



EASTBOURNE CRIME REDUCTION PARTNERSHIP

“Making Eastbourne Even Safer”

Newsletter - Dec 2010

As Christmas Approaches

The Crime Reduction Partnership has the following advice to reduce the risk of criminals spoiling your Christmas:

- Keep your purse and wallet out of sight when shopping and don't leave handbags unattended in shopping trolleys.
- Keep Christmas presents and gifts out of sight in parked vehicles. Brand new items left on the seats are very tempting to would-be thieves
- Keep vehicles and front doors locked at all times
- Don't leave Christmas presents within sight through windows at home if at all possible
- Don't leave packaging outside your home advertising what you've bought
- Register the serial numbers of all of your property free on www.immobilise.com.

Eastbourne has a low crime rate and these simple precautions will help to ensure that your Christmas is not spoilt.

If you do see anything suspicious please call the Police straightaway by dialling 999.

Operation Reindeer

Eastbourne's Neighbourhood Policing Team and the Business Crime Group have launched Operation Reindeer as the town gears up for Christmas.



While Eastbourne town centre becomes busier in the run up to Christmas there will be additional Police patrols, both uniformed and in plain clothes, to reassure shoppers and deter would-be thieves. Shops will be on the look out for known thieves and trouble makers and store security staff will be working closely with the Police to develop intelligence.

Portfolio holder for Community at Eastbourne Borough Council and Devonshire Councillor, Margaret Bannister said, "Eastbourne is popular for

shopping and entertainment and we fully support this joint operation in the run up to Christmas. Local businesses, the Business Crime Group and the Police, working in partnership, will truly make Eastbourne safer for the festive season."

Quality Streets

The Partnership's third Quality Streets event took place at Whitley Road Recreation Ground despite the heavy rain on Thursday 18th November.

The Quality Streets campaign involves representatives from the Crime Reduction Partnership including the Police, East Sussex Fire and Rescue, Eastbourne Homes, Eastbourne Borough Council, Neighbourhood Watch and local councillors, who met with residents to listen to their concerns and answer any questions they had about community safety.

Neighbourhood Sergeant Gareth Evans said: "Quality Streets is a really positive event that enables the police and partner agencies to engage with the local community to ensure we're tackling the issues that matter most to them. This event was well attended and positive feedback has been received which will assist with future

events. It was great to hear that many local residents feel there has been big improvement in community safety over the last few years and many residents told us that they are happy to see an increased police presence in their area."



If you feel that the area where you live would benefit from being included in the initiative please speak to your local PCSO or contact the Crime Reduction Partnership office on 01323 415346 or e-mail crime.reduction@eastbourne.gov.uk

The Partnership's next Quality Streets is on 14th December at Langney Shopping Centre. There will be more about that event next month.

Eastbourne Safe Place

Eastbourne Crime Reduction Partnership has once again teamed up with NHS East Sussex Downs & Weald to provide a 'Safe Space' in the town centre.



With the full support of Sussex Police and Eastbourne Borough Council, the project aims to promote responsible drinking, reduce attendance at A&E and emergency ambulance call outs,

and to ensure that people have a safe place to go if they get into trouble or need assistance and advice.

Operated by Central Sussex YMCA and the Red Cross, the mobile Safe Space unit will be located outside Debenhams and staff will offer a range of support to people seeking help, from alcohol advice to sexual health advice and basic first aid provision.

Eastbourne's volunteer Street Pastors will be out and about in the town centre on the nights Safe Space is running, referring people to the service where necessary, and giving advice on personal safety and welfare.

Safe Space operates from 10pm until 3 am on Friday 10th, Saturday 11th, Friday 17th, Saturday 18th and New Year's Eve.

The initiative was first seen in Eastbourne at Christmas in 2008 and was repeated at Christmas 2009 and was hailed as a success as the number of reported assaults and injuries fell during the festive season.

Portfolio holder for Community at Eastbourne Borough Council and Devonshire Councillor, Margaret Bannister said, "Following the success of the previous Safe Space Projects which raised awareness, re-enforced the promotion of safer socialising and the "get home safe" message I am delighted to see it back in Eastbourne for this Christmas period. The Council welcomes the opportunity to work closely with partner agencies to ensure that Eastbourne remains a safe place to live, visit and do business."

Staying Safe

The Crime Reduction Partnership has the following advice to help to keep you safe this Christmas:

- Don't drink and drive. Any alcohol will affect your ability to react to situations. Drinking and driving wrecks lives.
- Watch how much you drink when you are out celebrating the festive season. The Government advises that men should not regularly drink more than 3-4 units a day and women not more than 2-3. Further advice and guidance is available on www.drinkaware.co.uk.
- Don't put yourself at risk of rape. Drink sensibly and do not leave your drink unattended. Take sensible precautions when going out and make sure you know how you are getting home, and with whom.

The Partnership website contains advice on all areas of personal safety and security of your property. www.eastbourne.gov.uk/community/crime

November Focus

Current figures on crime in Eastbourne as of November 2010:

Overall crime for the 12 month period to the end of November 2010 compared to the 12 month period ending November 2009 is down by 4% which means 306 fewer victims.



Burglary of houses for the same period – the 12 months to the end of November 2010 increased by 6 offences from the 12 month period ending November 2009 – but is expected to reduce again following the arrest of several suspects.

Thefts from vehicles over the same period continues to reduce, this month by 20% resulting in 91 fewer victims.



Wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Crime Free New Year