



Working together for a safer London

Operational and Non Operational MPS Successes and Good News

(Including New Years Honours 2007)

MPA

Metropolitan Police Authority

MPA Full Authority Meeting Thursday 25 January 2007

Operational and Non Operational MPS Successes and Good News

*MPS New Years Honours 2007 (i)

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Operational Successes and Good News

17 January

Homicide and Serious Crime Command

Albanian men jailed for murder

Two Albanian men have been jailed for 21 years for murder and attempted murder committed in Palmers Green.

The sentencing follows a unique and complex inquiry by officers from the Homicide and Serious Crime Command (East) who have spent several years collating evidence in this country to enable the Albanian authorities to arrest and prosecute the men in Albania.

Ermal Sinani and Florian Metalla were arrested for the murder of Edmund Gullhaj and two attempted murders during the same incident in January 2002.

Mr Gullhaj and the two other victims were shot on 14 January 2002 as they left the Fox Pub in Green Lanes. Following extensive inquiries, detectives identified that the two suspects had fled back to Albania.

15 January

Harrow

Officers find drugs and cash in Pinner

Harrow officers had intelligence that CS Gas was being sent to an address via the Royal Mail. Inside the property, officers spoke to a 21-year-old man who told them he was in possession of ten canisters of CS. He further informed officers that he was also in possession of nine bars of cannabis resin and approximately £3,000 in cash.

A full search of the property revealed plastic bags in the loft containing a substantial amount of money, believed to be in the region of £60,000. Also in a bedroom were numerous knives and swords.

The man was arrested for possessing a prohibited weapon, possessing cannabis with intent to supply and suspicion of money laundering.

During the search the man intimated the money belonged to his 61-year-old father who was present at the address. Officers spoke to him about the money and when he could not give any explanation for the money he too was arrested on suspicion of money laundering.

During a police interview the 21-year-old man told police that he threw drugs out of a window. Officers later found two large bags of herbal cannabis. The total amount of cannabis is estimated at approximately four Kilos.

Operational Successes and Good News

15 January

Serious Crime Directorate

12-years imprisonment for double rapist

A man was sentenced at Wood Green Crown Court to twelve years imprisonment for the sexual assault, kidnap and rape of two women in Wood Green during February 2006.

29-year-old Barrington Boothe, a painter and decorator of Wood Green attacked the two young women in separate incidents on 25 and 28 February 2006.

On sentencing, Honour Judge N Browne QC, complimented the victims for the coherent and mature fashion in which they gave their evidence and on how after the attack they both came to police straight away to report the matter, enabling officers to obtain valuable forensic evidence.

15 January

Bexley Sapphire Unit

Nine years for sex attacker

An investigation by the Bexley Sapphire Unit into allegations of attempted rape has resulted in the conviction and imprisonment of an 18-year-old man.

Reece Reddington was convicted of two separate counts of attempted rape. He was sentenced to nine years imprisonment at Belmarsh Crown Court on 8 January.

Reddington was acquainted with his victim and enticed her partner out of her flat under the subterfuge of purchasing alcohol. He then slipped back in and attacked the lone female on two occasions. She was subjected to a violent attack and threatened with death.

The victim fought back and screamed for help, drawing the attention of neighbours. Reddington made good his escape in the ensuing confusion.

Following a protracted and complex investigation Reddington was eventually tracked down and arrested hiding in a bedroom cupboard at an address in Cambridgeshire.

Operational Successes and Good News

13 January

Operation Trident

Three men sentenced for murder of Lee Christopher Subaran

Three men were sentenced to 30 years imprisonment each at the Old Bailey Central Criminal Court for the murder of Lee Christopher Subaran.

Lloywen Carty, aged 26, Conroy Orlando SMITH aged 29, and Jermaine Labastide aged 28 were part of the gang responsible for Mr Subaran's death after Notting Hill Carnival in August 2004.

Lee Subaran was shot at point blank range for allegedly showing disrespect to Leon Roberts, a member of the notorious "Mus Luv Crew" a gang based in the Harlesden area of the London Borough of Brent.

Three other "Mus Luv Crew" members, Leon Roberts, Tafari Dacas and Shane Taylor were all sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder on 28 July 2005. The judge recommended they each serve a minimum of 30 years. The gang have now received 180 years of imprisonment between them.

A post mortem at Northwick Park Mortuary showed Lee Christopher Subaran died of two separate gunshot wounds, to the neck and chest.

12 January

Middle Market Drugs Project

28 years for drugs three

Three men, Hiren Rawal, Tushar Dodhia and Kamran Mehboob, were sentenced to a total of 28 years for conspiracy to supply drugs and other offences on Monday 8 January at Harrow Crown Court.

The men were arrested in Harrow in July 2006 in an intelligence-led operation. Around 10kg of heroin, 4 firearms (including a machine pistol) and £65,000 cash were seized.

