

Welcome to the July 2008 edition of UPDATE, a monthly e-newsletter produced by Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB), in support of the rail industry's efforts to address rail related community safety issues.

This month's issue includes details on Metro's annual Junior SAFEMARK training on how to travel safely on buses plus Network Rail's award for it's 'Don't run the risk' level crossing safety campaign.

'The Writing is on the wall', our article on graffiti shows we are all 'on a mission' to wipe it out. Network Rail, RSSB, Severnside Community Rail Partnership, Avon Probation Service, First Great Western and Eastside Roots (Community Garden) joined forces recently for a local community clean up day in Bristol. Metro's team of graffiti cleaners were recognised at the 2007 Light Rail Awards held recently, where they were 'Highly Commended' in the team of the year category and following the success of an initial trial, Stagecoach South Western Trains is now looking to roll out an anti-graffiti programme. Success for the British Transport Police (BTP), they continue to be proactive in investigating and prosecuting graffiti crime wherever it occurs on the railway system.

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 or **020 7904 7674**

I hope you enjoy this issue of UPDATE.

Marina Kilcoyne, Editor.

Southern promotes consideration when travelling

Southern has embarked on a major campaign to promote consideration between fellow passengers whilst travelling on its trains, and using its stations.

Following many complaints and comments from passengers regarding anti-social behaviour by a minority of fellow passengers, Southern has launched a major poster campaign which is designed to make people think before they behave in ways that are not acceptable to their fellow passengers.

A series of posters, leaflets and timetable inserts get the messages across by using symbols that depict the kind of behaviour that causes annoyance.

Subjects covered by the campaign include:

- Loud music from mp3 players;
- Talking loudly into mobile phones;
- Consideration when eating hot food;
- Thoughtful disposal of litter;
- Feet on seats;
- Leaving seats clear of bags for the use of others;
- Using foul language;
- Unruly behaviour;
- Excessive alcohol consumption;
- Smoking and
- Discouragement from giving to beggars



Southern's service quality manager, Tracey Hawley-Wright said: "Anti-social behaviour of this type on trains and at stations is a constant annoyance to passengers who just want to enjoy their journey in peace. We are hoping that this campaign will make people think more about the effects their actions have on fellow passengers, and change them accordingly."

Posters can be seen at Southern stations and soon on board Southern trains.

For further information, please visit: <http://www.southernrailway.com/>

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Metro's annual Junior SAFEMark training



School children in West Yorkshire are gaining a better sense of self-assurance when using public transport. Over 2,000 year six pupils across the region will be taking part in West Yorkshire Metro's annual, Junior SAFEMark training which began in June and continues for 7 weeks.

Junior SAFEMark training is specifically designed for year six pupils because from September, they will be travelling to their new secondary schools and many of them will be using public transport on their own for the first time.

At Metro's workshops, they learn to plan journeys using tools such as Metro's online journey planner, timetables and the *yournextbus* texting service and to travel safely and confidently on buses in an on-bus role play scenario.

They also learn about green transport choices in a session where they also explore the ins and outs of walking as a travel option. The hands-on, interactive activities in small groups are led by Metro, local bus operators and Council Road Safety departments.

In 2007 over 1,800 children attended the workshops from 56 schools in the 5 districts of West Yorkshire.

Children said the workshops made them less nervous about travelling on a bus.

School staff unanimously said they thought the children had benefited from attending the workshops.



For more information, please visit: <http://www.wymetro.com>

Stay off the tracks warns Network Rail

Network Rail is once again reinforcing its 'No Messin' campaign ahead of the school holidays.



Every year dozens of people are killed or seriously injured on the railway by taking short cuts or even using the track as a guide home.

In the last five years, one in four of accidental fatalities has involved a person aged between eight and 18 years, with half of all near misses involving young children.

Martin Gallagher, Network Rail's National Manager, Corporate Affairs, comments: "During the summer and school holidays we always see an increase in rail crime, with the light evenings and kids looking for something to fill their free time.

"The railway is a dangerous place. A lot of kids think that mucking about with their mates on the tracks, playing games like chicken, throwing stuff at passing trains and tagging buildings is all good fun. Not so, when you consider the high chances of being badly injured or even killed.

"Trains travel up to 125mph and can take up to the length of 20 football fields to stop. Plus the overhead power cables carry 25,000 volts of electricity, which you don't even need to touch for it to kill you.

"During these school holidays we are encouraging all kids to take on the No Messin' message, to stay away from the tracks and to think twice about what they are doing."

For further information, please visit: www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk



Arriva Trains Wales

Terry Venables gives educational CD the green light

More than 100 primary schools throughout Rhondda Cynon Taf are to benefit from the launch of an educational CD supported by Arriva Trains Wales.

