

teamwork

Keeping our Community Safe

Safer South Derbyshire Partnership

Safer Neighbourhoods newsletter

Boxes prove clever way to tackle ASB



Receipts carry help number

An unusual way of supplying a domestic abuse helpline number is currently being used by the Partnership.

Since the beginning of May anyone shopping in the Sainsbury's Express store in Newhall will have seen the telephone number of the Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Helpline included among the adverts on the back of their receipt.

The idea is that anyone who needs the number can easily keep the receipt without arousing the attention or suspicions of anyone around them.

As well as the telephone number the colour advert says "Domestic Abuse is a crime" and reminds people that "You do not have to suffer alone".

If people from other areas ring the Helpline number on the receipts they can select options relevant to themselves.

The advert will continue to appear on all receipts issued at the store until July.

The Derbyshire Domestic Abuse Helpline number is 0800 0198 668 and callers need to press 6 for South Derbyshire.

A high-tech security system introduced in Swadlincote by the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership is proving highly effective and attracting plenty of attention from outside the area, according to an evaluation report.

Called AlertBox, the system creates a digital network linking boxes placed in premises in the town. About the size of a paperback book, the boxes transmit warning messages to others on the system at the touch of a button.

Evaluation of the system has revealed that 100% of users have received a response from neighbours when using their AlertBox; 96% confirmed AlertBox had reduced their fear of anti social behaviour and 87% said AlertBox had reduced the fear of isolation in worrying situations.

This success has resulted in interest from other community safety partnerships and police

forces. Partnership team staff from areas including South Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire and Police from Lincolnshire have visited Swadlincote to see the system in action, with a view to following South Derbyshire's good example.

Following the evaluation the system was officially launched at the end of April by Shadow Home Secretary Chris Grayling MP came to see the AlertBox network. He visited several shops using the boxes, saw how it operates and chatted to staff about how useful they think it is.

Partnership Safer Neighbourhoods Officer Phil Marriott says: "The system is helping to reduce low level crime and anti-social behaviour and along with the recently created Business Watch scheme it is playing a significant role in building a stronger business community in Swadlincote."

£50 voucher for winner

A capacity audience packed Bretby Conference Centre at the end of May for what an extremely successful South Derbyshire Liberation Day 2009.

Almost 600 people, including many from Church Gresley, Midway, Newhall, Swadlincote and Woodville attended the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership's event, which provided people aged 50 and over with the opportunity to visit dozens of exhibitors that offer services and goods to them, to enjoy live entertainment and to chat with experts about safety, health and well-being.

Organisations that exhibited at the event included Careline, Get Active in the Forest, Neighbourhood Watch, SDDC Housing Advice, Derbyshire Criminal Justice Board, South Derbyshire CVS and Victim Support and many of them reported an excellent response.

A bingo game introduced for the first time at the event was won by Vicki Gregg of Dundee Road, Midway, who said: "I am very pleased to



be a winner and I think the game was a good idea as it did make people visit the stalls."

She was sent a £50 shopping voucher as her prize for filling the most squares.

In the afternoon The Rat Pack Vegas Spectacular Show, complete with Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis provided upbeat entertainment, which got the audience singing and dancing.

June 2009

CAMPAIGN RAISES THE AGE LIMIT

Pubs and off-licenses throughout South Derbyshire are being asked by the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership to introduce Challenge 25, and are being told that spot visits will be operating to check if they are implementing it.

Challenge 25, which replaces the Challenge 21 scheme, will force all those over 18 but under 25 to carry photo ID if they wish to buy alcohol.

As well as helping cut under-age sales, the new threshold should help prevent the offence of proxy purchase – where young adults buy alcohol on behalf of underage friends.

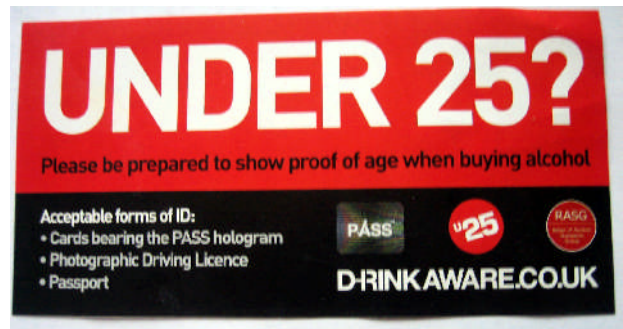
The new signage makes it clear that under-25s must expect to be challenged to prove their age. The literature shows what forms of ID can be used and spells out the heavy fines which could follow for those caught breaking the law.

Around 150 packs containing badges, posters and pens have been put together by the Partnership and are being delivered to pubs

and off-licence premises by visits from the district's licensing team and PCSOs as well as by post.

In the letter accompanying the pack, licensees are also being asked to check forms of identification provided by young people very carefully, as, the letter says: "We have had reports of fake ID being used in the area."

Sarah Dagley, Safer Neighbourhoods Officer with the Partnership who has written the letter, says: "We had a reasonable response when we approached licensed premises last year with the Challenge 21 scheme and we are hoping to see a wider acceptance of the new scheme, which is being backed by the Retail of Alcohol Standards Group (RASG).



"Checks will be made on an on-going basis by members of the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership's Violence, Alcohol harm and Licensing (VAL) group which include the Police, South Derbyshire District Council licensing officers and Trading Standards, to ensure that alcohol is not being sold to anyone under 18 or to those buying it on behalf of underage drinkers."

Teenagers are given a taste of the action!

A six-week cookery course, made possible by a £500 grant from the South Area's safer neighbourhoods funding, is just coming to an end after a very successful run. Former publicans Gary and Annette Bristow have been running the club with the help of some volunteers in Overseal Village Hall for 14 to 18 year olds, and it has

proved very popular.

Omelette, soup, apple pie, lasagne, bread and chicken curry have all been on the menu.

Mr Bristow says his aim of giving young people something positive to do has worked really well and he is delighted the young people of the village have taken and enjoyed the opportunity.

The Safer South Derbyshire Partnership's Safer Communities Manager Chris Smith says: "We are pleased to have been able to support this project and hope its initial success can be carried forward in some way.

"It has proved to be a good example of a different idea that can result from discussions between various groups within a community."

Other ideas that have come from the project include working with allotment holders in the village and playing a part in the annual gala.



SEPTEMBER 2009 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD MEETINGS

The next round of Safer Neighbourhood meetings, taking place in September, is planned as follows:

Central Area: Swadlincote – Woodville - Church Gresley - Hartshorne

6:30pm, Tuesday 1st September at Sharpe's Pottery Museum

Newhall and Midway Area: Newhall - Midway - Stanton

6:30pm, Monday 7th September at The Old Post, Newhall

South Area: Overseal - Linton - Netherseal - Coton- Castle Gresley - Walton-on-Trent - Lullington - Rosliston

6:30pm, Wednesday 9th September at Coton-in-the-Elms Community Centre

Library visits go well

Members of the Safer South Derbyshire support team toured the district at the end of April to chat with residents, offer advice and answer community safety questions as part of Community Safety Week in Derbyshire County Council libraries.

Throughout the week bookmarks, information leaflets and property marking kits were handed out.

Team visits included ones to the libraries in Swadlincote and Woodville.

Useful contact numbers

Safer South Derbyshire Partnership - 01283 595924

ASB helpline - 01283 595795

Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111

Police Non Emergency number - 0345 123 33 33

Next Step (against domestic abuse) - 01283 229 854

Victim Support - 01629 825864

Youth Information Shop - 01283 217666

Read all our latest news online www.south-derbys.gov.uk/SSDP