Operational Successes and Good News

12 January

Bexley Crime Squad

Bexley Drug dealer arrested

Officers from the Bexley Borough Crime Squad arrested 19-year-old Telmo Raposo on 11 January 2007 in possession of a large amount of heroin, cash and three mobile telephones.

His arrest comes after an intelligence-led operation which saw the Crime Squad carry-out foot patrols in the Erith area.

Detective Sergeant Barry Burke, Bexley Crime Squad, said:

"Raposo was a discrete individual using the public transport system to travel to Bexley Borough. His arrest was a direct result of excellent intelligence led police work and the patrolling skills by crime squad officers in an area notorious for Class A use. Raposo's arrest and charge will have an impact on the area by reducing drug users."

11 January

Southwark

Operation Hamrow arrest

Officers from the Southwark Borough, Operation Hamrow Gun Crime team working with C019 officers executed a search warrant in Camberwell on 10 January.

Found in the premises was a loaded Luger handgun and ammunition. Officers also found £50,000 cash.

A 17-year-old youth has been charged with firearms offences and remanded in custody.

DS Dan Wright said:

"This was another successful operation by Op Hamrow. The team continues, with determination, to disrupt gun crime and gang activity within the borough of Southwark. I would like to thank the officers from CO19 for their continuous professional support in achieving these results."

Operational Successes and Good News

11 January

Child Abuse Investigation Command conviction Man convicted of rape and assault

Following a complex investigation conducted by the Child Abuse Investigation Team based at Camberwell, 36-year-old James Stockton has been convicted of fifteen offences of rape and indecent assault on a female aged 11 to 13 years.

He was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment.

Acting Detective Inspector Peter Hannam said:

"This was a complex enquiry that led the OIC DC Lisa Hamblin to various locations in Wales and the West Country. The Court result reflects the professionalism and hard work put in by the Investigating officer."

11 January

Chiswick

Man sentenced for threatening and abusive calls

Andrew Blithing, aged 46 from Chiswick, appeared at Kingston Crown Court on 4 January 2007 and was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment for putting people in fear of violence.

He pleaded guilty at South Western Magistrates' Court on 23 November 2006 and was remanded in custody to appear for sentencing.

He was also issued with a restraining order prohibiting him from contacting his 41-year-old female victim.

11 January

Tower Hamlets

Women due for sentencing for perverting the course of justice

Maria Marchese, 45 years from East London is due to be sentenced at Southwark Crown Court on Friday, 19 January after being found guilty at the same court on 2 August 2006 for attempting to pervert the course of justice and two counts of harassment in relation to Jan Falkowski, 44 years of the Limehouse area.

She was also found guilty of one count of harassment and making threats to kill against Deborah Pemberton, 31 years, of the Dorset area.

Operational Successes and Good News

11 January

Central Task Force - Leyton

Man arrested in drugs operation

On the afternoon of 11 January 2007 officers from the Specialist Crime Directorate's Central Task Force had been targeting a house in Calderon Road, Leyton, E11 when they saw a man leave the address. As detectives approached him he attempted to escape. He was then arrested and found to be in possession of £50K cash inside a carrier bag.

Officers then searched the address and found 1 kilo of high purity cocaine, with an estimated wholesale value of £32,000.

The 29-year-old was arrested for possession with intent to supply Class A drugs and is currently in custody at Ilford Police Station.

11 January

Westminster

500 festive arrests

Marylebone Police arrested more than 500 people during a major initiative to crackdown on crime in the Oxford Street area over the festive period.

The Oxford Street team, which consists of one inspector, four sergeants and 32 constables, made the arrests during Operation Yuletide, which ran from 27 November to 7 January.

The campaign targeted crime in the Oxford Street area - achieving a 26 per cent increase in arrests compared to the previous year.

Of the total 504 arrests, 75 people were arrested for theft. There was a six per cent reduction in pick-pocket offences during that period.

Operational Successes and Good News

10 January

Lewisham

Catford South SN team find cannabis factory

Officers from the Catford South Safer Neighbourhoods team supported by officers from Lewisham Borough Support Unit, this morning executed a search warrant in a residential premises in Newquay Road, Catford.

Members of the local community had become suspicious after equipment was moved into the eight bed roomed semi-detached house. They also heard strange noises and alerted officers.

The officers entered the premises together with Revenue Inspection Officers from EDF energy and discovered that nearly every room contained equipment for the cultivation and harvest of cannabis.

There were no arrests. Enquiries continue.

10 January

Westminster

CO14 and Hyde Park SN team arrest kerb crawlers

Hyde Park Safer Neighbourhoods officers working in partnership with officers from Clubs and Vice (CO14) successfully ran a three day kerb crawling operation in Sussex Gardens, W2 during the busy run up to Christmas.

The operation, which took place on the 18, 19 and 20 of December saw officers from CO14 arresting a total of nineteen men for soliciting women and making a number of other arrests for drink driving and possession of drugs.

