

December 2011
update
Community Safety E-Newsletter



Welcome to the December 2011 edition of UPDATE, an e-newsletter produced by RSSB, in support of the rail industry's efforts to address rail related community safety issues.

This is a packed issue with articles focussing on level crossing safety initiatives, the BTP preparations for the Olympics, innovative anti-graffiti paint technology and a number of train operating company initiatives to tackle community safety issues.

UPDATE is a tool for promoting awareness of current initiatives and encouraging the adoption of good practice. If you have any stories to share about initiatives or events in your area, or would like to provide feedback on this issue, please contact: **community.safety@rssb.co.uk**

I hope you enjoy this issue of UPDATE.

Kerry Dolan, Editor.

Theatre group highlights level crossing dangers



Real life experiences were the inspiration behind a theatrical performance to encourage railway safety in Guildford.

The Yvonne Arnaud Youth Theatre group (YAYT) performed a show in the theatre's

Mill Studio aimed at encouraging people to be safe at level crossings.

In association with Network Rail, the Off The Level script, featuring three actors, was the product of months of meetings, interviews and rehearsals.

The group conducted interviews with train drivers, British Transport Police and community police officers, and explored various perspectives, such as those of parents and teachers.

"I am so pleased with the way Off The Level has developed," said head of YAYT, Adam Forde.

"We are confident that it will have an impact on the young people that see it and raise their awareness of the effects that misuse of crossings can cause."

The launch of the theatre project was attended by senior figures from local organisations and it may now be rolled out into schools across the country.

Representatives from Network Rail, Surrey and Sussex Police, community safety officers, teachers and councillors provided positive feedback after the

performance, giving the group encouragement to take the project to the next step.

Mr Forde added: "All three actors, who generated so much praise for their performances, are former members of the Yvonne Arnaud Youth Theatre and are now making their way in the business, so for us it is also a real pleasure to be able to bring them back on a professional basis."

Plans are now being put in place for the group to perform at four schools close to level crossings in Chichester, West Sussex, and if successful it could become a national scheme.

Clive Robey, operations risk control co-ordinator for Network Rail, said of the performance: "It exceeded my expectations. I came here today with an open mind. I deliberately had not read the script.

"I've been heavily involved in level crossings for many years in different ways, from signalling to response staff attending fatalities, and this performance was very credible and sympathetic, demonstrating a lot of empathy, and I could relate to all the characters that each of the three actors played. It was absolutely spot on.

"Now we have to take this project out to more schools. I have a few schools in mind where we have problems and I'm hoping to get this work showed there very quickly."

For more information, please contact: Nicola Dooris - Nicola.Dooris@networkrail.co.uk

got a story...?

please contact: community.safety@rssb.co.uk or 020 3142 5372

Southbourne students become rail safety ambassadors

Pupils in Southbourne have become rail safety ambassadors for their school as part of a new initiative.

The six youngsters in year six have been learning all about how the level crossing in Stein Road is policed and how to be safe and stay on the right side of the law.

Parents and pupils regularly use the crossing, be it walking, cycling, or driving over it on their way to Southbourne Junior School and Southbourne Infant School which are nearby in New Road. Throughout their last year at the school, the rail reps – Daniel Boschi, Fergus Brown, Eleanor James, Gabrielle Partridge, Ellie Jade-Williams, and Cameron Cassar – will pass on the knowledge to their peers.

Ten-year-old Eleanor said: “A couple of weeks ago we went to see a police van down by the railway station and we saw someone going over the railway without wearing any seatbelts.

“It was very exciting: you could tell if it’s stolen or not, it’s amazing how clear the cameras are and pick up the registration plates that go past.”

The Reps will also judge a competition to create the best level crossing safety poster.

Junior school headteacher Clive Butler said: “The thing parents talk about most is the children going over the crossing. They do worry about it, whether they walk or cycle to school.”

For more information, please visit: http://www.chichester.co.uk/news/local/southbourne_students_become_rail_safety_ambassadors_1_3195667



Road-Rail Information Forum

RSSB held the annual Road-Rail Information Forum in October, organised on behalf of the Road-Rail Interface Safety Group, providing an opportunity for the industry to update user groups, about what it is doing to improve safety at level crossings, bridge strikes and vehicle incursions onto the railway. About 26 organisations were represented, including highway authorities, motoring groups, National Farmers Union, cyclists, and the British Horse Society.



