

North Area

Borough Commander's Newsletter

October 2021



BCU Commander Simon Crick

Edited by PC Henry Jeffery

Photo: Local SNT Officer Supervises a Vehicle Seizure during Op Ghostfreak

North Area Borough Commander

**Chief Superintendent Simon
Crick**

Welcome to my first newsletter as BCU Commander for North Area and my apologies that it has taken so long to get this out to you all. As you can imagine the first few weeks in any new role is challenging.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and interesting. I have introduced a section where my Senior leadership team introduce themselves and explain their current roles.

Due to a number of changes in the senior leadership team I have also included an organisational tree for your information. The newsletter will be published every month moving forward.

I felt it appropriate at this time to include some messaging I sent out recently following the sentencing of the murderer of Sarah Everard and following the murder of George Floyd in America.



“Learning the horrific details of Sarah Everards’ murder have, I can say with confidence, been some of the most difficult moments of my entire police career. This along with the horrendous murder of George Floyd in America have been unparalleled events in recent policing history. Both events have had so much more impact on us all, because the person who perpetrated the crimes, were Police officers.

The abuse of trust in this role is abhorrent and is no doubt reflected in the entire life sentence handed down against Sarah’s murderer by the judge yesterday.

I share the anger, hurt and pain this has caused with you all.

I say that as a police officer, and someone who has always been extremely proud of the job we do to keep our communities safe.

I also say that as a father, I cannot comprehend the loss of a loved one in such tragic circumstances.

I was deeply moved by the statements of the Everard family that were read out in court and played out across the media.

The pain they must feel is incomprehensible.

I have no doubt these events will have a significant and lasting impact on the trust our communities have in us.

We will all have to work harder than ever, to re-gain any of the trust that has been lost.

I also don’t underestimate the impact this will have on colleagues within the service. Female colleagues and male colleagues alike.

We are as determined as ever to get on with the job and to do whatever we can to move forward.

I have also spoken to senior partners and stakeholders across the BCU, expressed my deep regret at Sarah’s murder and re-iterated my own personal determination to address Violence against Women and Girls across North Area.

I expect the highest standards of professionalism both on and off duty from every officer across North Area and this is more relevant now than it ever has been.”

Very best wishes,

Simon

Meet the Senior Leadership Team

Chief Inspector Eleanor Charlston



My name is Eleanor Charlston and I'm the new Chief Inspector for North Area BCU. I started my policing career in Brent Borough working in a variety of areas including, response team, neighbourhoods, proactive policing and CID. I moved to West Area BCU on promotion as a Sergeant to Neighbourhoods and youth engagement which was a challenging but thoroughly rewarding role. As an Inspector I was part of a team that developed the new MPS website which has transformed how the public can engage with and contact the police. I led the MPS digital contact teams in our Command and Control centre, overseeing staff that answer 999/101 calls and despatch those calls to our officers on our BCUs.

My role on North Area BCU is Career Development Lead which is a new role that has been introduced across all of the BCUs in the MPS. We want the Met to be an attractive place to work, where all of our people can develop and thrive in their careers to provide the best possible service to our communities. This role supports the MPS and Mayoral aspirations to recruit and retain a more diverse workforce that reflects the communities we serve.

I am really pleased to have been posted to North Area BCU. I do not underestimate the challenges that the BCU faces and I am looking forward to working with you closely to meet these challenges. I am passionate about investing in staff development as I believe this will ensure we are providing a quality service to our communities.

Schools Engagement

Schools officer PC ODONG set an ambitious target for the new school year of reaching 1000 students across Enfield with a view to engaging with them, and learn of any concerns amongst students.

Despite the monumental challenge PC ODONG has smashed his target by reaching more than double that number of students with more school visits still booked in. Whilst visiting the schools PC ODONG has delivered assemblies on a variety of pertinent topics where children and young people are more vulnerable to being victim such as personal safety, online safety and road safety. Behind the scenes whilst travelling to the schools and around the schools PC ODONG has completed weapons sweeps to maintain the safety of the students at schools within North Area BCU.