At court many of the men pleaded guilty and were fined a total of £3,000 with a further £650 in costs. Only six of the men pleaded not guilty and have been bailed from the court.

10 January

Tottenham

17 year old male accused of the murder of Dean Lahlou

A 17-year-old male from the Tottenham area appeared at a youth court, sitting at Highbury Magistrates Court, accused of the murder of Dean Lahlou, 18 years, in Broadwater Road, Tottenham on 9 January 2007.

He was remanded in custody and will next appear at Highbury Magistrates Court on 18 January 2007.

Operational Successes and Good News

9 January Flying Squad 32 years for armed robbers

On Monday, six men were sentenced to a total of over 32 years imprisonment in connection with armed robbery and firearms charges.

The men were arrested on the 24 August 2006 following a lengthy operation by the Met's Flying Squad that was set up in response to a series of violent armed robberies in North and West London and the home counties.

In excess of £150,000 was stolen during eight robberies between April 2006 and the arrests in August. The men were a violent and highly organised team, targeting cash in transit (CIT) vehicles often using high-powered motorcycles to escape. They used handguns, on occasions claw hammers and extreme and unnecessary violence.

9 January Financial Investigation Unit Sutton seizes £51,400

On 13 December 2006, at Sutton Magistrates' Court, a forfeiture of £51,400 was granted.

In September 2004, during a proactive operation using drugs and money dogs in Sutton Borough, David Andrews was stopped and searched by police dog Tosh and his handler, PC Lester Nicholson. Andrews was carrying a rucksack and inside was £51,400 in bank notes heavily contaminated with heroin.

During a search of his home address, police found ammunition and Andrews was charged with possession of prohibited ammunition and money laundering. He was later convicted for possession of the ammunition and sentenced to two years imprisonment but was found not guilty of money laundering.

Undeterred by this, the officer in the case, DC Mike Smith from Sutton's Financial Investigation Unit, continued with civil proceedings against Andrews.

The court awarded the money to the police and Andrews was also ordered to pay £10,461.00 in costs to cover the services of the Metropolitan Police Legal Services.

Operational Successes and Good News

9 January

Clapham Common SN team

Man charged with attempted murder

An officer from the Clapham Common Safer Neighbourhoods team recognised a man wanted for firearms offences and kidnapping whilst on a routine bike patrol.

Details of the suspect had been included in the SN team's intelligence briefing that day. Following a dynamic risk assessment Sgt Wayne Mooney stopped the suspect and called for back up.

Following further checks the man was positively identified and following an investigation by SCD7 and SCD8 he was charged with attempted murder, possession of a firearm with intent and robbery and subsequently remanded in custody.

9 January

Highbury West SN team

Man arrested for attempted armed rape

A man wanted for an attempted armed rape has been arrested by officers from the Highbury West Safer Neighbourhoods team.

The man was wanted by Cambridgeshire Police.

He was arrested whilst attempting to dispose of a hand gun, ammunition and a large quantity of what is believed to be class A drugs.

Officers also seized another substantial quantity of class A drugs, numerous weapons including what appeared to be a Met CS spray, 19 mobile phones and a substantial quantity of cash.

Operational Successes and Good News

8 January

Queensbury SN team (Brent)

PCSOs detain robbery suspects

On Wednesday 20 December 2006, PCSOs Kishan Sikotra, Tamsin Johnson and Greg Murphy from the Queensbury Safer Neighbourhoods Team were on their daily anti-robbery patrols around Kingsbury High School when they saw a man being chased by another. The officers realised something was not right so PCSOs Johnson and Murphy detained the first man whilst the second man explained the man had robbed his brother, a student at Kingsbury High.

PCSO Sikotra obtained descriptions of others involved. This was then circulated and a request for police assistance was made. PCSO Sikotra went to look for other suspects and saw them get onto a bus. He circulated this and explained the bus route so that units could search for the bus.

PCSO Murphy searched the area surrounding the detained man and found a watch matching the description of the one stolen. The watch was shown to the victim who confirmed it was his. Three men were arrested.

Two juveniles have been charged in connection with robbery.

8 January

Downham SN team (Bromley)

Plain-clothes operation results in six arrests

Three police officers from the Downham Safer Neighbourhood team worked in plain clothes in the Downham and Grove Park area between 2 and 5 January. Local youths were arrested for a variety of offences, including disqualified driving, causing criminal damage to a bus by graffiti, theft of pedal cycle, and breach of bail conditions. A 17-year-old youth from Downham has already been sentenced for both disqualified driving and drink driving and received a 4-month custodial sentence. Two adults were also arrested for breach of bail conditions and being wanted on warrant.

Operational Successes and Good News

5 January Specialist Crime Directorate Vehicle Fraud Unit successes

The Vehicle Fraud Unit (VFU), part of SCD6, has enjoyed a successful year with over 170 vehicles worth nearly £5million recovered.

The team of six officers is privately funded by the Finance & Leasing Association (FLA) who investigate the use of the details from individuals or companies credit worthy status to obtain vehicles.