8% of the entire risk of harm on the railway in Britain occurs at the road-rail interface, equivalent to 11.3 fatalities and weighted injuries (FWI) each year. Almost all of that is at level crossings with 1 in 20 at incursions and 1 in 100 at bridge strikes.

Martin Gallagher, Head of Level Crossings at Network Rail, explained the strategy for managing safety at crossings, emphasising the need to improve the

quality of asset and risk management and engage better with stakeholders and users.

Michael Woods, of RSSB, gave an update on road-rail research, including recent work to address risk that arises from user errors, as opposed to violations. This has included site surveys and observations, literature reviews, questionnaire surveys, assessment of road users’ awareness and expert workshops. The research uncovered several areas where confusion exists in road users’ minds, regarding road signs and signals, many of which go back to the early years of modern level crossings before human factors science was applied to road signs.

The forum also looked at the risk of bridge strikes, with Keith Ross, Senior Technology Engineer at Network Rail, and Dan Basacik of TRL, who are working with RSSB on research to reduce the number and impact of vehicle strikes on underline bridges. Network Rail has produced good practice guides for drivers and transport managers in several languages, and is working with the Driving Standards Agency to include more questions in the LGV Driver theory test.

Inspector Tom Naughton, of the British Transport Police, explained how they are pursuing enforcement



at level crossings. New weapons in their armoury are vans equipped with mobile enforcement CCTV equipment with automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) technology. The vans are funded by Network Rail, and are proving effective with the London South van identifying 1,300 offenders since January this year.



The event also looked at incursions of road vehicles on to the railway, which happened with catastrophic consequences at Great Heck in 2001, when ten people were killed in an accident after a landrover got on the track and was hit by a train, which then derailed into the path of another train. A programme of risk assessment of potential sites where road vehicles might get on to the railway is well underway.



For more information, please contact: Alan Davies – alan.davies@rssb.co.uk

Darren Furness from Network Rail and Brian Thompson of Lincolnshire County Council described how 40 road-rail partnerships have been set up with local authorities around the country. These give an opportunity to discuss issues together and raise awareness of the impact on the railway of poor behaviour by motorists and pedestrians.

Level Crossing Safety – A new teaching package available – free to download



Level crossing safety



A new teaching package on level crossing safety has just been launched on the Trackoff website and is now available to download <http://www.trackoff.org/LevelCrossingSafety.aspx>

Trackoff is an educational initiative managed by RSSB on behalf of the railway industry. The main aim of the site is to raise awareness among young people of the dangers and consequences of anti-social behaviour and playing on the railway. This is achieved by giving teachers and others working with young people, free resources to teach all aspects of railway safety.

This new package looks at the most typical types of level crossing user error and misuse, the causes of misuse and error; the potential consequences and – most importantly – how to use level crossings safely.

This latest addition joins the other teaching packs available covering ‘a good journey’, ‘trespass and vandalism’ and ‘graffiti’

For more information, please visit: <http://www.trackoff.org/Default.aspx> or email: Kerry.dolan@rssb.co.uk

Network Rail and Hull Kung Fu work together to help local communities



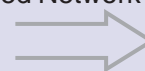
Network Rail has just announced a new sponsorship arrangement with Hull Kung Fu following an ongoing successful partnership.



Hull Kung Fu is a voluntary non-profit Kung Fu club that has been running for over eight years in Hull and East

Riding. The club works with young people who come from disadvantaged backgrounds and as well as teaching self-defence and fitness, it aims to teach confidence building, promote social inclusion and provide education on the effects of drugs and bullying.

In the past, Hull Kung Fu has promoted Network Rail's



No Messin'! campaign and the fight against railway crime— running railway crime awareness days, boot camps, and advertising the No Messin'! initiative on their own website. They have helped many ex-drug users, victims of bullying, and kids who lack confidence, to change their lives for the better, and have transformed attitudes towards railway crime.

The organisation has recently achieved the Queens Award for Voluntary Service (MBE) and the Duke Of York Community Initiative Award for the hard work that they put into their community work. They also achieved the Community Engagement Award as part of the Network Rail Partnership Awards 2011.