The CD, produced by the Cambrian Village Trust, was launched by former Tottenham Hotspur, Barcelona and England football manager Terry Venables at the Cambrian and Clydach Vale Boys and Girls Football Club, Clydach Vale.



Geraint Morgan, community affairs manager for Arriva Trains Wales, said; "One chapter on the CD focuses on helping children to learn about the dangers of trespass on the railway line."

"With the assistance of British Transport Police, our participation in the CD is one of many initiatives aimed at engaging with young people and improving safety on the rail network in the Rhondda Valley."

For further information, please visit: <http://www.arrivatrainswales.co.uk/>

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Stapleton Road Community Garden Centre



Volunteers from RSSB – Samantha Channer, and Community Safety programme managers Alan Davies and Marina Kilcoyne - recently joined others from Network Rail and First Great Western to assist in the clearing of vegetation, rubbish and graffiti from Network Rail operational land at Stapleton Road station in Bristol. This formed part of a Community Clean-up Day organised by Severnside Community Rail Partnership, Avon Probation Service, Eastside Roots and other local volunteers who undertook a



grand tidy-up of the Community Garden Centre lease area at the station, including areas surrounding it. This included the entrances to the Station, wasteland adjacent to Henrietta Street and the garden areas near St Mark's Road.



Aside from learning first-hand about the damage graffiti does to the railway – along with the hard work required to remove it - the event demonstrated that collectively, the industry is working together constructively, both in tried-and-tested partnerships with British Transport Police (BTP) and in emerging collaborations with non-rail bodies such as educational authorities and local councils to focus on the wider, complex underlying issues that are behind the effects seen on the railway.

The group filled three skips and two lorry loads of rubbish, an estimated 15 tons!

Nexus Keeps it clean

Metro's 17-strong team of graffiti cleaners' efforts to keep the Tyne and Wear Metro network – some 60 stations and associated track-side areas – free from graffiti through the year, rain or shine, were recognised at the 2007 Light Rail Awards where they were 'Highly Commended' in the Team of the Year category.

Nexus blitzed 48,000 square metres of graffiti on the Metro system during 2007 and repainted over 3,000 pieces of track-side equipment right across the network – an investment of £300,000 to ensure the Tyne and Wear Metro remains one of the cleanest urban rail networks in the country.

Nexus, the Metro operator, meets extremely stringent targets when it comes to the removal of graffiti from stations and the side of Metro trains.

Metro Director, Mick Carbro, said: "The work of our graffiti cleaners has been outstanding this year and they have not let up in their efforts to keep the system free of illegal graffiti at numerous hot spots right across our network.

During 2007 Nexus has worked with schools, youth groups and the Probation Service to educate and help to reduce graffiti on Metro.

For further information, please visit: <http://www.nexus.org.uk>



Stagecoach South Western Trains

For many months, Stagecoach South Western Trains (SSW) have been applying an easy-on anti-graffiti coating to the interior panels of the Siemens Desiro 'High Capacity' Class 450 fleet operating out of London Waterloo, as well as on units running on other 'graffiti hotspot' routes.

Following success of the initial trial, SSW is now looking to roll out the anti-graffiti coating programme, firstly across the remaining 99 Class 450 units and then across its entire fleet.

Ever since the Class 450 units were first introduced in 2003, graffiti has been a major problem for SSW, especially in areas such as toilets, where security systems such as CCTV cannot be fitted due to privacy issues, and where different textures and surfaces determine how much damage is caused to the paintwork, not just by the graffiti itself but also by conventional graffiti removal methods that were previously used to remove the graffiti from the paint.

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The Writing is on the Wall



SSW is currently applying easy-on protection coating to around 40 surfaces which are commonly prone to the build up of dirt and graffiti attacks on each Class 450 unit. These include the internal and external surfaces of toilets, cubicle doors and gangway areas. And since introducing the revolutionary coating solution, no visible signs of graffiti and damage have been reported.

For further information, please visit: <http://www.stagecoachgroup.com>

Network Rail's approach to the graffiti problem

Network Rail's uses a number of different approaches to prevent graffiti depending on the needs of the local area:

- Funding partnerships with local authorities – sometimes Network Rail pays local authorities to remove graffiti on our structures. Because they have their own graffiti-removal teams, they can often tackle problems faster and more cheaply than we can. This approach has worked very well in several London local authorities.
- Multi-party initiatives – Network Rail brings together the British Transport Police, local police forces, youth-offending teams, train operating companies with local authorities and our own teams to tackle the problem. Network Rail knows that the law is not the only solution for graffiti and use education, crime reduction, alternative activities for young people, publicity and cleansing as well.
- Intelligence-gathering on offenders – using cameras and daily checking to identify and monitor offenders so that they can be prosecuted
- Anti-graffiti technologies – including using non-stick, textured and graffiti-resistant paints, encouraging plants and trees to cover surfaces (where safe), improving fences and removing redundant buildings.