Since the team's inception in September 2001, they have recovered 664 vehicles with a retail value of £16.5 million. During 2006, 237 fraud allegations were investigated with over 174 vehicles worth almost £5 million recovered.

Over 25% of the allegations investigated in total relate to three ongoing operations initiated by the VFU. These involve innovative methods of disrupting the activities of organised criminals, primarily in the London area, exporting stolen vehicles to North Africa and Pakistan.

5 January Enfield SN team Drug dealer convicted

On 5 January, 27-year-old Markie Wilson was sentenced to four years imprisonment at Wood Green Crown Court.

Wilson was convicted of possessing crack and heroin with intent to supply.

Officers from the Enfield Safer Neighbourhoods team conducted an intelligence-led operation that resulted in the arrest of Wilson. Officers executed a search warrant at an address in Edmonton and found drugs and cash hidden in a child's car seat.

Although this was Wilson's first conviction he was sentenced to four years imprisonment and the cash seized forfeited.

Operational Successes and Good News

5 January

Child Abuse Major Investigation Team Sex offender from Harrow sentenced

Nigel Colin Palmer, aged 59, an IT teacher, of Belsize Rd, Harrow, was sentenced to a total of four years and six months imprisonment at Wood Green Crown Court.

He had previously pleaded guilty to ten counts of making indecent images of children; 1 count of indecent assault against a boy [A] then aged under 14 years on or before 2 June 1972; and 1 count of indecent assault against a boy [B] then aged under 14 years on or before 2 March 1990, in November 2006. He also pleaded guilty to possessing in excess of 1340 indecent photographs of children.

Nigel Palmer has also been ordered to remain on the sex offender register for life.

5 January

Specialist Crime Directorate Gun Runners Sentenced

Three members of a criminal collective responsible for smuggling a stash of firearms into the UK have been sentenced to a total of 32 years imprisonment.

In a joint operation by the Metropolitan Police and HMRC, officers had been tracking the gang for over six months before swooping on them in co-ordinated armed raids on 4 May 2006.

Following the arrests the investigation uncovered that the gang had been buying gas propelled tear gas firers for approximately 60 Euros each in Lithuania. They then converted them to be able to fire 9mm ammunition before smuggling them into the UK to sell on at £1,800-£2,000 to other criminals across the country.

Operational Successes and Good News

4 January

Haringey SN team

Stolen electrical goods seized in Haringey

Safer Neighbourhoods officers are continuing to assist Haringey CID following their successful raid on a business premises in N15 in which they seized stolen electrical goods worth thousands of pounds.

Officers and PCSOs executed a search warrant at Sam's Carpets in West Green Road following intelligence that the business premises was being used to store and supply stolen items.

The meticulously planned operation saw officers from Safer Neighbourhoods teams at Tottenham Green, Bruce Grove, St Ann's and West Green Road seize over 50 mobile phones and dozens of stolen ipods, digital cameras and camcorders. The shop also had illegal software designed to change the identity of stolen mobile phones.

A 26-year-old man was arrested in connection with the incident and he has currently been bailed to return to a north London police station on 4 April.

4 January

Bexley Police

Counterfeit DVD 'factory' found in Thamesmead

Four men have been arrested in Thamesmead, following the discovery of a 'factory' making counterfeit DVDs worth hundreds of thousands of pounds.

On Wednesday 4 January, two Bexley police officers were walking down Redbourne Road, Thamesmead, when they saw two men coming out of one of the houses. Believing there was something suspicious about their behaviour, the officers spoke to the men and noticed another man open the front door and then close it again quickly.

Police dogs and police helicopter attended to help search the area as other men were seen leaving the house through the back garden.

Inside the house, a town house on three floors, officers found an estimated 30,000 discs, which would sell for three to five pounds on the street. The contents of the discs include recently released films still on general release and pornographic material. There was also equipment capable of burning 400 DVDs in one hour and an assortment of other equipment for copying and packaging DVDs.

Operational Successes and Good News

4 January

Barking

Flying Squad result

On 23 November 2006, in a joint operation with assets from SCD11, officers from the Flying Squad at Barking arrested three men in the process of an armed robbery.

Neville Knight, Adam Lawrence and Robert Hutson were charged with armed robbery and firearms offences. The men whilst in control of a series of high-powered stolen vehicles were seen to monitor the activities of a cash-in-transit (CIT) van in Romford.

Knight and Hutson ran into the Nat West banking hall, put a loaded firearm to the head of the security guard and demanded that the cash box be opened. They fled the bank empty handed and flying squad armed officers intercepted the men as they attempted to make their way to the awaiting vehicle.

On 22 December 2006, Knight was further charged with three armed robberies. His girlfriend, Penny White, was also arrested, charged and remanded in custody, having been identified as assisting Knight in the armed offences.

