycle Operation

In May 09 Cwmbran and Pontypool Neighbourhood teams together with colleagues from the roads policing unit took part in an off-road motorcycle operation to target persistent offenders. The operation ran over a two day period and this resulted in the seizure of two off-road bikes. Several section 59 warning notices being issued and one arrest.

SILVER CADRE

Report of male shot, Ebbw Vale

During the early hours of 7th June a call was received that a male had been shot in Ebbw Vale and was seriously injured. Due to the nature of the call, firearms officers were dispatched and Silver took command. An investigation into the circumstances then followed which included attendance at addresses to confirm the circumstances. This meant that accurate information which indicated that he had not been injured was collated and the authority to arm was withdrawn.

UNIFORMED OPERATIONS

AUTOMATIC NUMBER PLATE RECOGNITION (ANPR) TEAM

May 2009

The ANPR unit were involved in the following operations:

- **Operation Mermaid**
- **National Rogue Trader (ANPR Lead)**
- **Cross Border Operation OHIO 6**

During times where no divisional operations had been planned ANPR officers deployed to the motorway fixed site cameras and defaulted to Operation Reunite priorities.

- 16 arrests
- 26 vehicles recovered under Section 165
- 2 cannabis seizures
- 31 persons reported for document offences

June 2009

The ANPR unit were involved in the following operations:

- **Operation Utah 6 – Gwent**
- **Cross Border operation with South Wales Police**
- **Taxi Licensing Operation in partnership with Newport City**
- **Abertillery Cruiser operation**
- **Blackwood Cruisers**
- **Operation Utah – Gloucester**
- **Summer Drink Drive Campaign**

During times where no divisional operations had been planned ANPR officers deployed to the motorway fixed site cameras and defaulted to Operation Reunite priorities.

- 27 arrests
- 45 vehicles recovered Section 165
- 4 Section 59 warnings
- 3 cannabis seizure
- 52 persons reported for document offences

ARMED RESPONSE UNIT (ARU)

Force-wide Operations

During the months of May and June 2009 the Armed Response Unit took part in the following force-wide activities:

Operation Rogue Trader; Operation Mermaid; Operation Ohio; Operation Utah; Operation Reunite and Operation Beverage.

Firearms and Taser Incidents

The figures for the months of May and June 2009 show that the number of force-wide incidents attended with Taser / Firearms authority to arm were 89 in total.

Out of these incidents 67 involved the granting of Taser and 22 of full Conventional Firearms Authority.

POLICE DOGS

PC 425 Allen & PD Caster

PC Allen and PD Caster responded to a report of police officers pursuing a stolen Land Rover in the Abergavenny area. When the Land Rover stopped a man ran off into the fields chased by the officers. PC Allen approached the scene and along with PD Caster found the man making his way up an embankment onto a nearby carriageway, where he promptly gave himself up.

PC 745 Jones & PD Joey

A quad bike was stolen during a burglary in the Abergavenny area. Traffic police then found the bike and rider in the grounds of a nearby factory. In an attempt to evade police, the rider crashed and was thrown from the bike and then fled across fields. PC Jones and PD Joey arrived at the scene and began tracking. After twenty minutes of tracking they found the offender on the riverbank.

PC 745 Jones & PD Joey

In the Crumlin area a report was received of a man having been assaulted with a crowbar by two other men. Details of the offender's vehicle was circulated and was located by an ANPR unit. The vehicle failed to stop, but after a short pursuit, it came to a halt when one man gave himself up and was detained while the other made off over the fields. PC Jones and PD Joey arrived at the scene and began to track, which led them to a nearby home address of one of the suspects. He was subsequently found emerging from a neighbour's garden. He initially attempted to flee, but was advised that PD Joey would be deployed and decided to give himself up.

PC 730 Wood & PD Roy

PC Wood and PD Roy attended a residential address in the Abertillery area, where a window had been found smashed and door unsecured. PD Roy tracked a short distance to a nearby garden where two men were found in a tent. Both were arrested on suspicion of burglary.

PC 966 Nicholls & PD Deni

In the Calidot area, a vehicle had failed to stop for officers and after a short pursuit the driver decamped within a housing estate and fled. PC Nicholls & PD Deni began to track through the estate and found a man under a tree attempting to hide. When he was searched he had the car keys to the vehicle in his underwear.

PC 730 Wood & PD Roy

A burglary was committed in the Ystrad Mynach area and a report was received of three men making off from the scene. The force helicopter was requested and was able to guide PC Wood & PD Roy to a wooded area. PD Roy tracked and found three men hiding in the wood where they were arrested by CID officers.

PC 235 Gwynne & PD Aron

A burglary occurred at Rogerstone Police Station and four people were seen to run off. One person was arrested following a foot chase by officers. PC Gwynne & PD Aron arrived at the scene and tracked through the estate, where they located a second man hiding in bushes and was subsequently arrested.