The level of engagement with the students and pupils alone is an exceptional accomplishment but PC ODONG has gone beyond by ensuring that he has maintained a visible presence with the parents by proactively engaging with them and reassuring them. PC ODONG's notable efforts will have a lasting positive impact on parents, teachers and students alike.



PC ODONG engages in a match of Table Tennis with Enfield students

Operation Ghostfreak: Tackling Illegal Car Meets

Running through the heart of Enfield and Haringey the A10 has been infamously blighted by illegal car meetings and street races presenting a significant risk to other road users, pedestrians and residents. As well as posing a great risk to the public illegal car meets taking place in retail parks cause significant disruption to businesses, preventing them from trading and putting off potential customers.

In order to tackle these illegal meetings and to deter future meetings North Area has played host to Operation Ghostfreak which has seen a brilliant team effort across multiple strands, including teams beyond North Area. Spanning several dates Operation Ghostfreak has drawn upon the resources of the Roads and Transport Command, the Metropolitan Special Constabulary and Enfield Safer Neighbourhoods Officers.

This multi-pronged operation was successful in disrupting illegal car meets with the results speaking for themselves:

- Several drivers being processed for illegal modifications, invalid MOT
- 12 Vehicles Seized
- 5 Arrests for various offences
- 38 Community Protection Notices
- Drugs seized and recovered through stop and search

Operations such as this are vital to maintaining the safety of our roads that the people of Enfield and Haringey use safely everyday.



A vehicle is seized during Op Ghostfreak

Public Protection: Sapphire

Prosecutions for sexual offences have been under intense scrutiny with a particularly heightened national and media interest. Investigations into sexual offences are often extremely complex and gathering evidence can be challenging for these types of offences. Despite this officers in North Area's Sapphire Unit work tirelessly to protect the public from some of the most serious offenders. It therefore serves as a great testament that DC WILKINSON was able to secure multiple convictions against an offender who committed some of the most abhorrent crimes against young and vulnerable people in Enfield and Haringey.



Maintaining the confidence of victims and witnesses in any investigation is a hard task but it is particularly pertinent in an investigation such as this where recounting the incident can be highly traumatic for the victim (let alone in a court of law). In spite of the challenges DC Wilkinson persevered and through her immense efforts the jury concluded within 3 hours that the defendant was guilty of having committed numerous offences including Rape of a child under 13 on three counts, blackmail and sexual assault. DC Wilkinson's work has undoubtedly prevented other young and vulnerable members of the public from being a victim of a prolific offender.

Stop and Search



Rambo Knife removed from the streets

Knife crime and knife enabled crime are top priorities for North Area BCU. Everyday officers in Enfield and Haringey attend calls where a knife is alleged to have been used to facilitate crime. Stop and search powers are a crucial tactic in reducing the incidence of knife crime. I am conscious of the concerns around the use of stop and search as a tactic and we have been working hard to listen to feedback from the community and monitoring groups to improve our interactions with members of the public when conducting searches.

Stop and Search training in North Area has been led by Inspector Riccardo Falco, and has highlighted the importance of de-escalation techniques and professionalism when searching members of the public. Incidents where stop and search powers are used in North Area are reviewed by prominent members of the community to identify learning points and improvements. All community monitoring groups now have access to view randomly selected Body worn videos.

A recent scrutiny of the use of Stop and Search in North Area for September 2021 revealed that 155 incidents of stop and search resulted in knives, drugs and firearms being removed from the streets. Across the Met over 400 knives are removed from the street each month. Both of these statistics demonstrate that Stop and Search can be a highly effective tactic.

To the left of this article is an example of a knife that was recently removed from the streets of Haringey. **Every removal of a knife from the streets of North Area is potentially a life saved.**



North Area Borough Commander's Commendation Ceremony

On Tuesday 26th October 2021 Enfield's beautiful stately home, Forty Hall, played host to the Borough Commander's Commendation Ceremony. After having been on a prolonged hiatus due to the coronavirus pandemic, distinguished guests, family members and members of North Area Senior Leadership Team had the opportunity to gather and listen to citations of some of the outstanding policing work that is carried out by North Area Officers. Members of North Area's Senior Leadership Team read out the citations of officer's impressive achievements, highlighting their incredible diversity and adaptability with examples of outstanding courage, determination, compassion, professionalism and commitment.