21 December

Westminster

71 arrests after TOCU pick-pocketing operation

Officers from TOCU and the Oxford Street Policing Team, together with other police colleagues have made a total of 71 arrests for pick pocketing at West End London bus stops after a number of operations throughout the year.

Also involved in the operations were officers from Holborn and Marylebone, City of London, and Westminster local authorities to catch offenders in-the-act of pick pocketing (theft).

These operations resulted in a variety of arrests for crime ranging from robbery, theft, assault, and other offences.

On a recent operation 12 people were arrested for pick-pocket offences and, following enquiries, a large quantity of recently reported stolen items were uncovered.

Operational Successes and Good News

21 December

Westminster

Rapist who preyed on clubbers jailed

21-year-old Amro Mohamed Hassan Mohamed, from Swiss Cottage, was yesterday sentenced to a total of ten years imprisonment after he pleaded guilty to three counts of rape. Mohammed will also be deported to Egypt immediately afterwards.

SCD officers, working alongside colleagues from Westminster's Sapphire team and Royal Parks OCU launched an investigation following the attacks in Westminster on 19 November 2005 and 23 December 2005.

The victims, in their early 20s, had both been out for the evening in the Piccadilly area, and became separated from their friends as they left the bar or nightclub they had been in.

Mohamed approached the women and engaged them in conversation purporting to be a nightclub promoter and offered them free tickets to events.

He walked along with them and direct them towards the St. James's Park area, where he carried out the attacks on the women.

20 December

Ealing

Police dog and handler success

Newly qualified police dog Mountbatten Brutus, also known as Max and handler PC Jim Delamont were patrolling Ealing Borough on the morning of 19 December when they assisted local officers in responding to a burglary at the Barclays Bank Sports Club.

Two arrests were made and Max was put to search for outstanding suspects.

Max tracked to a vehicle, which unlike others nearby, was free from frost and subsequently found to be the stolen car used by the suspects. He then continued to search the area and some distance away indicated an area where the third suspect was hiding in a hedge behind a garden wall.

Dog handler PC Paul Caruana who was deployed with PC Delamont to the call arrested the suspect for burglary.

Operational Successes and Good News

20 December Paedophile Unit Two men convicted

A high-profile paedophile activist and a man who possessed the widest range of abusive material known to the Met have today been sentenced to imprisonment at Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court.

Thomas Victor O'Carroll was sentenced to two and a half years imprisonment and will be placed on the Sex Offenders Register for 10 years.

Michael John De Clare Studdert was sentenced to four years imprisonment for making and downloading indecent images, two years for distributing indecent images and three years for possession of indecent images.

61-year-old Thomas Victor O'Carroll, an out of work journalist and 67-year-old Michael John De Clare, a retired Anglican minister, were arrested in January 2006 after the Paedophile Unit conducted a series of co-ordinated searches and arrests.

19 December Enfield Operation Cleansweep

Operation Cleansweep came to Enfield Town in a 24-hour partnership crackdown aiming to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and to reassure the people of Enfield.

Over 200 members of staff took part in the operation, including police officers, PCSOs, council staff, Vehicle and Operating Services Agency, revenue inspectors and Immigration Services.

Several pubs were visited as part of the licensing operation. Initially, plain-clothes officers attended the premises before Safer Neighbourhoods teams, Trading Standards and police and council licensing staff made their entrance.

Over 50 young customers were asked for identification and as a result, no under-age drinkers were found. SNT officers engaged with customers, explaining about Operation Cleansweep, while Trading Standards staff carried out test sampling of measures and drinks and designated premises staff were spoken to by licensing staff.

The operation also extended to search arches at Enfield Railway Station and a traffic operation on Cecil Road, which included, an arrest for the possession of an offensive weapon and several traffic offences.

Operational Successes and Good News

19 December

Homicide and Specialist Crime Command

Five jailed for their part in the Owusu Anokye murder

Five men have been jailed for a total of 35 and-a-half years for their part in the murder of Charles Owusu Anokye in Brixton on 1 August 2005.

Anwar Hussain was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. Rico Tracey was found guilty of violent disorder and sentenced to two years, Ben Jatto was found guilty of violent disorder and sentenced to 18 months' detention. Edwin Bamfo and Aaron Roberts were both found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Mr Owusu Anokye was stabbed to death in a brutal attack whilst on a night out with friends. He was murdered outside the Mass Bar nightclub in Brixton.

19 December

Westminster

24 arrests in north London

Twenty-four people have been arrested after officers executed search warrants at addresses in north London.

The operation, led by Westminster Borough and supported by the Specialist Crime Directorate, British Transport Police, City of London Police and the Transport OCU, is part of an ongoing investigation into organised criminal gangs believed to be responsible for volume crime such as bag theft and pick-pocketing in central London.

The arrests included three for suspicion of possession of Class A drugs with intent to supply. At the same address a cash-point skimming device, approximately £20,000 in cash and a number of counterfeit credit cards were seized.

Two people were arrested on suspicion of handling stolen goods. During the search, a child who attended the address was also detained and a quantity of mobile phones seized.