Mike Mitchell who runs the club stated:

"We are very excited about this new sponsorship arrangement with Network Rail. The money will be used to fund clubs in Anlaby, East Hull, North Hull, Beverley and Skirlaugh and we will be able to offer free training to schools in the Hull and East Riding area for a year in order to help reduce railway crime, increase confidence and increase self defence skills.

"We are also happy to announce that Hull Kung Fu will be offering the same free lessons to any train operating company or rail employee in the area – something that has never been done before!"

For more details please contact Mike Mitchell on 07816458977 or email club@hullkungfu.co.uk

The build up to the big one



London 2012 is billed as the 'public transport games' with almost everyone likely to be using public transport to access the Olympic Park - 80% of them on the rail system.

The Olympic and Paralympic Games will require the biggest peacetime policing operation ever, and the British Transport Police

(BTP), and all rail staff, will be playing their part.

The eyes of the world will be on Britain – a four billion worldwide audience serviced by more than 26,000 media representatives. This could heighten the risk of crime, simply by virtue of the sheer numbers of extra people moving around the capital.

At peak times, trains will be arriving into the Olympic Park gateway stations every 13.8 seconds – any disruption to services, whether that's from crime or an incident such as a fatality, will have huge consequences.

"Our planning is well advanced," says Chief Superintendent David Wildbore, who is BTP's 'Silver' commander for the Olympics. "The risks are clear and very real - terrorism, crime, public order, disruption, so we are building our policing operation around ways of mitigating those.

"It will take a great deal of resources – we've restricted leave drastically and we'll have up to 1,000 officers on Olympic duty nationally at peak times. Some of those we are borrowing from local police forces, as part of what's known as mutual aid, but we will make sure they are always under the command of a BTP

officer, who has the railway knowledge to ensure that, whatever we have to do, we minimise the impact on rail services."

BTP's Assistant Chief Constable Steve Thomas, the 'Gold' Commander, is also the National Co-ordinator for Cross Modal Transport Security covering rail, road, maritime and air transport.



Many challenges, such as the likelihood of an influx of pickpockets, graffiti vandals or a suicide on the line, are predictable and measures are being put in place to deal with those.

"Intelligence is very important to how we operate," says Detective Constable Graham Naughton, who is BTP's Olympics intelligence co-ordinator. "It allows us to target resources where they are needed and in many cases stop emerging problems before they escalate."

DC Naughton has been undertaking a series of briefings for staff.

"Intelligence is based on information fed in by our own officers and other agencies – for instance the Met



got a story...?

please contact: community.safety@rssb.co.uk or 020 3142 5372

Police or the security service. But we also have the advantage of a large body of men and women out and about on the network every day. They are experts in interpreting the rail environment and are our eyes and ears.

"I'd very much encourage staff to feed into their local BTP officers. What can seem like routine information about unusual individuals or groups, emerging problems with school kids or others, or minor incidents can help us build a picture of where and when we should be putting officers, or what we should be taking a closer look at."

To maintain the safety and security regime on the network before and during the Olympics, BTP is encouraging staff to keep up their normal good practices of station sweep searches, assessment of unattended items and reporting any suspicious or

unusual behaviour. Posters (see picture) are now being displayed at stations to remind and encourage staff to report.

More than 10 million tickets are available to spectators from all over the world to the sporting events as well as big-screen viewings and associated cultural events. The police operation is being run over 64 days with 12,000 officers needed nationally on peak days, with around 9,000 on duty in the capital.

"There will be unprecedented demand on the police service," says Chief Superintendent Wildbore. "We will need all the help we can get from staff and will be working with them to ensure as far as possible trouble and crime free services."

**For more information, please contact:
DC Graham Naughton MBE: 020 7023 6942**

Samaritans & Network Rail Partnership launches 'Joint Suicide Prevention Plan'

The rail industry has launched the Joint Suicide Prevention plan (JSSP), drawn up by Network Rail and approved by the National Suicide Prevention Group in September 2011.

It pulls together best practice across the rail network and demonstrates how everyone has a role to play in suicide prevention. It provides a strategic approach for train operators to engage with the partnership and help the overall National Suicide Reduction project achieve its objectives. The document outlines an action plan for how Network Rail, a train operator and Samaritans can work more efficiently to reduce the number of suicides on the Network Rail routes by setting out a minimum number of requirements to which train operators at the highest level will commit.