PC 425 Allen & PD Caffrey

PC Allen & PD Caffrey assisted with a drugs warrant at an address in Newport. Officers searched the premises with a negative result, but PD Caffrey showed significant interest in the garden of the property. After a while he indicated to PD Allen interest around the side of the garden pond. PC Allen took a closer inspection and retrieved a number of wraps of a brown substance. It is believed that this substance is heroin with a value of approximately £5,000.

PC 2001 North & PD Kenny

In the lanes of Caerleon response officers requested the assistance of PC North and PD Kenny to help locate a driver who had crashed a vehicle and fled from the scene. PD Kenny tracked from the vehicle approximately 150 metres to a hedgerow where a man was found hiding. The offender was on the POPOS list and was arrested for disqualified driving, drink driving and going equipped to steal.

PC 235 Gwynne & PD Aron

PC Gwynne & PD Aron attended a public house following a report of a disturbance and a serious assault in Pill. A crowd had become hostile and threatening towards officers. PD Aron was deployed and successfully helped to disperse the crowd.

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

The figures for the period 01st May 2009 to 29th June 2009 show that the number of Force-wide Taser incidents was 67 and the number of firearm authorities given was 22

Weapon Examinations

During this time period 44 weapon examinations were carried out by PC 141 Talbot of the Firearms Unit, saving the Organisation approximately £11,000 (based on a £250 charge per weapon) compared to sourcing this work from within the private sector.

VOSA Operations

RPU Motorcyclists support VOSA (Vehicle and Operator Services Agency) led operations take place several times a month. This is an ongoing partnership operation looking at offences committed by operators of Large Goods Vehicles. During the last two months RPU motorcyclists have supported 8 VOSA led operations, which have resulted in 407 vehicle stops with 191 offences being detected.

Carriage Dangerous Goods (CDG) Operation

On 25th June RPU officers participated in a National CDG operation targeting offences relating to CDG safety measures. A total of 32 vehicles were stopped and 14 were carrying hazardous goods. Three hazardous goods offences were detected and five prohibition notices were issued.

Operation Darwen

During May and June, RPU Motorcycle officers participated in three joint operations with Dyfed Powys Police, an initiative which targeted antisocial use of motorcycles and motorcycle casualties. 172 Vehicles were stopped, 31 offences were dealt with.

TISPOL (Traffic Information Systems Police) Anti Drink/Drugs Driving Campaign

Between 1st and 7th June Roads Policing Unit Officers together with the Response Units and the Local Policing Units participated in an all European anti-drink/drugs driving campaign. Results of the campaign are in the process of being collated. TISPOL is the European Union Traffic Police Network which seeks to co-ordinate and share roads policing good practice throughout the European Union.

In Gwent 5,410 drivers were tested of which 30 were arrested for drink/drugs driving

Summer Anti Drink/Drugs Driving Campaign

This operation ran from 1st to 30th June. The objective was to reduce the number of road casualties and raise awareness of road safety issues on the highways of Gwent by: Deterring drink / drug driving. Detecting and arresting those drivers who continue to drink / drug drive. Maintaining the support of the motoring public and local communities. Educating the public in road safety issues. A total of 20772 drivers were tested of which 124 were arrested for drink/drugs driving.

SUPPORT GROUP

Operations

The Support Group were involved in the following operations:-

- Operation Utah – Cross border ANPR Crime reduction operation
- Operation re unite – Car crime operation
- In response to the support group with cross border burglaries occurring in the Monmouthshire LPU area, an operation was put together which when executed resulted in the arrest of a male driving a £28,000 Audi A3 motor car stolen earlier that evening from the in the Hereford area. Subsequently a further 3 burglary offences were detected. Wales Open Golf Tournament 2009-07-06 Four day deployment
- Operation Port Cullis – VIP visit

Incidents of note

Support group has been heavily involved in the deconstruction and search of cannabis factories in particular a very large cannabis factory located in the Caldicot area. An industrial unit on a scale that has far exceeded anything previously found in the Gwent Policing area.

CASUALTY REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

Speed Awareness Courses

The Speed Awareness Course (SAC) has been introduced across the force from June 2009. Any driver who is detected driving at the relevant speed and has not previously attended a course within a 3 year period, will be offered a course in the area where the offence was committed in lieu of a fine and penalty points.

The course is theory only and will last approximately four hours. Attendance on the course will attract a fee payable by the offender. The objective is that the offender has an increased awareness of Road Safety issues and how they contribute to and impact upon these issues.

SOUTH AND EAST WALES AIR SUPPORT UNIT UPDATE

Off road Motorcycle operation

On 2nd and 3rd May 2009, the unit took part in an off road motorcycle operation in the Gelligaer area.

Stolen Vehicle – Chepstow

At 19:15hrs on 2nd May 2009, an outstanding stolen vehicle came over the Second Severn crossing and was picked up on ANPR. The aircraft, working in conjunction with RPU units, ensured that the vehicle was stopped at J28 on the M4. Four persons were detained.

Off Road bikes - Tredegar

At 13:45hrs on 3rd May 2009, whilst on an off road operation the crew sighted three off road bikes in the Senghenydd area, Police unit's were advised and stopped them.

