



# Neighbourhood Policing News



As summer is here it is again the time of year when the local young people spend more time hanging around the town. Most will come out to enjoy the weather and spend time with their friends in some of the town's sociably acceptable areas, such as the Recreation fields, Barra Park and Pentylands lane.

Sometimes the gathering of large groups can cause some residents to fear anti sociable behaviour (ASB) in the form of under-age drinking, the taking of illegal substances and being rude to others.

Most of our young people are actually better behaved than some users of the local pubs, who will quite happily roll home at the end of the evening singing out a favourite tune in the early hours, or shouting abusive language at each other as a way of saying good night to the rest of the town.

Highworth's Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) will deal robustly with any person who feels that, to enjoy the summer, they need to partake in ASB, underage drinking or even supplying the local town's youth with alcohol, which will fuel the ASB.

Here are some offences to bear in mind:

Section 91 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967 makes it an offence to behave in a disorderly manner in a public place whilst being drunk.

The Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act 1997 was introduced to address young people drinking alcohol on the streets. The Act allows the police to confiscate intoxicating liquor from persons under eighteen years old in certain public places.

Under the Licensing Act 2003, alcohol cannot be sold to anyone under the age of 18 (Section 146); Section 149 (1) says an individual aged under 18 cannot buy or attempt to buy alcohol; Section 149

(3) says no person may buy or attempts to buy alcohol on behalf of an individual aged under 18.

The NPT welcomes any information about the above offences being committed.

The local youth services are working hard to provide alternative activities for the youth of the town, which will aim to tackle the issues surrounding the congregation of youths during the summer months.

I am also aware that sometimes as parents or carers it is difficult to deal with issues surrounding alcohol and substance abuse, and it will sometimes be easier to turn a blind eye. You can get help and advice from The U-TURN team at Swindon Borough Council, Tel: (01793) 464 345. They are specialists with young people who misuse alcohol and drugs (all illicit substances, solvents, prescribed medication, excluding tobacco). They work with youths between the ages of 10 and 18 yrs of age, and are keen to work closely with carers and parents of young people to help understand issues surrounding alcohol and substance abuse.

Just a quick reminder that you can speak to a member of the NPT team or street warden team at the Highworth Council Community Room on Monday mornings, 10am to 11am.

Enjoy the good weather!

PC 1945 Marc Jackson

Community Beat Manager

Tel: 0845 408 7000 ext 738815 or e-mail: [marc.jackson@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:marc.jackson@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

## Job Opportunity: Parish Council Project Coordinator

South Marston Parish Council is looking for someone to fill their Project Coordinator post.

The main objective of the Project Coordinator is to increase social activity in the village. The applicant must be interested in improving community spirit with the aim of achieving a socially vibrant village. The successful applicant will be capable of working with people, making things happen and have an interest in using the village website as a key communication tool. The applicant will be expected to liaise with the Parish Council at its regular meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday in every month.

It is a paid post and involves approximately 18 hours per month as agreed with the Parish Council

If this is a job you would be interested in, contact the Clerk, Roger Powell on (01793) 827515.

## Five miles to fabulous!

Ladies, are you up for getting healthy, having fun and meeting new friends? Then get to The REC on **Sunday 8th June** from 2pm for 2.30 start on a return bike ride to Swindon.

When you arrive, you will be met by a friendly cycle leader who will show you some basic skills and then guide you on a gentle five-mile ride on traffic-free or quiet lanes.

Not been on a bike in a while? No problem. All you need to bring is a bike that works, yourself and a smile! For details visit

[www.fivemilestofabulous.com](http://www.fivemilestofabulous.com)