For further information, please visit: www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/

BTP

Nine vandals have pleaded guilty to one of the largest graffiti conspiracies ever brought to trial.



The vandals, collectively known as the DPM crew, targeted trains and railway infrastructure across England from 2004 until their arrest in 2006. Their crimes cost the rail industry at least £600,000.

Most of the DPM crew's activities were concentrated in south London. Areas targeted included Grove Park, Orpington and Croydon Tramlink depots and Dartford sidings. However, they also committed crimes in Liverpool, Manchester and Sunderland, as well as in Amsterdam, Paris and in the Czech Republic.

The conspiracy charges cover a two year period and 120 offences. Most of the men were arrested in June 2006 and charges were laid in October and November that year. The police inquiry, known as Operation Shuttle, took more than seven months to complete. Four of the men were caught red handed as a result of a covert surveillance operation.

Just before Christmas 2007, one of the DPM crew took a casual job under a false name with the BBC. Whilst working with the Art Department for Eastenders, he helped decorate the outdoor set at Elstree studios and also vandalised it with his tags.

"This was major crime on a vast scale, said Detective Superintendent Field. Graffiti not only scars the railway environment, it contributes to the fear of crime and costs operators thousands of pounds in equipment downtime as well as cleaning. Those costs have to be born by someone, and that someone is ultimately the fare paying passenger."

"Graffiti is an attack on the community and the environment. It is anti-social and destructive and it's a crime we take very seriously. We will continue to be proactive in investigating and prosecuting graffiti crime wherever it occurs on the rail".

For further information, please visit: <http://www.btp.presscentre.com/>



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British Transport Police neighbourhood policing teams update

The Neighbourhood Policing Teams aim to clamp down on low-level disorder and anti-social behaviour at stations and on trains. Officers are working closely with Network Rail and South West trains staff to tackle fare evasion and staff assaults.

5 Mainline Stations

King's Cross, St Pancras International, Paddington, Liverpool Street and Euston railway stations will each have their own dedicated teams consisting of one sergeant, four police constables and 12 police community support officers (PCSOs).

The Neighbourhood Policing Teams will be responsible for the railway station, the station forecourt and the station car park.

"The teams will be actively encouraging passengers to approach officers and raise any concerns they have about safety or criminality on the railways," he added.

They will conduct regular public surgeries as well as six weekly Police and Communities Together (PACT) meetings where they will work together with representatives from the local area to identify local needs.



To coincide with the launch of the teams, BTP's London North Area Commander, Chief Superintendent Mark Newton (pictured), is asking members of the public, rail staff and community groups to offer feedback of railway policing across the London North Area.

"The key to our future success in fighting crime on the railways is working in partnership and I'm keen to hear the views of the people we serve," he said.

"For our work to be as effective as possible, it is vital that we have input from everyone who uses or has an interest in policing of the railways - industry organisations, rail staff, passenger groups and the travelling public themselves."

If you would like a say in how the railways across the London North Area are policed, you can do so by emailing Chief Supt Newton at: LNAreaCommander@btp.pnn.police.uk.

Alternatively, please write to Area Commander Mark Newton, British Transport Police, London North Area Headquarters, 423 – 425 Caledonian Road, N7 9BQ, London.

Clapham Junction

British Transport Police has launched a new Neighbourhood Policing Team in an effort to cut crime and reassure rail passengers travelling through south-west London

The team will be based at Clapham Junction railway station and will consist of a police sergeant and eight police constables.

Officers will be dedicated to patrolling South West trains services and the 22 stations on the loop line from Clapham Junction to Kingston and to Staines.

Chief Inspector Little, said: "The team will regularly engage in crime reduction surgeries and will be conducting operations targeting knife crime and drug carrying."

Clapham Junction is the third Neighbourhood Policing team to be launched in the London South area of the Force, with teams already operating from Victoria and Lewisham railway stations.

Ian Johnston, South West Trains' Customer Service Director, said: "The introduction of this team is a real boon for both passengers and staff at South West Trains as they will see a reinforced emphasis on reducing crime.

We look forward to working alongside the Neighbourhood Policing Team, to continue the work of providing a safe railway."

For further information, please visit: <http://www.btp.presscentre.com/>



News in Brief

Merseyrail, major refurbishment - The entire fleet of Merseyrail trains have undergone a major refurbishment programme. Trains now have new interiors and seats, better lighting, passenger information displays, more bicycle spaces, better facilities for disabled passengers and CCTV in each vehicle.

