

Internship Programme

This year we launched an Internship Programme which provides university students and other volunteers with an interactive learning experience, gaining an overview of criminal justice agencies in London, and a better understanding of the charity sector in general. Interns assist with the daily work of SLF whilst engaging in the learning component where they have the opportunity to visit other agencies and SLF projects throughout London. The first student intern, Omar Salidzik from Huron University, USA, joined SLF from October to December 2005, and three

additional interns from Huron joined SLF from February - April 2006. Valentina Lotti, who has volunteered in the SLF office since November 2005, has now joined the internship programme. The programme has now been offered to MA students in Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies at King's College London. Kate Lloyd is our first intern from King's College.

If you want more information about the SLF Internship Programme, please contact Julie Williams-Krishnan, Volunteers Co-ordinator at juliewilliams@saferlondonfoundation.org.



SLF Interns from Huron University, USA: Allegra Swann, Oluwaseun Oni and Megan Stoner

How can you help SLF?

Fight Crime with Flowers

This magnificent climbing rose has been named "New Scotland Yard" as a tribute to the Metropolitan Police Service who celebrated their 175th anniversary in 2004. For every "New Scotland Yard" rose sold a donation will be made to support the work of Safer London Foundation.

To order "New Scotland Yard" roses, please visit "charity roses" section at www.worldofroses.co.uk



Become a Partner

We rely on the support of our partners from the business community to enable us to make London a safer place to live, work or visit. Whatever the size or type of business, there will almost certainly be ways in which we can work together. Whether it be large corporate sponsorship, support for a local project from a local business or through volunteering your skills or time, we would be very happy to explore ways in which we can work in partnership to make London a safer place.

If you are considering supporting the work of the Safer London Foundation and would like more information about our work, please contact Tony Shepherd who will be happy to provide further information.

Become a Volunteer

Volunteers are vital to the success of the work at Safer London Foundation. We need people from all areas of the community, and we need many different kinds of skills, knowledge and talent. If you are interested in volunteering for SLF, please contact Julie Williams-Krishnan at juliewilliams@saferlondonfoundation.org or see the website to download an application form.

Raise Money by Searching the Web

[everyclick.com](http://www.everyclick.com) is an internet search engine with a big difference - it donates half its revenues to charity!

It does not cost us, or you, a penny. Now you can support Safer London Foundation every time you search the web.

Just make <http://www.everyclick.com/uk/saferlondonfoundation> your home page and make sure you use it whenever you search the web!

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First Anniversary Issue

Safer times

Summer 2006
Issue 2

everyone deserves a safer london

Ahoy!

Sailing Centre in Action



Mission statement

The Safer London Foundation aims to reduce crime, promote community cohesion and develop safer neighbourhoods through innovative community led crime reduction projects, education, information and support.

We recognise the strength gained from diversity, having a commitment to equality of opportunity in all areas of our work.


safer london foundation
everyone deserves a safer london
www.saferlondonfoundation.org

June 2006 sees the first anniversary of the launch of the Safer London Foundation, and what a year it's been - in addition to supporting 11 community led crime reduction projects, the Foundation has also provided over 1,400 hours of volunteering; developed a pilot mentoring programme for police officers using volunteers from KPMG and Atos Origin; worked with the Metropolitan Police and the London Chamber of Commerce to launch Operation Quadrant's Business Partnerships, which aims to reduce serious crime in South Asian communities, and launched our own University Internship Programme with Huron University, USA and King's College, London.

In February the first Safer London Problem Solving Awards were presented at The Safer Neighbourhoods: The Future of Policing conference. We were invited by Rt Hon Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC, Minister of State for the criminal justice system and offender management to become founder

members of the Government's new initiative, Reducing Re-offending Corporate Alliance, which was launched on 28th March 2006. The Alliance aims to improve ex-offenders' employability and get them into work. In December 2005 we moved offices from KPMG in Blackfriars Road to our own premises in Union Street, SE1 (we call it Southwark Village!)

None of this would have been possible without the help and support of our volunteers; our Board of Trustees our corporate sponsors: Metropolitan Police Authority, Metropolitan Police Service, Atos Origin, Rentokil Initial and KPMG; our seconded members of staff, university interns and last but not least our talented team of staff.