The plan forms part of the National Suicide Prevention Programme - a five year project, led jointly by Samaritans and Network Rail.

The primary aim of the programme is to reduce suicides on the railways through a range of interventions including communication campaigns, industry staff training, work with the media, community outreach and lobbying for more physical barriers at railway locations. The programme of work is a blend of prevention and post incident initiatives which are taking place across the UK with an overall aim of reducing the number of railway suicides annually by 20% by 2015.

The overall programme has recently scooped a number of awards.

In late September, the joint venture won in the 'Corporate Partnership' category at the Third Sector Excellence Awards. Following this, the Samaritans collaboration with Network Rail was recognised by the transport industry as winners in the 'Best National Partnership' category at the National Transport Awards and then on the 12 October 2011, the partnership received the corporate national partnership of the year award at the Charity Times Awards.

The partnership features a programme of prevention and post-incident activities. This includes:

- Bespoke training of railway industry staff and British Transport Police to identify individuals in distress at railway locations
- Trauma support training tailored specifically to the needs of those supporting train drivers or others following a suicide, such as Train Driver Managers and ASLEF Union Reps
- Support to rail staff, train crews and members of the public who have witnessed a fatality
- The development of a local branch call-out service to provide face to face emotional support to people in distress at railway sites.

For more information or if you would like to receive an electronic copy of the template JSSP please contact Ola Rzepczynska, Network Rail Project Officer: o.rzepczynska@samaritans.org

got a story...?

please contact: community.safety@rspb.co.uk or 020 3142 5372

Innovative paint technology is used to tackle graffiti



Before



After



Graffiti is a two-fold community safety challenge for the industry: firstly because those who apply graffiti to railway property are likely to be acting illegally, as well as trespassing and putting their own lives at risk, and secondly, because the graffiti itself generates perceptions of fear and crime among people using trains.

Removing graffiti from structures and buildings can be time-consuming, costly and difficult.

To combat this, in the last 18 months, Network Rail has been using a specialised anti-graffiti paint called Graffstop®.



The paint is a 'single pack' system made from a non-silicone polymer. Like other anti-graffiti paints on the market, it differs from ordinary paint in that the surface remains slightly active, but dry, so graffiti cannot actually penetrate the surface. If graffiti is applied to the surface, it can be easily washed away with a bucket and sponge or by using a low pressure power wash.

Jim Nightingale, a Network Rail Maintenance Protection Coordinator from Leicester was one of the first to use the paint on a Foot Bridge in May 2010. Garrandale, the producers of Graffstop® colour-matched Network Rail's 'Holly Green', and this was used to repaint the bridge.

After the initial trial of this product, Jim Nightingale checked the Foot Bridge for damage five months later and found three graffiti tags on the structure; remarkably few for a blank canvas. Jim said:

"I took some cleaning materials; a bottle of cold tap water and 2 cloths. No COSHH materials, ie, no paints, no solvents! The tag took about 5 minutes for me to remove. My efforts left a slight film of paint particles which could be buffed off when dry."

More recently, as part of the National Spring Clean week in July, Graffiti at Maiden Lane, Camden, was painted out (see pictures) using the Graffstop® paint.

For more information about Network Rail's experiences, please contact: Jim Nightingale: 0116 2288069 or Mobile 07771 830026 and for more information on Graffstop® please visit: <http://www.graffstop.co.uk/>

Policing and Criminal Justice Minister launches Southern's Eyewitness initiative



Policing and Criminal Justice Minister, Nick Herbert MP recently launched Southern's internal Eyewitness initiative to the public for the first time at Arundel railway station.

Mr Herbert joined Southern senior staff, Rail User Group and West Sussex Community Rail Partnership representatives to launch a trial of Southern's award winning low-level crime reporting system to passengers who use Southern services between Arundel and Crawley.

Eyewitness is a scheme which allows the reporting of low-level crime by e-mail. The system was presented at the 2011 Community Safety Forum, and has been used successfully as an in-house system where Southern staff have e-mailed members of Southern's Safer Travel and Revenue Protection Teams to report incidences of vandalism, anti-social behaviour and fare evasion. The system allows Southern to respond quickly where officers are in the area, and to identify patterns, trends and hotspots which enables more intelligent deployment of Rail Neighbourhood Officers



Community Safety Resource Centre

please visit: www.railcommunitysafety.com

and Revenue Protection Officers when detailing patrols.