Amongst some of the distinguished guests was Ian Davis the Chief Executive of Enfield Council, Feryal Clark MP for Enfield North Ward, Cllr Sabri Ozaydin the Mayor of Enfield, Cllr Ian Barnes, Rasheed Sadegh-Zadeh the Chair of Enfield Independent Advisory Group and Tim Fellows the CEO of the Enfield LGBT Network. Attendees were addressed by speeches from BCU Commander Simon Crick and the distinguished guests outlining their support of our officers. In what has undoubtedly been a difficult time where policing has been under intense scrutiny this was a welcome event to highlight the exceptional work that officers on North Area carry out on a daily basis.

Following the conclusion of the ceremony there was an opportunity for photographs with the stunning backdrop of Forty Hall. The ceremony was further uplifted by musical accompaniment provided by our very own officers Donna Mackey and Emma Batchelor to mark a truly special occasion.

Behind the Badge Summit

On Wednesday 27th October 2021 North Area played host to one of the very first Behind the Badge Summits. Behind the Badge is an initiative driven by Commander Dr Alison Heydari that is directed at improving diversity within the Met and increasing the number of ethnic minority groups applying for the police. Attendees were able to listen to panel discussions about the challenges and barriers that members of the Black community face when applying for the Met. Taking place at Eldon Primary School in Edmonton members of the public were able to have open discussions with currently serving North Area officers; BCU Commander Simon Crick, Supt Joe Derilo, DCI Sam Rigby, Sgt Nonso Anidi Attendees were also able to admire the police horses, courtesy of the mounted branch who came to the event displaying the depth of roles the Met has to offer.



As a direct result of hosting this event the Met received 4 expressions of interest to join the police as well as numerous requests for joining officers for a Ride along (where members of the public go on patrol with officers) and younger members seeking to apply for the police cadets. Through events such as this we are able to engage positively with the community and provide a platform which will inspire the next generation of police officers and shape the Met to reflect the community it serves.



BCU Commander Crick and North Area officers with the Met's Mounted Branch



Left: BCU Commander Crick engages with an aspiring police cadet



Left: Community launch event for Home Cooked My Ends programme at Ferry Lane Primary School in Tottenham. Attendees were able to try some of our Public Order Kit!



Right: Further images of the Community launch event for Home Cooked My Ends programme at Ferry Lane Primary School in Tottenham.



Right: BCU Commander Crick commends PC SHONIWA-FORCHIN NANGLE for compassion, determination and teamwork.



Left: BCU Commander's Ceremony at Forty Hall



Left: Home Cooked My Ends programme on Saturday, 18 September 2021 at Jarrow Road N17

Right: BCU Commander Crick meets with Geoffrey Ocen, Chief Executive of Bridge Renewal Trust.



Left: New recruits at Quicksilver Patrol Base

About the Editor

PC Henry Jeffery

Staff Officer to BCU Commander Crick



Thank you for taking the time to read this month's edition of the BCU Commander's Newsletter. My name is Henry and I am a Police Officer working as one of the staff officers to North Area Borough Commander Simon Crick. Whilst I only joined the Metropolitan Police Service just over 2 years ago I have held positions within North Area's Public Protection Team and Emergency Response Teams. Through this work I have gained an appreciation of all of the fantastic collaborative work that all of our partner agencies and stakeholders do on a daily basis.

I grew up in Enfield and lived here for over 20 years and I am very proud to be able to work with the groups that made my childhood memorable. I am thoroughly looking forward to working closely with all of the wonderful partner agencies across Enfield and Haringey and hope that through this newsletter I am able to deliver some stories that highlight the tremendous work taking place every day.