



Ilfracombe Rescue Day, where spectators enjoyed a demonstration by our partner agencies including the Fire Service and the Police.

Safe & Sound – Safer North Devon News



Amanda Palmer,
SND Manager

Welcome to the Autumn edition of **Safe & Sound** where you can find out about local community safety news and our work.

Police and Councils work with other partner agencies as Safer North Devon to ensure North Devon and Torridge remains a great place to live. Based at Barnstaple Police Station, we work jointly with our partners to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, to signpost people to specialist agencies who can help them and to improve quality of life for communities across the region.

In August we went to Ilfracombe Rescue Day, as featured on our front cover, to help raise awareness of emergency rescue services and our work.

Spectators also enjoyed a dedicated display by our partner agencies including; the Fire Service and the Police.

The following pages bring you more news about our work. We'd love to hear your comments.

Our contact details can be found on the back page.

Young people get active to stay safe

The Fire Service ran a scheme this summer to give young people (aged 8 –12 years) an opportunity to take part in football coaching and to learn life safety skills.

Organised by Safer North Devon, the Police and Torridge District Council, Soccersafe was introduced after it was identified that young people had little to do in three priority neighbourhoods in Bideford, contributing to unacceptable amounts of anti-social behaviour (ASB).

Soccersafe is extremely valuable as it engages and develops relationships with young people, local schools, key partners and most importantly local families.

"The primary aim is to engage young people in an enjoyable activity whilst providing an opportunity for them to learn about ASB, fire reduction and arson," says Graham Rooke, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service.

"It helps reduce speeding, arson and ASB, including the abuse of Fire Fighters and the Police. It also gives us access to potential offenders, increases young people's understanding of the emergency services, allows them to integrate with adults in a safe environment, helps young people understand why health and fitness is so important and signposts young people to other clubs and



Soccersafe in Bideford

This year street dance classes were also introduced and a dance off led by the Torrington Streetz crew, with feedback suggesting that everyone involved would like to participate again.

Funded by the partner agencies, the programme culminates in a tournament day at Bideford Football club where the winning teams are presented with medals sponsored by Safer North Devon.

"One of the Fire Services priorities is Community Safety," says Alan Kyle, Safer North Devon. "By working together we can provide the best solutions to solve local crime and ASB, and work together to make North Devon and Torridge a safer place to live, work and visit."

Youngsters learn new skills to stay safe

Junior Life Skills is a workshop programme targeted at all Year 5 and 6 school children across North Devon and Torridge to provide them with the chance to learn about important information to help keep them safe.

Run by Safer North Devon partners; the Police, Fire Service and North Devon and Torridge Council Environmental Health Departments, plus voluntary organisations and utility companies. The workshops aim to build closer working with local schools and families.

Youngsters learn about anti-social behaviour and how this can affect others, personal health, alcohol awareness and fire safety, including how to manage a chip pan fire.



Junior Life Skills workshop at Barnstaple Football Club where children try to walk in a straight line while wearing beer goggles

"It's a great example of partner organisations working together to help young people learn how to protect themselves and to improve quality of life for communities across the region, says Amanda Palmer, Safer North Devon Manager.

For more information call: tel: 01237 428919 or visit: www.safernorthdevon.co.uk

STOP ASB Now - new advice for residents

A new anti-social behaviour (ASB) leaflet is now available for local residents to explain how they can get help to resolve any problems of ASB they experience locally. Developed by Tarka Housing Residents Association, in direct response to requests from local residents, the new leaflet provides:

- ◆ a basic understanding of what ASB is
- ◆ tips on how to avoid it
- ◆ how it may affect others, be perceived by them
- ◆ who deals with it in North Devon
- ◆ how to report it.



Tarka Housing Residents group with the new ASB leaflet

"The Tarka Housing Residents group felt the leaflet would encourage people to report anti-social behaviour and to not suffer in silence," says, Kate Morne, Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator, Safer North Devon.

"They were a great help in developing the new leaflet and provided advice and guidance about the content and design ensuring the leaflet was easy to understand and informative."

Anti-social behaviour can affect anyone at any time. ASB locally is reducing, however if you are a victim it's important to seek help.

The leaflet is available from public display areas at local housing providers, your local authority, the Fire Service and the Police.

A downloadable copy is also available at: www.safernorthdevon.co.uk

Or contact Safer North Devon on tel: 01271 335241.

Local statistics

- ◆ Devon and Cornwall is the 4th safest area in the entire country.
- ◆ North Devon police area has one of the best crime detection rates in the UK.
- ◆ We are on track to achieve another year of crime reduction for the 11th consecutive year.
- ◆ Overall crime is down by 10 % on last year.
- ◆ There were 1,300 less victims of crime locally compared to this time last year.
- ◆ 77.4% of people agree that the Police and Councils are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime that matters in North Devon and Torridge.
- ◆ 8 in 10 people feel very safe or fairly safe when walking alone in their area after dark.

April 2010 latest information

For more information on crime statistics visit:

<http://maps.police.uk/view/devon-cornwall>

Domestic Abuse

Are you experiencing domestic abuse and need help?. According to police statistics for 2009/10 there were 2198 recorded incidents approximately 79% of these were against women and 16% men. In Devon Children were present in nearly 1 in 2 incidents of domestic abuse.

Locally we encourage reporting of all domestic abuse so that victims are able to get support and advice and so that perpetrators can be brought to justice. Each November a big campaign is run across Devon to raise awareness of domestic abuse and to highlight the support available for victims and their families.

This year local events, organised by North Devon Women's Aid (NDWA), will be taking place from 22nd –26th November including Bingo at the Barnstaple British Legion (23rd) and The Casino Royale Ball at the Barnstaple Hotel on the 26th November.

For further information and help ring NDWA on tel: 01271 321946 (main office). If you are in immediate danger call 999. Or visit: www.safernorthdevon.co.uk/domestic-violence.asp



Safe & Sound Newsletter Needs You

We listen to and act upon your ideas and contributions so keep telling us about your concerns and we'll keep working on solutions to address them. We are interested to hear your views. Please contact us at info@safernorthdevon.co.uk

Safer North Devon

Police (Devon and Cornwall Constabulary) and Councils (North Devon Council and Torridge District Council) are working together with five other partner agencies (Devon County Council, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, Devon Primary Care Trust, Devon and Cornwall Police Authority and Devon and Cornwall Probation Area) to reduce crime and improve quality of life across North Devon and Torridge.

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For more details about Safer North Devon or for information and support about any of the issues raised in this newsletter visit: www.safernorthdevon.co.uk

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