Commenting on the initiative, Mr Herbert said: "I was delighted to help launch the next phase of Southern's Eyewitness scheme which will provide passengers with an effective way to report anti-social behaviour on trains.

"This is further action by Southern who already fund Rail Neighbourhood Officers to help tackle crime and provide a reassuring uniformed presence on trains and at stations. The scheme doesn't replace police officers, it adds to them, and I believe it's welcomed by the public.

"The minority who can make rail journeys miserable for everyone else need to be dealt with, and I am pleased that Southern is playing its part."

Southern's Head of Revenue Protection and Security,

Martin Grier said: "Eyewitness has been a tremendous success since we introduced it internally 18 months ago. Now we look forward to even better results now that we are asking our passengers to tell us about low-level crime that they have seen."

In the last 12 months, reported crime on the Arun Valley has fallen overall by 71%. At Billingshurst station, incidences of crime reduced from 28 last year to zero this year.

Passengers witnessing crime between Arundel and Crawley stations can report what they've seen, where they saw it, when they saw it and a brief description of the offender(s) by sending an e-mail to a dedicated address.

For more details, please visit: <http://www.southernrailway.com/southern/news/policing-and-criminal-justice-minister-launches-southern-eyewitness-initiative/>

Southern's 2011 Corporate Responsibility Report published



Train operator Southern has published its 2011 Corporate Responsibility Report with the emphasis very much on working for their communities, safety, the environment, sustainability, their passengers and their employees.

Some highlights in the report that impact on community

safety include:

- An 11.5% reduction in reported crime
- 100% of Southern stations have live CCTV coverage
- Almost 5,000 online passenger panel members
- 20 flourishing station partnerships

Safety continues to be a core focus in Southern's business. Crime has reduced across the network by 11.5%. This success can be attributed to several

factors including comprehensive live CCTV coverage at stations but also to the strong partnership with the British Transport Police through the Safer Travel Team.

Southern's Safer Travel Team has gone from strength to strength in its second year. Eyewitness, the innovative anti-social behaviour reporting system, has proved a success and took away the Cross Industry Partnership Award at the 2011 Railway Industry Innovation Awards. Eyewitness uses the eyes and ears of the employees to make the railway a safer place. This year Southern successfully extended the system to a sample of external stakeholders and is currently adapting the system so that it can be extended again to passengers (see Policing and Criminal Justice Minister launches Southern's Eyewitness initiative article).

The 2011 report can be downloaded at www.southernrailway.com

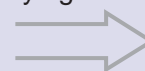
Communities First 'Time Banking' initiative helps Tonypandy station

Tonypandy station has been given a makeover by children from Trealaw Communities First.

Led by community development worker Donna Ryalls and project leader Mark Hutton, the children gave up some of their summer holidays to help paint more than 40m of railings and undertake a litter pick, in an environmental project supervised by Arriva and the Pontypridd based British Transport Police

Neighbourhood Policing Team. The project formed part of the Communities First 'Time Banking' initiative, where participants receive a time credit note, which they can use at a community event, go on a trip or to see a show.

Speaking at the station, Donna and Mark said: "The time-bank scheme is our way of saying thank you



got a story...?

please contact: community.safety@rspb.co.uk or 020 3142 5372

for individuals who give up their time to participate in projects such as this. For every hour they give, they receive one credit note. Anyone can join in and everyone's time can make a big difference in our aim to see a better community for all."

Geraint Morgan, community affairs manager for Arriva Trains Wales said: "We were approached by the Communities First team earlier in the year with a request to undertake the project, however bad weather

meant we had to delay until the summer holidays. The children have worked extremely hard during the two day project and they can be pleased with their achievement, which has certainly helped improve the station environment."

For more information, please visit: <http://www.arrivatrainswales.co.uk/Templates/News.aspx?pageid=2996>

Tackling Child Bullying on First Capital Connect Services



As part of a new child bullying prevention campaign First Capital Connect (FCC) has recently introduced Carrie Herbert, Chief Executive of Cambridge-based charity Red Balloon, to its revenue protection managers to discuss recognising acts of bullying on FCC services.

Carrie started her presentation by introducing Red Balloon and asking each member of the group to discuss any forms of child bullying they'd witnessed on train services whilst undertaking their duties. The team were then briefed on how to recognise children who were being bullied by other children and how to handle bullies if observed first hand.