Network Rail Scoops Award – 'No Messin' – Network Rail's community campaign aimed at tackling railway crime and saving lives on the railway – has won the prestigious Business in the Community BUPA Healthy Communities Award. The award, which is supported by the Department of Health and known as the 'Big Tick', recognises companies that work with voluntary and public sectors to improve the health and well-being of UK communities. No Messin' has also been shortlisted for the BITC's Examples of Excellence Awards in July.

Scotland – CRIME on Scotland's railways fell nine per cent in the past year, according to new figures. Superintendent Ronnie Mellis, Scottish Area commander for the British Transport Police, said: "This is the fourth consecutive year that crime on Scotland's railways has fallen."

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National Express

Boost for cycle security at train stations

Cyclists using Cambridge, Harlow Town and Ware stations are to receive free kits and advice to help prevent cycle theft.

National Express East Anglia is working with the British Transport Police on the 'Cycle Watch' initiative to cut cycle crime at its stations.

BTP officers will attend the stations to give free transponders or 'tags' to cyclists – electronic devices which hold an encrypted number, which when scanned can identify the owner in the event of a cycle being stolen.

The first of these events took place at Cambridge station 24 – 26 June, with further events at Harlow Town and Ware stations. A similar event also took place at Bishops Stortford station on 19 May and saw 56 cycle tags fitted to bikes, as well as vehicle crime leaflets handed out.

BTP officers and crime reduction officers were present offering crime prevention advice to cyclists on the day.

BTP's top tips for passengers to protect their bikes:

- Fitting your bike with a 'transponder'. Registering the details with them by completing the form provided. Without this, the bike can never be traced back to the owner.
- Register the bike on www.immobilise.co.uk, a web-based property site. This is similar to using a 'transponder', whereby if a bike is recovered in the hands of a thief, police can perform checks and reunite it with their rightful owner.
- Ensure that two solid locks are used to secure the bike.
- Take a photograph and keep details of the cycle such as the frame number, make, model and colour with the photograph.
- Report any incidents on the railways by calling BTP on Freephone 0800 40 50 40 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

For further information, please visit: www.nationalexpresseastanglia.com

Events this month:

Event Name	Date	Event Details
Railway Innovation Awards	Tuesday 1 July 2008	Venue: London For further information: http://www.railwayforum.com/awards/index.php
ACORP Conference	Thursday 10 July 2008	Venue: London For further information: http://www.acorp.uk.com/
'No Messin' Live! Keeping kids off the tracks	Wednesday 23 July – Thursday 24 July 2008 Thursday 31 July – Friday 1 August 2008	Venue: Alloa, Scotland Venue: Leeds For further information: http://www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/

Future Events:

Event Name	Date	Event Details
'No Messin' Live! Keeping kids off the tracks	Friday 1 August – Saturday 2 August 2008	Venue: Southampton

National Railway Crime Hotline
0800 40 50 40

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Future Events:

Event Name	Date	Event Details
'No Messin' Live! Keeping kids off the tracks <i>(continued)</i>	<i>Wednesday 6 August – Thursday 7 August 2008</i>	Venue: Coventry
	<i>Wednesday 13 August – Thursday 14 August 2008</i>	Venue: Moston, Manchester
	<i>Friday 29 August – Saturday 30 August 2008</i>	Venue: Weston-super-mare For further information: http://www.networkrailmediacentre.co.uk/
'Governing through anti-social behaviour' – ESRC Seminar Series Programme: Comparative experience of governing anti-social behaviour and disorder	<i>Thursday 18 September 2008</i>	Venue: University of Leeds For further information: http://www.community-safety.net/events.htm
ACORP Community Rail - The South West Experience - organised by the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership	<i>Friday 19 September 2008</i>	Venue: Plymouth For further information: http://www.acorp.uk.com/
ACORP Community Rail Awards – Plymouth	<i>Friday 19 September 2008</i>	Venue: Plymouth For further information: http://www.acorp.uk.com/
ACORP Community Rail Festival – Plymouth	<i>Saturday 20 September 2008</i>	Venue: Plymouth For further information: http://www.acorp.uk.com/
'Governing through anti-social behaviour' – ESRC Seminar Series Programme: The final conference, situating anti-social behaviour and respect	<i>March 2009</i>	Venue: Central London, tbc For further information: http://www.community-safety.net/events.htm
The Railway Community Safety Forum 2009	<i>Wednesday 18 March 2009</i>	Venue: National Motor Cycle Museum, Solihull, West Midlands For further information: E-mail: community.safety@rssb.co.uk

National Railway Crime Hotline
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