

# **“ PPP ”**

## **People for Proper Policing in North Wales**

Area Inspector Andrew Williams is leaving Holyhead .....his last *blog* follows ...

*It is about the right time for me to announce the worst kept secret in Holyhead. I will be leaving the district at the beginning of August to take up a temporary promotion to Chief Inspector, based at Caernarfon. I will still have a working responsibility for Holyhead. However, this is shared with the other 6 districts in the Western area of the force. My successor is **Inspector Nigel Harrison** who has served in Holyhead both as a constable and as a sergeant, so he is very familiar with the area. I have every confidence that he will continue and improve on the success we have achieved in North Anglesey over the last 2 years. Although I am really looking forward to the new challenge that awaits me, my departure is tinged with a degree of sadness as I have very much enjoyed serving the people of North Anglesey, as head of the district, over the last two years. Together with our partners and the general public, we have made huge inroads into neighbourhood policing and tackling criminality is what was once an area (in the case of Holyhead at least) that had a reputation for violent crime. Let's reflect a little:*

- *Crime rates have been slashed. Incidents of burglary in the home have been reduced by 50%. Violent crime has been reduced by 22%. Vehicle crime has been cut by 30% and all crime has been slashed by 18%*
- *To add to this, offenders here are caught and actively sanctioned in 50% of all cases of crime (much higher than the majority of areas around the country). Violent offenders are brought to justice in 70% of all the reported crime cases in this category (again much higher than in the vast majority of other areas around the UK)*
- ***The Holyhead Safer Drinking Scheme** (recently specially commended by the Secretary of State for Wales) has made a huge impact on crime in the area; specifically alcohol related violent crime. This has included the massive and successful expansion and enhancement of **Pub Watch, a structured accountability process for licensees** (which has so far led to approximately **30 extra license conditions being put in place**), information on safer drinking and pro-active operations on licensed premises.*
- ***The Neighbourhood Policing Team has expanded from 6 to 13 officers and now has a much better focus than ever before.***
- *A low tolerance attitude towards criminality has meant people feel far more reassured when going out and about around Holyhead at night (this has come from the pub customers as well people who approach me and my officers on the street). The only people who hate this attitude are the people who fall foul of it and that's success in my book!*
- ***Safety zones have been set up in key spots around Holyhead Town at key times, to ensure there is always a police officer on foot and accessible to members of the public at times when they may feel at their most vulnerable.***
- *Widespread use of new powers like the dispersal order in Valley and the 'Notice to Leave' in the town.*
- ***Better lines of communication with the public (local website forum).***
- ***Pro-active post set up in Holyhead which has dramatically increased the number of offenders arrested for drug supply (several going through the system now and several recently convicted with prison sentences ranging from 2 years to 5 years).***
- *The 'victim of crime' reassurance scheme was set up in Holyhead and has now spread to the whole force.*
- *Closer links forged with the high schools, including senior police officer inputs in the curriculum and exciting new initiatives on the way.*
- *Increased and leading involvement in addressing anti-social behaviour in hot spots like Milbank*

*There is more to come and in particular, you may have read about the 'Smartwater' project that PC Dave Owens and Sgt Owain Llewellyn recently launched in Trearddur Bay. This is expanding to the 'Plas Cybi Communities First' area in the next fortnight (the first area in Holyhead Town to have this) and the support they have given us in relation to funding in particular is massively appreciated as well as being a cracking example of joint agency working. The scheme has the potential to slash burglary rates, in particular, to extremely low levels and huge successes have been achieved around the country with this product ([read more](#)). We have been engineering this project for several months now and our target is to make Holy Island in particular a 'Smartwater Zone' and thus a very unattractive proposition to burglars. We can then expand into the rural areas.*

*There is a lot to be optimistic about in Holyhead and North Anglesey as a whole. You live in an **extremely safe** area when speaking relative to the rest of the UK and I have every confidence that with your help, this will continue to be the case.*

*I am grateful to all our partners (both statutory and otherwise) in what has personally been a thoroughly enjoyable period in charge here. I've said it before and I'll say it again; I am extremely proud of the officers at Holyhead and Valley and I assure you they work relentlessly around the clock for the public of North Anglesey no matter what anyone with an evidently uninformed alternative opinion may say. I am also very grateful to the public of North Anglesey as without your help and support we wouldn't achieve half of the successes we have done **together**.  
Diolch yn Fawr*

**The PPP comments ...** Inspector Williams brought energy, honesty and initiative to Holyhead and North Anglesey. We have **highlighted** the initiatives that best fit the PPP's preference for crime PREVENTION. We wish Andrew well and anticipate even greater emphasis on community Policing in Western Division.