Red Balloon was established in 1996 when Carrie Herbert, working as an educational consultant, repeatedly noticed how bullied children were avoiding school and consequently missing out on an education. As a result Carrie opened up her house in Cambridge City Centre as a school to help these children begin

their recovery programme and continue their education in a safe environment.

In 2003 the charity moved from Carrie's house to a permanent location in Warkworth Terrace, Cambridge, and has since opened several more schools across the country, including Norwich, North West London, and Merseyside.

Neal Lawson, FCC's Managing Director, said:

"I find bullying completely unacceptable so I would like to thank Carrie for taking the time to talk to our revenue protection managers so they can help stamp it out. They will now pass on what they have learnt to their teams and will be keeping an eye out for any acts of bullying occurring on our trains and stations."

Speaking after the talk Carrie Herbert said:

"First Capital Connect has always been a friend of Red Balloon and I am very impressed with their latest bullying prevention campaign.

"Bullying doesn't just take place in schools but also on the way to and from. Unfortunately teachers can't be everywhere at once so we need people like FCC's revenue protection inspectors to keep an eye out."

For more information, please visit: <http://www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk/about-us/media-centre/news/2011/tackling-child-bullying-first-capital-connect-services/>

Safe and sound train stations

First TransPennine Express (FTPE) has been recognised for providing safe and secure environments for rail passengers and staff.

FTPE manage 30 stations across the north of England and all of their stations have been successfully accredited to the Department for Transport's (DfT) Secure Station Scheme.

Over 20million passengers use FTPE managed stations every year and the DfT have measured and assessed all stations against a demanding set of

criteria. This includes the number of reported crimes compared to the number of customers using the station.

Since 2007/08, FTPE in partnership with the British Transport Police (BTP) have reduced the crime rate on their stations by 25%, whilst at the same time passenger numbers have grown by around 10million.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.tpexpress.co.uk/about-ftpe/media-centre/93/safe-and-sound-train-stations.htm>

Straight A's for Safety At Flitwick Lower Schools

Representatives from First Capital Connect (FCC) have been visiting lower schools in Flitwick to give safety talks as part of a new campaign to educate children about safety in a railway environment.

The pupils at Flitwick Lower School and Templefield Lower School were taught the various hazards of a railway environment and urged to always seek assistance if they couldn't do something safely.

As part of the campaign, the pupils took part in a competition to make a poster focussing on railways, trains, and wildlife. A winner will be picked from each school and the final three will compete to have their design made into a large mural, which will be put on display at Flitwick Station. Prizes include 4 tickets to Luton Town Football Club, a family ticket to Shepreth Wildlife Park, and family ticket to the Brighton Sea Life Centre.

Natalie Howarth, FCC's Roster Co-ordinator, said:

"Safety on the railway is a top priority for us at FCC and we have a responsibility to ensure that children are aware of the dangers that exist in the railway environment.

"The children did really well in recognising possible dangers and I look forward to receiving their competition entries."

The team have also visited Kingsmoor Lower School.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk/about-us/media-centre/news/2011/straight-s-safety-flitwick-lower-schools/>

British Transport Police delivers big match experience for young football fans – South Wales



Young Welsh football fans have been cheering on their heroes – thanks to a link-up with British Transport Police (BTP) and the Football Association of Wales (FAW).

Pupils from Pentrehafod, Pontarddulais, Cefn Hengoed and Dylan Thomas schools in Swansea were among the crowd at the Liberty Stadium on Friday 7 October as Wales beat Switzerland 2-0.

The schools were awarded 50 tickets each for the Euro 2012 qualifier, courtesy of the FAW, after reaching the grand finals of the No Messin' Railway Safety Cup 2011 in June – an event organised by BTP, Network Rail and Arriva Trains Wales.

The lucky pupils were joined at the Liberty Stadium by PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) Andy Rollinson, Dan Heath and Mike Watson, who helped organise the successful 5-a-side tournament.

Inspector Gary Ash, who is in charge of BTP's Welsh Neighbourhood Policing Teams, said: "All the pupils had a fantastic time at the match, and the evening was made even more memorable by a great Welsh performance and victory.