Four people were arrested in possession of more than 250 blank passports and 10 people were detained by UK Immigration Service.

Operational Successes and Good News

19 December

Merton tackles the sale of BB guns

In December 2006, officers from Merton Park and Ravensbury SN teams worked in partnership with Merton Trading Standards officers, to address the sale of BB Guns on the borough.

A shop in Morden was identified as selling BB guns. These weapons were coming into the possession of young people who, due to the circumstances in which they possessed the weapons, were then arrested under legislation dealing with imitation firearms.

Whilst the sale of these BB guns is lawful, under certain circumstances, those who buy or are given them may be dealt with under the 1968 Firearms Act. The maximum penalty for an offence under this legislation is imprisonment, or a fine of up to £5,000.

With the full co-operation of the shopkeeper the entire stock of BB guns was stripped from the shelves. For a shopkeeper, in the week before Christmas, to willingly remove stock from shelves is indicative of how seriously they took their responsibility towards the safety of young people and the wider public in Morden.

15 December

Specialist Crime Directorate

Man detained indefinitely under Mental Health Act

A 19-year-old Bromley man was sentenced to be detained under the Mental Health Act indefinitely over the death of David Rodway in Bromley earlier this year.

Darrell McLeish, from the Bromley area pleaded guilty at the Central Criminal Court on 6 December 2006 to manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility.

Police were called at approx 11pm on 6 May 2006 to reports of two groups of young men involved in a fight in East Street, Bromley. A man was found with serious head injuries. He was taken to Princess Royal Hospital in Farnborough but sadly died at approx. 11:30pm on 8 May 2006. He was David Rodway, a 29-year-old man from Orpington. A screwdriver had been embedded in his head.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

17 January

Met win “Employer of the Year Award”

The Met are in the pink.

The Metropolitan Police Service has been named as 'Employer of the Year' and 'Best Police Force' in the Pink Paper reader's awards 2007.

The Met is proud to receive such recognition. As London's largest single employer, the Met has around 50,000 members of staff. Initiatives like the targeted 'Can you be gay?' campaign illustrate how the Met strives to be the employer of choice for the people of London.

The Met has various systems in place to support Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) employees. The organisation responds to the different needs of staff, as well as promoting diversity, building trust, confidence and satisfaction within London's communities. The Gay Police Association provides advice and counselling to ensure that the working environment within the Met is supportive and enabling to all.

12 January

Bromley SN teams work to save youth club

The Plaistow and Sundridge and the Bromley Town Safer Neighbourhoods teams are embarking on an innovative scheme in their attempts to save a local youth club.

The 'JusB' youth club provides diversion activities for young people in Bromley but their funding ends in June 2007.

The SN teams will be working with the club to restore and sell bikes and bike parts in an attempt to continue funding to enable the club to remain open. Young people will be taught the skills needed to restore the bikes and will receive a small amount of money for their work after the item is sold.

The initiative will donate renovated children's bikes to children without their own bike for free and Bromley police crime prevention officers will ensure that all the bikes come with 'Log-book' style documentation to aid identification.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

12 January

Problem Solving Awards 2007

Projects to promote community safety across London are to compete for London's second annual Problem Solving Award this February.

Showcased by the MPS, MPA and the Safer London Foundation, eight projects will vie for the prestigious award, which celebrates innovation and recognises good problem solving to make London's neighbourhoods safer.

Among the short-listed entries are projects that improve community safety, divert young people away from involvement in criminal activity, reduce robberies from school children and make travelling on London buses safer.

The short-listed projects are:

- 'Operation Bustag', a tailored CCTV response from the Transport Operational Command Unit to tackle the problem of criminal damage on London's buses.
- 'CoP (Community or Police) Cards' youth engagement project in Kingston upon Thames to break the cycle of young people joining gangs and becoming involved in anti-social behaviour at an early age.
- 'School age robberies' a Wandsworth project, initiated by the Furzedown SN team to reduce unacceptable levels of robberies in and around a local school.
- 'COP (Community Orientated Policing) Leadership Course' on the Holland Estate, Tower Hamlets, to encourage a sense of self-responsibility and self-autonomy for young people at risk of becoming offenders.
- 'Holland Estate Youth Engagement Project' in Tower Hamlets, established to reduce anti-social behaviour in and around the estate.
- 'Safe and Sound – Reducing Crime in the Bromley Night Time Economy' established as a response to extended drinking hours and the perceived increases in anti-social behaviour and violence.
- 'Corporation Avenue Alley Reclaim scheme', Hounslow, to tackle anti-social and criminal behaviour in alleyways in the local neighbourhood.
- 'Robbery Reduction in Merton', to reduce the number of robberies by young people against young people and violence across the whole borough.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

12 January

Handcuff charity event

Recruits from the Green Intake at Hendon Training School will attempt to become record breakers on Thursday 18 January 2007, when they aim to break the world record for the most people handcuffed together at one time.