Burglary – Christchurch

At 10:35hrs on 8th May 2009, the aircraft was requested in searching for persons connected with a dwelling house burglary who were believed to still be in the area. The crew sighted 3 persons fitting description in a wooded area nearby; they were followed on camera into Caerleon road where local officers detained them.

Casevac - Aberbargoed

On 12th May 2009, the ambulance service requested assistance in conveying an unconscious casualty who had fallen from his bike on the mountainside at Aberbargoed. The crew re-rolled the aircraft and the casualty and paramedic were conveyed to the Prince Charles hospital in Merthyr.

Stabbing - Rhymney

At 15:50hrs on 18th May 2009, a male was stabbed at High street, Rhymney and potentially had life threatening injuries. The aircraft was requested to search two industrial estates and whilst in the area the assailant went into a pharmacy and was detained.

Wanted persons- Rhymney

On 9th June aircraft attends Rhymney area to assist in search for a man and woman who were wanted for serious offences in Dyfed Powys and West Mercia. These persons had also recently been involved in a fail to stop RTC in Rhymney where they had also assaulted occupants of a car. Whilst at the scene acting on further intelligence, the aircraft carried out a search of nearby mountainside and located both persons.

Misper- Usk

On 9th June the aircraft attended the A449 near to Usk to provide lighting in relation to the rescue of a female found close to her overturned vehicle adjacent to the carriageway. This female had been reported missing earlier that day having failed to return from a concert in Coventry the previous night.

Mispers-Tintern

On 20th June the aircraft attended at the Tintern area to search for two persons who had become lost and subsequently trapped on a rock face above the old railway line at Tintern. They were located and removed to safety.

EMERGENCY PLANNING/CIVIL CONTINGENCIES

Swine Flu

A Police Pandemic Influenza Plan was produced to prepare us for Exercise Taliesin. The emergence of Swine flu within days of Ex Taliesin was remarkable, but meant we had a newly produced and exercised plan to follow. The Gwent police plan has been forwarded to other Welsh forces and has been adopted by at least one of them as a template for their own plan.

On the wide view, Swine Flu continues to dominate most of our activities at the moment. Not only are we facilitating the regular Strategic Coordination Group (SCG) meetings, but we are also attending numerous other related planning meetings, such as the antiviral distribution meetings for the Local Health Boards (of which there are five within Gwent), and mass fatality planning meetings. Simultaneously we are progressing our internal BCM arrangements (see below).

Whilst Swine Flu has largely disappeared from the headlines at the moment, the medical advice is that there is a very real chance of it returning in the autumn / winter during our normal flu period, possibly in a more aggressive form.

Wales Open Golf

The Wales Open golf tournament took place at the start of June, with Emergency Planning staff present at each days play to provide advice in the event of any major incident, and to help to identify any issues that may need to be addressed for the Ryder Cup.

Silver Command Vehicle

Our Major Incident Silver Command vehicle is now being built. The facilities available on this vehicle are being linked with those on the silver cadre vehicle to ensure they are appropriate. This vehicle will allow far better communication between the scene of an incident and our newly refurbished 'gold' room at HQ. Completion is due in August.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT

National Tackling Drugs Week

This year's National Tackling Drugs Week was held from 8 to 12 June and was an opportunity for local agencies to publicise the efforts they've made to tackle drugs and drug-related crime.

As a result of a decision at The WALES Regional Senior Detective Officers Conference, Chaired by ACC Colette PAUL, all activity across WALES during the 2009 campaign will be centrally coordinated. DCS Wise nominated Gwent to lead this campaign for the Region.

The objectives for Tackling Drugs Week were:

- To raise public awareness of what local partnerships and police forces are doing to tackle drugs and drug-related crime in their area.
- To raise awareness amongst the public of what the Government are doing to tackle drugs and drug-related crime.
- To increase public confidence in the police and local agencies to tackle drugs and drug-related crime.
- To generate engagement with stakeholders in the Governments Drug Strategy as well as raise awareness and understanding of the Governments new Public Service Agreements (particularly PSA 23 and 25) and specifically PSA 25 indicator 4 on the perceptions of drugs.

Over 200 arrests were made for the period 8 to 11 June 2009. Whilst the arrests were predominantly drug related, some included wanted persons. A total of 115 premises were searched following the execution of search warrants. In excess of 100 persons were stop and searched. A significant quantity of controlled drugs was recovered (still being examined), including a considerable amount of cannabis leaf and hydroponics equipment, heroin, amphetamine and valium. In excess of One hundred thousand pounds (£100k) has been seized under POCA.

A comprehensive list of activity took place across Wales involving CSPS, NPTs, Neighbourhood Managers, PCSOs, Youth Teams, DIPs, Schools. Licensed premises, Community workshops and Mobile Substance Misuse Units. There was local and regional media coverage, leaflet drops and NTDW T-shirts were distributed.

A more complete results analysis will follow and will include recommendations for future All Wales Coordination.

It is an excellent example of co-ordination of resources throughout Wales. DI Peter Jones deserves praise for the campaign, the results and the co-ordination achieved throughout the Region.