"The youngsters that took part in the tournament conducted themselves exceptionally well on and off the pitch – so it was great to see them enjoying themselves and being rewarded for their efforts."

Pupils from comprehensive schools in Cardiff, Newport, Pontypridd, Neath and Port Talbot have also enjoyed the matchday atmosphere at a Wales international after qualifying among the top 12 teams in the No Messin' Railway Safety Cup.

The tournament was won by Swansea school Pentrehafod, which is just a free-kick away from the Liberty Stadium. As well as being awarded 50 international tickets, the school was also presented with a shirt signed by the Wales football squad.

Inspector Ash added: "The tournament is only in its second year but the 2011 event really built on the success of the inaugural competition, with more schools taking part across a wider area.

"We are already looking forward to next year's tournament, which should prove to be even bigger and better."

Ian Gwyn Hughes, Head of Public Affairs and Stakeholder Engagement at the FAW, said: "The FAW was delighted to support the No Messin' Railway Safety Cup and to provide the youngsters with an opportunity to watch the national side play.

"There was a real sense of excitement at the Liberty Stadium last Friday and everyone enjoyed the occasion and a marvellous result against Switzerland."



got a story...?

please contact: community.safety@rspb.co.uk or 020 3142 5372

The aim of the No Messin' Railway Safety Cup is to promote alternative activities for youngsters to discourage them from trespassing on the railway.

During the regional rounds of the tournament, each team received a hard-hitting safety presentation from PCSOs featuring young people and families who have been affected by trespass on the railway.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.btp.presscentre.com/Media-Releases/BRITISH-TRANSPORT-POLICE-DELIVERS-BIG-MATCH-EXPERIENCE-FOR-YOUNG-FOOTBALL-FANS-SOUTH-WALES-1707.aspx>

British transport police seeks influential panel members in the Wales and Western area to have their say on policing the railways

British Transport Police (BTP) is looking for volunteers to join an innovative Citizens Panel with people from a wide diversity of communities across the Wales and Western Area, to strengthen relationships between BTP and local community groups.

Ideal candidates would have a general interest in railways and the railway community, and have strong links into local communities, so could work in an advisory role to provide feedback and advice on how BTP's actions are interpreted by members of the public.

Inspector Stuart Middlemas is responsible for setting up the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) for BTP's Wales and Western Area, which covers all of Wales, the South West of England and the West Midlands.

Insp Middlemas said: "We want members of the public to become more involved in advising us in our policing of the railways.

"BTP already has a National Independent Advisory Group (NIAG) whose members are from a wide cross section of backgrounds, communities and diverse groups who constructively evaluate BTP's policies and procedures based on their own independent views, experiences and special knowledge of their own communities.

"We now want to develop an area-based group who can represent the Wales and Western Area railway community we serve, and allow members of the public and rail staff to have a say on how we police the railways at a local level."

Insp Middlemas added: "We want members of the panel to have links to the diverse communities we police so we can help form a bridge between these groups and BTP.

"The aim is for members of the public and rail staff to become involved and be a voice for the community. We want them to provide feedback to us and to challenge us when they don't think we are getting things right.

"We want them to be critical and challenge existing processes to continue to build trust and confidence in us, which will have real tangible effects on our policing and our policies."

Meetings will be held quarterly across the area, and will allow a representation of local people to have a voice in the policing of the railway. Panel members will not be paid to perform the role, but will be entitled to the reimbursement of associated costs such as travel expenses.

Contact Barry Boffy via email at ww-diversity-action-group@btp.pnn.police.uk, or telephone 0121 654 2072 for further details

Future events:

Event Name	Date	Event Details
Family Intervention, Tackling ASB and Ending Gang Violence: The Role of Community Safety Practitioners in the Post-Riot Response	15 December 2011, London	For more information or to book a place go to: http://www.westminster-briefing.com/conferences/event-detail1700/newsarticle/family-intervention-tackling-asb-and-ending-gang-violence-the-role-of-community-safety-practitioners/
A New Approach to Takling Anti-Social Behaviour	8 February 2012, London	For more information or to book a place go to http://www.policycommunications.co.uk/events/asb/index.html
12th Global Level Crossing Symposium (incl. Trespass)	7 – 12 October 2012, London	More details to follow shortly
National Community Safety Network Annual Conference	tbc	To register an interest, please visit: ncsn2012@community-safety.net