The record breaking event, due to start at 12:45pm, has been organised by trainer PC Dave O'Grady with all money raised going towards the Green Intake's chosen charity-Richard House Children's Hospice in Beckton, East London.

PC O'Grady said:

"If you want to be the best, and you want to beat the rest then dedication's what you need and I'm sure this team has what it takes to make it into the record books."

11 January

Police Staff celebrate learning success

In the last year, nearly 300 members of police staff have benefited from career development opportunities implemented by the Career Management Unit, part of Human Resources.

To celebrate the success of these individuals and the courses they have undertaken, a recognition event for both officers and staff was held at Empress State Building on 10 January 2007.

Over 100 delegates from six of the courses gathered together to take part in a Problem Solving Master Class under the expert guidance of Ruth Essex from Kensington and Chelsea College. The delegates were able to put some of the skills they have learned into action such as communication, time management and problem solving.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

12 January

Staff commended for Hendy-Freegard case

The US Ambassador Robert Holmes Tuttle awarded commendations to MPS staff for their work on the Hendy-Freegard case today.

Hendy-Freegard was arrested in May 2003 following a joint operation with the FBI. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in September 2005 having been found guilty of kidnap, theft, obtaining money transfer by deception and procuring the execution of a valuable security.

Commissioner Sir Ian Blair and Assistant Legal Attache Jaclyn Zappacosta, who was the FBI case agent in charge of the investigation from the US law enforcement perspective, attended the ceremony.

Those commended were:

Detective Sergeant Bob Brandon - senior investigating officer on the case

Detective Sergeant Mark Simpson - officer in charge of the case

DC Catherine Harrison - Family Liaison Officer to Hendy-Freegard's victims

John Carnt - former detective superintendent in the Met's Economic and Specialist Crime Unit

Ashley Lovell - press officer who handled the media interest in the case

11 January

Federation commendation first

Sir Ian Blair presented Commissioner's Commendations to two Federation Representatives for their work with officers involved in the fatal shooting of Harry Stanley.

PC Williams provided support to the officers after an earlier Federation Representative fell ill. PS Webb joined, and became an integral part of the team after the first inquest. They provided the SO19 officers with support, advice, reassurance, and access to legal advice. The support provided was described by the Commissioner as being of the "highest quality."

The MPS recognises that nothing can detract from the loss that befell the Stanley family that day. However, it was right and proper that this tragedy was not further compounded with injustice for the officers involved.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

11 January

Meet the Harrows

Harrow Borough have developed a highly original approach to deliver serious crime prevention messages to over 80,000 households.

From next week, residents will be introduced to a cartoon family called 'The Harrows' through a brightly coloured, six-page crime prevention leaflet.

This innovative publication includes clearly explained crime prevention advice covering topics ranging from street robbery to car crime, pickpockets and burglary.

Production of the 'Meet the Harrows' publication has been funded through a generous £10,000 sponsorship from local firm Ladbrokes, who have their headquarters in Rayners Lane.

The 'Meet the Harrows' leaflet also includes full details of the newly re-launched Safer Harrow Neighbourhood Watch as well as full contact details for all of Harrow's 21 Safer Neighbourhoods teams.

11 January

Police dog Jake is awarded

Police search dog Jake and his handler PC Bob Crawford received the Blue Cross medal for heroism, bravery and dedication displayed by animals at a special award ceremony held by the Blue Cross animal hospital in Victoria today.

The country's oldest charitable animal hospital in London, had reinstated the medal for one year only to mark the centenary of The Blue Cross animal hospital where owners or handlers were requested to nominate animals that had come to the aid of another animals or human life, and shown bravery, companionship, or loyalty.

The award, which was presented by actress Felicity Kendal, was in recognition for their work during the London bombings in July 2005. Jake, a cocker spaniel, and PC Bob Crawford, based at Nine Elms Police Station Wandsworth, were responsible for searching the bus at Tavistock Square and also the underground tunnel at Russell Square for secondary devices in order that the injured could be evacuated.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

2 January

Public invited to join police marksmen 'on the job'

Police marksmen from Scotland Yard's specialist firearms unit are giving people the chance to step into their shoes to see for themselves just how difficult their job is.

Members of the public will be able to test how they would respond in a typical firearms scenario by using laser guns in a video simulation.

In the interactive simulation, participants, working in pairs, have to decide whether to shoot armed suspects.

Sometimes, if they chose not to, the video runs on to show the suspect shooting an innocent member of the public. The idea is to replicate the split-second decision making process that firearms officers have to go through when confronted by someone wielding a gun.

Afterwards, participants are asked to recall information about the scenario to show how difficult it is to accurately remember simple details in such a fast-paced and stressful environment.

Senior officers frequently try to highlight the pressure of firearms work, where a decision taken in a fraction of a second can have life or death consequences and where the ramifications can last for years.

The video simulation is part of the training programme for officers in Scotland Yard's specialist CO19 firearms unit.

