



REDLANDS AND UNIVERSITY NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP (NAG)



My name is Kevin Sinfield and I am the Neighbourhood Police Inspector for the South and East of Reading. I have been a serving officer for over 26 years.

In the last three years Thames Valley Police has been rolling out Neighbourhood Policing across the Force and in my experience it is the way forward. Reading has been divided into 16 Neighbourhoods and these will be serviced by 12 Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs).



Your Neighbourhood Action Group...

is the Redlands and University NAG. It includes representatives from the police, council, education, Royal Berkshire Hospital, the University of Reading, housing associations, religious groups and, most importantly, the community.

It responds to issues directly affecting residents in order of priority, with the aim of reducing and detecting crime, increasing reassurance and reducing the fear of crime.

Listening to you

Over 700 members of the Redlands and University community have been consulted and the top three issues raised were:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour**
- **Environmental Issues**
- **Personal Safety**

The Redlands and University NAG is an active and determined group chaired by local resident Keith Jerrome. It will keep the community regularly updated with the actions that it takes and it will be constantly seeking feedback and information about what is occurring in 'your street'.

We are in the process of setting up a website, details of which will appear in the next newsletter.

Redlands PCSOs Jonny Hare and Becky Platt

will be conducting bike marking on Craven Road outside the hospital between 10am and 4pm on Wednesday 11 July. There will also be a mobile police station present where crime reduction advice will be available. They also hold a drop-in surgery on the last Monday of every month between 3pm and 5pm at Royal Berkshire Hospital, Main Reception, Craven Road.



Reading University Students' Union

Reading University Students' Union

have been pro-active in dealing with noise by running a Silent Students Happy Homes campaign (www.rusu.co.uk/SSHH). This involves posters, door hangers and leaflets promoting a responsible community approach. It has also set up a website for students moving out of housing, telling them about waste disposal. The Union's venue has recently been re-accredited for its responsible drinking and social awareness practices. The NAG praised the work done by the Union on its Summer Ball, where there was only one complaint.

Don't be a Criminal

Environmental crime comes in many forms and one of these is flytipping. This can be the large scale dumping of commercial or industrial waste but can also be depositing a black bag or piece of furniture on the pavement or highway. Please don't discard your unwanted items or additional black bags of rubbish on the highway.



There are many ways of disposing of your additional waste legally, such as taking it to the Civic Amenity Site in Island Road just off the A33, and you can do this free of charge. Alternatively, Reading Borough Council offers a Bulky Waste Collection Service to local residents where one to five large items can be collected for disposal for £21, or six to ten items can be collected for disposal for £27. Contact telephone no: 0118 939 0900.

You could take your waste paperwork, bottles, clothes or cardboard to the recycling site in Palmer Park off the Wokingham Road. Please don't take any other waste to the recycling site as you may be issued with a £75 Fixed Penalty, nine of which have already been issued in your area this year.

Graffiti

Graffiti is a crime known as Criminal Damage. If you see any graffiti in your area please report it to Reading Borough Council and we will clean it off. If you see anybody doing graffiti please report them to the Police.

New Activities for Young People

In an attempt to provide more activities for young people in Redlands, youth workers and young people in the area have devised two exciting new projects for young men aged 13–19. The young people applied to the Youth Opportunity Fund and were successful in achieving funding of over £5,000 to set up cricket and football projects. It is hoped these projects will encourage the young men to participate in positive activities in their free time, develop better team and leadership qualities and enjoy some healthy exercise at the same time. The cricket project is now underway and football will follow in the autumn. For more information please contact any youth worker from the East Team on 0118 966 7273.



Redlands and University Neighbourhood Action Group

In January, neighbours in our area voted for what they would like to take issue with in order to improve the environment in which they reside.

This showed that various problems are a concern, but the main issue which needs addressing is

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Finding the answers to the problems associated with such a contentious issue does require us to work in partnership and to take appropriate action. The best way in which we can achieve our main aim of an improvement in the present situation is to report any relevant activity to our local police team and Reading Borough Council, without hesitation.

The following contacts will help us to do so. Please remember that telephoning 999 should only be done in an emergency.

- * 0845 8 505 505 Thames Valley Police Non Emergency
- * 0800 555 111 Crimestoppers
- * 0118 378 4479 Ann Westgarth, University of Reading
Community Relations Manager
- * 0845 605 2222 Reading Borough Council, Antisocial Behaviour
- * 0118 378 6300 University of Reading Security Office
- * 0800 834 035 Graffiti Removal

Also, please note that Police Community Support Officer surgeries are held at St Luke's Church Hall every other Sunday 11am–12 noon starting from Sunday 8 July.