

# Coombe Hill SNT



## Foreword

Good morning and welcome to the inaugural edition of our "Meet the officers" series.

*I am the Chief Superintendent in charge of the South-West Borough Command Unit, and I have been looking for an opportunity to share the work of our staff with the wider SW London community. Each month we will be publishing articles by members of the senior leadership team and other front-line officers discussing what they do on a regular basis. They will share how factors such as their faith, ethnicity and personal interests shape the way that they police London.*

*I think this will be a fascinating opportunity to discover more about how your local police officers operate, and the motivations that drive them.*

**Lis Chapple - Chief Superintendent**

Your Team:

PCSO Oliver Barrett 7271SW

PC Vitor Pavia 1827SW

PC Simon Stamp 4560SW

A/PS Steve Hales 2631SW

**PRIORITY ONE:** Violence related priority

**PRIORITY TWO:** Burglary

**PRIORITY THREE:** Theft from MV

**SW BCU have a network of LGBT+ Advisors who can offer support and advice to LGBT+ victims of crime as well as assist investigating officers with their investigations.**

**To contact a LGBT+ Advisor please email: [Steven.Hales@met.police.uk](mailto:Steven.Hales@met.police.uk)**

### ACTIONS

**Burglary Week of Action:** 3<sup>rd</sup> February – 10<sup>th</sup> February and 21<sup>st</sup> February – 28<sup>th</sup> February

High visibility patrols were conducted at identified hotspots. Crime prevention advice, awareness raised to sheltered accommodation and care homes.

**Catalytic Converter Week of Action:** 14<sup>th</sup> February – 20<sup>th</sup> February

Three Officers across Canbury, Coombe Hill and Tudor are now trained in completing catalytic converter marking. We await funding to roll this out.

Stop and Search of a youth in possession of suspected Class A drugs and arrested for concerned in possession with intent to supply.

### Events

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March – Tiffani Coffee shop - Cuppa with a Coppa - 1400-1500hrs

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Kingston Hospital – Cuppa with a Coppa – 1600-1700hrs

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March – NextDoor – Online Session – 1400-1500hrs

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Coombe Wood Road – Street a Week – 1300-1400hrs

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Kingsnympton Youth Club - Community Event - 2000-2100hrs

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Ward Panel Meeting 1900hrs – 2100hrs TBC

**Want to get involved?**  
We are looking for members of the community to have their say and join our ward panel!

[COOMBEHILL@MET.POLICE.UK](mailto:COOMBEHILL@MET.POLICE.UK)



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

# INVESTIGATION

# STRAND



**Damian Ash**

Detective Chief Inspector

Hi, my name is Damian Ash and I'm part of the leadership team here in the South West BCU, and I have recently handed over the leadership of the Investigation Strand to Detective Superintendent Suzanne Jordan. I thought this would be an ideal time to catch up and reflect on some of the work we have been doing to make both London and the South West as safe as possible.

Anyone that has had the misfortune to chat to me will know how passionate I am about reducing violence and I often talk about the hidden picture that drives so much of the tragic news we see and hear across the country. In fact, if you have burnt through all your lockdown streaming shows and have finished watching paint dry you can hear me talk about it in a bit more depth on our "Plodcast" episode "public protection". (<https://www.swlondoner.co.uk/news/14052021-south-west-london-police-officers-launch-first-plodcast-in-the-met/>)

We often see fly on the wall documentaries following cops in car chases, smashing down doors of drug dealers or detectives beavering against the clock to charge a violent criminal. However there are numerous departments that fit into the bigger picture, and today I'd like to talk about the work of one of our units - the Integrated Offender Management Unit, or IOM as we often refer to it. Our IOM brings a cross-agency response to the crime and reoffending threats faced by local communities. The most persistent and problematic offenders are identified and managed jointly by partner agencies working together to give a local response to local problems, and get offenders to face up to their responsibility. I know this approach to policing can divide opinion, but the drivers of violence and crime are so complex that I think the idea that we as the police can do this alone is not right, and actually helping people help themselves makes sense both professionally and morally.

I am really proud of the achievements our IOM have made, and I love listening to the case studies of how some of our ex-offenders have turned their lives around and now work with young men and women caught up in gang life. I have always extended an invite to people to come and see the hard work and dedication that goes across the South West BCU, and would love to also see people getting involved with some of the voluntary work that's available both with the police, and also the charities that we are partnered with in the South West.

Thanks for staying this long, as always stay safe and you can always reach me here at [damian.ash@met.police.uk](mailto:damian.ash@met.police.uk)

# INVESTIGATION

# STRAND



**Richard Scott**

Detective Sergeant

Hi, I'm one of the supervisors in the South West CID, which is part of the Local Investigations strand, based at Wandsworth Police Station. I run a small team of officers who are tasked with the investigation of serious and complex crimes committed across South West London, in the boroughs of Wandsworth, Merton, Kingston and Richmond. Our remit is really varied, ranging from drug supply to serious assaults, from aggravated burglary to sexual offences, from kidnap to blackmail, death investigations and many more. It's a cliché but nonetheless true to say that I have no idea what I will be dealing with each day when I come to work.

Like all police officers I have been dismayed by recent coverage and public perception of my profession. I feel let down by those officers who have brought the police service into disrepute, but I cannot reconcile the way we are so often described at the moment with what I see every day, which is a team of dedicated detectives who care about the way their work is perceived and want to do a good job for the public they serve.

I thought it might be useful to describe a typical day in the SW CID.

We work shifts - eardies, lates and nights - ensuring there is 24-hour CID cover across our boroughs. At the start of each shift I take a handover from the outgoing shift's supervisor, which will detail ongoing matters that need to be progressed over the next 8 or 9 hours. Sometimes there is a lot to be handed over, sometimes nothing. More often than not it's somewhere in between, and a number of my team will be tasked to these enquiries. Those who are not will be able to use the time to progress their workload of ongoing investigations: taking statements, conducting interviews, locating and arresting wanted suspects, making CCTV and witness enquiries, reviewing and scheduling digital material and preparing files of evidence for referral to the Crown Prosecution Service amongst other things.

They all know, though, that the phone could go at any time, and when it does they will need to drop what they're doing and deploy to a stabbing, or a suicide, a high risk missing person or a premises search, a cannabis farm, firearms offence, vulnerable sexual offence victim or anything else that might and does happen on a daily basis across the South West.

When they do deploy, they won't know what they're about to walk into, when they'll be able to return to their ongoing investigations, when will be their next opportunity to eat, whether they will be off work on time, how much sleep they'll get if they're off late, and of course what tomorrow will bring.

And yet they keep coming back. We put them through a lot and I'm proud of them.