2 January 2007

Safer Neighbourhoods teams in place

Monday 1 January was a landmark date for the Met as every ward in London now has the minimum Safer Neighbourhoods (SN) model of one sergeant, two constables and three PCSOs.

These officers are dedicated to SN policing and are not abstracted from their neighbourhoods except in very exceptional circumstances.

The names, work address and contact details of each SN team officer can be obtained by any member of the public by entering their home post code in the Met.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

28 December

Croydon Staff raise £400 for burglary victim

Police officers and staff based at Croydon Borough have raised over £400 for an 86-year-old distraction burglary victim.

The victim was in her house preparing her dinner when her doorbell rang. She opened the door to a suspect who claimed to be working next door and needed access to her property to check the water pressure.

As the suspect went into the kitchen and turned on all the taps the victim then challenged the suspect and asked him to leave. As he went to leave the property the victim noticed a further suspect coming down the stairs. They escaped with cash and cheque books.

Sergeant Andy Inglis from the Upper Norwood Safer Neighbourhood team visited the victim at her home following the burglary then arranged for a collection to be made by colleagues. A total of £401.98 was raised, including £70 by police support staff based within the Criminal Justice Unit at Croydon Police Station.

19 December

Brent delivers its Youth Engagement Scheme

Over the past three months, officers from the Brent's Partnership Unit have delivered a Youth Engagement Scheme called YES, with children who have been excluded from mainstream schools.

The officers have been working with colleagues from Brent Council, including drugs workers, the Domestic Violence Team, the Prison Service and the Army as well as Trident, the Firearms Unit and the Dogs Unit. The partners have been working with 16 students aged between 11 - 14 years from the Pupil Referral Unit in Kingsbury.

Activities included workshops, theatre visits, team building exercises and guest speakers. Speakers included two serving prisoners who gave a presentation around prison life and how not thinking about the consequences of their actions led to them being sent to prison.

Non – Operational successes and Good News

15 December

Safer Neighbourhoods Advertising Campaign to Launch in New Year

Residents of every ward in London will receive a leaflet from their local Safer Neighbourhoods team direct to their door in January. The leaflets will raise awareness of Safer Neighbourhoods and encourage the community to get involved in making their neighbourhood safer.

The leaflet will explain what the teams do and how they work and give details of the many ways in which people can become involved, such as become a PCSO or Special Constable or sign up to the local ward panel.

The leaflet will also contain information from the local team in that ward about the work they have done in listening to community concerns and finding lasting resolutions.

14 December

Bromley

Cultural Centre welcomes SN team

Officers from the Cray Valley West Safer Neighbourhoods team met with members of the Nurani Cultural Centre, Sevenoaks Road, St Paul's Cray on Friday 8 December 2006. The premises are used as a cultural center for a small local Muslim community that live and work in Orpington and the SN team extended an invite to members of the center to join the local Safer Neighbourhood Panel.

Mr. Manik Rahman welcomed the SN team and introduced many familiar faces from the Bangladeshi Community. He said " The majority of the families that attend this centre have worked for many years in Orpington's restaurants and businesses. Members of this community are committed to providing various services for the residents of Orpington and it is nice to have a small local building to get together for cultural learning and to provide a Sunday school for our children".

Non – Operational successes and Good News

MPS New Years Honours List 2007

MBE Recipients:

Commander John McDOWALL

Counter Terrorism
Specialist Operations
For Services to policing

Inspector David MUGRIDGE

For distinguished service when leading Serial 111 for the 7th July 2005 London Bombings

Inspector David NASMYTH-MILLER

Camden Borough
Territorial Policing
For distinguished service as Duty Officer for the 7th July 2005 London Bombings

Mrs Comfort OMOKO

Senior Catering Manageress
Charing Cross Police Station
Directorate of Resources
For services to police

Mr Bevan POWELL

Head of Black Police Association Community Engagement Programme
Territorial Policing
For services to police

QPM Recipients:

Chief Superintendent Martin BRIDGER

**Lambeth Borough
Territorial Policing**

Chief Superintendent Martin BRIDGER has served in the Metropolitan Police Service for 30 years and since February 2005 has been the officer responsible for policing the borough of Lambeth.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Rose FITZPATRICK

Diversity and Citizen Focus Directorate

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Rose Fitzpatrick, who has been awarded a QPM for her services to policing, heads the Met's Diversity and Citizen Focus Directorate. She joined the City of London Police in 1987 working in a variety of demanding operational roles as she rose through the ranks before joining the MPS in 1998.

Detective Superintendent Richard GETHING

Counter Terrorism
Specialist Operations

Commander Jonathan KAYE

Central Operations

He joined the MPS in 1981, reaching the rank of Commander in November 2000. In his time as a Commander Jo Kaye has been responsible for policing in South East London as well as the MPS lead for Traffic and Firearms. On taking over Traffic he oversaw the changes that brought together fighting crime with delivering road safety.