



Welcome to the Spring Edition of the HBAC Members Newsletter! It has been a busy period for HBAC with preparation for the Action Against Business Crime Audit (AABC), the AABC Conference, CCTV visits, new radio login procedures and year end statistics! Details to follow! We hope that you have had a successful retail period and would like to thank you all for your continued support and determination to fight crime and make our towns a safer place to be!



AABC Accreditation - For the second time HBAC has been awarded with the Safer Business Award from Action Against Business Crime. This important award was developed to ensure that there are nationally recognised and accepted standards for the management and operation of business crime reduction partnerships. Partnerships are inspected by AABC before being accredited and are re-inspected every three years before being re-accredited with the SBA to ensure those standards are maintained.

The award demonstrates that partnerships operate legally, to high standards, and reflects the increasing professionalism of partnerships. It helps to develop wider recognition of the value of their work and enhances relationships with police and other agencies.

HBAC Yearly Statistics Jan 06 – Dec 06 and Jan 07 – Dec 07

The HBAC annual statistics for 2007 show the following percentages when compared to the same period in 2006:

Huntingdon reported Shop thefts **down 24%** in 2007 compared to 2006

St Ives reported Shop thefts **up 8%** 2007 compared to 2006

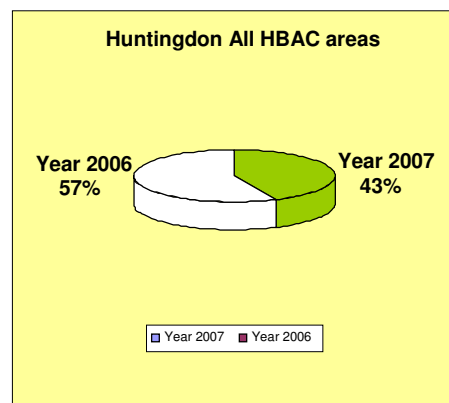
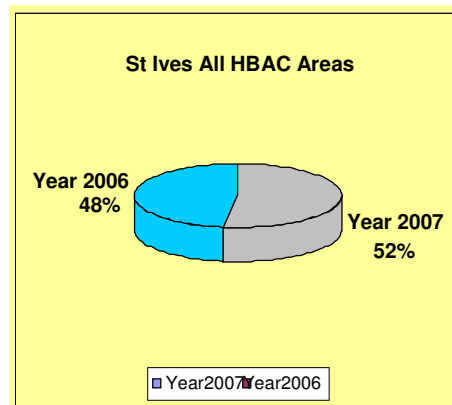
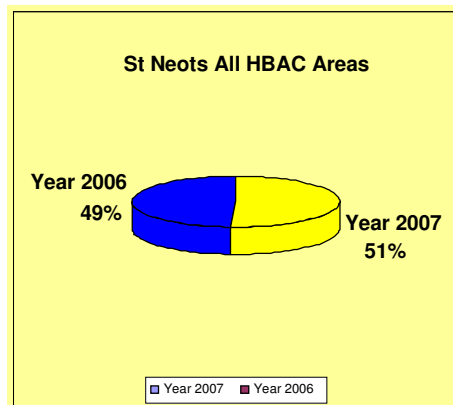
St Neots reported Shop thefts **up 3%** 2007 compared to 2006

Overall statistics for Shop thefts in all Areas HBAC operate in **down 10%**



Well done!! And thank you to all members for their hard work in reporting shop thefts and following best practice. The statistics although down slightly for St Neots and St Ives are very positive and show a similar trend to many other crime schemes where at years 4 and 5 results for established schemes show a decrease in thefts which is then maintained. The successes in Huntingdon follow this trend having been established for longer than St Neots and St Ives. I hope that these results indicate that by working together and reporting crime, we can significantly reduce shop thefts and that next years figures will show a decrease in St Ives and St Neots – **we can do it!!!**

If you would like a copy of the data these statistics were taken from please let us know.



**Radio Login Procedure and new User Guide**

I hope that you will all have received the user guide and quick reference card sent to you in February. The guide and card detail the new login procedure for radio users and general user guidelines, as requested by members at the last photograph meeting. Created in partnership with CCTV we aim to make using the radio more effective for both members and CCTV.

Please use the new login procedure to enable CCTV to see your communications; this is essential in a crisis situation where it may not be possible to give your call sign. If you are logged in, your radio can be seen on a new LCD screen within the CCTV centre. The login procedure is simply press C on your radio to logon, you will receive a message on screen telling you your logon is acknowledged and then B to logoff, again you will receive a message to say this is acknowledged, you can then switch off your radio. Radio checks should be continued regularly to check transmission however this is not required daily if the new login procedure is being carried out.

If you have any feedback or you require additional copies of the guide and card then please let us know.

Visits to the CCTV Centre

Following the successful visits in January to the new CCTV Centre we have now arranged an additional evening slot for the 17th of April at six in the evening, if you have not already been on a visit please make the time to come. The feedback from members has been excellent, being able to see what CCTV can see, what they do and the part you play is not only very interesting but essential in fighting crime. Radio training is also available if required. To book your place please contact us on 01480 457579.

Policing Changes:**Huntingdon:**

Inspector Sue Taylor
PC Mark Ruddy - in charge of the town centre

Additional PCSO imminently

St Ives:

Inspector Mark Newman

St Neots:

PC Kersten Cruickshank
(formally PCSO)

Immobilise – Register your property!

Thousands of items are lost or stolen in the UK each year. Immobilise is the home of the UK National Property Register and Recovery Service. It is trusted by over 17 million UK subscribers who have registered over 22 million items of property. Endorsed by all 43 UK Police forces and the UK Second Hand Trade it is searched and used to return stolen property to its rightful owners. The web site is www.immobilise.com



HBAC Annual General Meeting

HBAC's Annual General Meeting will be held next quarter (dates and location to follow). This is a time for all members to get together and have an input into the scheme by voting on who will become the Officers for the following year. With our current Chairman Mike Fowler retiring in June of this year, this is also a time to thank Mike for all of his dedication and hard work on behalf of the scheme over the last four years, without his support the scheme would not be where it is today. We will also need your vote on the election of a new Chairperson. I hope to see you all there!

AABC Conference 2008



This years AABC conference was very interesting with the focus on crime schemes and partnership working, especially in light of the current resource issues within the Constabulary nationwide. Guest speaker The Lord Dear, a distinguished former Police Officer with the Queen's commendation for bravery noted that the UK has the lowest number of Police Officers per population in the western world with just 297 Police per 100,000 people compared to Chicago alone where there are 450 Police per 100,000 people. This figure highlights how essential it is that crime schemes and members work in partnership with the Constabulary and each other to reduce and prevent crime. The bank of England also had a very interesting display and offer free presentations to groups of 30 people or more, if this would be beneficial then please let us know and we will arrange this. Another interesting calculation made by Rob Dyson, the Business Crime Manager for Bolton is that the total value lost to retailers is £1057 per incident, again highlighting the value of crime prevention. The overall message was that working as a group with a shared goal does bring results and significant reductions in loss!

If anyone would like more information regarding the Conference then please contact us.

If you have any queries or would like any additional information please do not hesitate to contact us.

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