



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Big rise in violent crime on Anglesey

Apr 23 2009 Daily Post

VIOLENT crime rose by more than 12% across the region in the first three months of 2009 – **including a huge jump of 44% on Anglesey.**

In total 90 more violent incidents happened on the island from January to March 2009, compared to the same three months the previous year.

In parts of Holyhead the statistics are far worse with the Morawelon ward showing a 154.5% increase and Kingsland close behind, with a 137.5% rise.

Regionally, Conwy saw a 22% increase in offences with 82 violent offences in the first three months of this year.

Denbighshire went up by 19.7% or 68 incidents, Gwynedd went up by 11.4% or 47 crimes, while Wrexham saw a 2.8% increase with 17 more incidents than in 2008.

Flintshire, which has the region's highest number of recorded violent incidents at 2245, saw the lowest percentage increase of 2.6%.

This equates to 122 more violent crimes than in the same period in 2008.

Fears have been raised that the standard of policing on Anglesey would suffer, as the police district of South Anglesey, centred on the market town of Llangefni, were amalgamated with Holyhead under one inspector.

The one island approach came into effect on April 1.

Holyhead Town Councillor, Jeff Evans said: *"These figures are scandalous.*

*"I'm still aggrieved with the decision to amalgamate the Holyhead Police division with the rest of Anglesey, I think its impact can only be bad for the town. We've asked for senior police figures to come here to Holyhead and explain this decision. There was no consultation at all. The police said that **the local inspector, Nigel Harrison** will come and see us, but the decision was made by someone higher up the chain of command than him, and we want to talk to them.*

"I've noted that Chief Constable Brunstrom is looking to move to the Cayman islands when he retires and I can't help feeling sorry for them.

"They are too interested in easy policing such as dealing minor car offences rather than crimes that need proper investigation."

Holyhead Mayor Ailia Lewis said: *"You don't see enough police out on the streets. "I get on well with police officers and PCSO's but they don't seem too visible at the moment. You can't have CCTV*

everywhere. There is a need for the Police to stop and talk to people get to know the area on foot rather than driving around in cars."

Superintendent Gareth Wynne of the Caernarfon based Western Command Team, said: *"It is important to ensure that a holistic view is taken when attempting to put crime statistics into context. Ynys Môn remains one of the safest areas in England and Wales. The overall crime rate for the 12-month period, April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, fell by 1.6%, when compared with the same 12-month period of 2007/08. In addition to reducing crime rates, the chances of offenders being brought to justice for the crimes they do commit on Anglesey are amongst the highest in England and Wales"*.

Meanwhile back in cloud cuckoo land ...

North Wales Police to use texts to tell boozers to behave

Apr 23 2009 by Kelly Fenna, Daily Post

MOBILE phone messages warning revellers not to drink too much and be vigilant could be used in the crackdown against alcohol-related crime.

North Wales Police are considering investing in Bluetooth software kits to reach out to club-goers.

Customised messages flash up on people's mobile phones urging them to stay safe on a night out.

It could also be used to help detect bigger crimes, find missing children or warn of bad batches of drugs that may be circulating.

Police officers alongside the Conwy and Denbighshire Community Safety Partnership are considering buying the equipment and placing pods in Prestatyn and Rhyl.

Last night, **Inspector Jonny Hill** said: *"We would urge people to have their Bluetooth switched on so that when they walk past the portable pods, a message flashes up on their phone.*

"They could be anything from don't drink and drive, has your drink been spiked? or beware of pick-pockets.

"The idea is we customise the message and could use them at a whole host of events. Other forces have successfully piloted the system, which can also be used to crack down on other crimes. There is a wide range of things we could do with the equipment."

The software, which can be run from a laptop, **costs £1,500 a kit**. It detects other devices operating within a 30 metre radius and sends messages to people who are using their mobiles and laptops.

The user will then receive notification on their screen that police or the partnership are trying to make contact and can then choose to accept the request.

At the moment, police are still in discussions with makers Bloowire as to whether to **buy two packs using (OUR TAX) money from the partnership fund**.

Insp Hill added: *"Technology is evolving and this is a good way to target the younger generation. We are aware that when people get a Bluetooth message asking them if they would like to accept it, they may well say no. But we are working on raising more awareness of the scheme and the benefits which will include free downloads, pictures and video clips as well as an alcohol unit counter."*

Meanwhile back in the REAL world rarely frequented by the JONNY Hills of NWPF

Seven cars damaged in Holyhead rampage

Apr 23 2009 Daily Post

POLICE in Holyhead are **appealing for information** after seven vehicles were damaged causing hundreds of pounds worth of damage.

A North Wales Police spokeswoman said the damage was caused to vehicles parked in the Morawelon area of the town sometime between 11pm on Friday, April 17 and 7am on Saturday, April 19.

"The door of one vehicle was damaged and an ignition barrel was also damaged. Some of the vehicles were also moved," she said.

North Wales Police Authority said *"Further to our telephone conversation today the figure you requested for the total **police precept for Isle of Anglesey for 2009/10 is £5,714,985."***

The PPP comments ... During the 6 years the PPP have been campaigning nothing much has really changed. We still believe that community Policing is the poor relation to all the other things that they would rather do for OUR money. The latest fad, partnership working, means even less time policing and much dabbling in everything from litter collecting to social engineering. Meanwhile private security operators have to be hired for the streets of Rhyl

We did see an improvement when a very active (and ambitious) District Inspector, Andrew Williams, was managing the policing in North Anglesey. Now Chief Inspector, he has been promoted to a desk job in Western Division HQ in Caernarfon as has our once effective community sergeant Guy Blackwell.

We will be sending this article to the Police Authority for the Attention of our PA representative for Anglesey Cllr. Peter Rogers, and to our senior elected representative Albert Owen MP. We expect a response from both Gentlemen.

Note that the architect of this already failing reorganisation, head of the Western Division, CS Geraint Anwyl, the man who vociferously led the NWPF's abusive and ineffective road policing for many years, is, so far conspicuously absent from this debate.