We will be celebrating our first birthday on June 21st and will be looking forward to many more years of making London a safer place to live, work and visit.



Editor's Corner

What have I been up to lately?



Volunteer and Newsletter Editor Sunita Sidhu

I visited the AHOY Centre to discuss the possibility of volunteering. The project is based in Deptford along the River Thames and I went with SLF's Volunteer Co-ordinator to meet other volunteers and to gain more insight into what the project offers to young people and how I might be able to contribute. I was very impressed with the quality of the facilities and the enthusiasm of the people who run the project. We discussed various roles that I could assist with, such as general administration and sailing, but I decided that my skills could be best used by volunteering on Saturdays and assisting with the youth group.

I was very fortunate to be able to observe the youth group in action, which showed the enthusiasm of the young people and how they worked together as a team. I am really looking forward to working as an SLF volunteer at AHOY and am especially keen to sail on the River Thames, which will be great fun in the summer.

If you are considering becoming a volunteer why not contact Julie Williams-Krishnan, SLF Volunteer Co-ordinator who would be happy to discuss current volunteering opportunities with you. There is no pressure to volunteer, but I am certain that like me once you hear about the important contribution made by volunteers at SLF you will be excited by our work which really does make a difference to people's lives. No matter what your skills or qualifications or the amount of time that you can give, the Foundation can almost always find a role for you that will contribute to the reduction of crime in London.

The Safer Schools Mentoring Project

The Safer London Foundation, in partnership with The Safer Schools Partnerships (SSP) and KPMG, has launched a pilot mentoring programme for Metropolitan Police Service Officers who are based in schools in Haringey and Hackney.

The Project matched seven volunteers from two of the Foundation's sponsors, KPMG and Atos Origin with seven police officers who were keen to continue to build their leadership skills, develop even stronger relationships with their communities, and raise the profile of the good work being done via the SSP, which is in its fourth year.

The pilot programme was launched with a very successful full-day mentor-training programme in which, uniquely, both the mentors and mentees participated. This approach helped all participants gain a strong understanding of the goals of the programme and an understanding of the very different cultures in which they work. The day was hailed as a success by course members, one officer stating that he was looking forward to "having someone from outside my organisation to act as a sounding board" and the KPMG volunteer who was looking forward to "making value-added contributions, exposure to a new world and sharing experiences and knowledge."

The volunteer mentors and police officers have met for three hours a month until the end of the school year. An evaluation of the project is currently taking place with a view to rolling out the project to other schools' police officers and additional SLF partner organisations in the forthcoming year.



SLF Staff (from the left):
Gurpal Viridi, Jill Andrews, Tony Shepherd, Sue Bullivant,
Mark Sheeran, Ian Barlow (Chair), Julie Williams-Krishnan,
and Allegra Swann



Women involved in sex work have complex needs and live chaotic lives. Being financially supported by the Safer London Foundation means that our outreach services to women can continue, with part-time staff providing professional support to hundreds of women in Lambeth. **(Streatham Streetlink)**



Operation Quadrant Business Partnership Project



On 14th March 2006, the Safer London Foundation launched a major new joint initiative between the Foundation, the Metropolitan Police Service and the London Chamber of Commerce's Asian Business Association.

Since the bombings of 7th July 2005, the MPS has received many offers of help. The business sector has been asked to show its support by 'signing up' to become partners of Operation Quadrant, a long term crime prevention initiative focusing on building confidence within the Asian community. Businesses are asked to pledge a donation for a Partnership Certificate, which we

hope they will proudly display within their organisation. All funds will be used by the Safer London Foundation, to help set up long term crime prevention and youth diversion projects.

The Operation Quadrant Business Partnership scheme supports projects in the South Asian community that contribute to making London a safer place to live and work.

For more information about the scheme, please contact Gurpal Viridi, Operations Manager at gurpalviridi@saferlondonfoundation.org

MPS Assistant Commissioner Tarique Ghaffur and Paul Cassie Managing Director of the ISS Security Group, one of the first members of Operation Quadrant, at the launch at the London Chamber of Commerce.

Want to hear about some of the projects?

In our first year, SLF has supported 11 community based projects with grants and/or volunteers. We provided grants through the Small Grants Programme, Community Grants Programme and Capacity Building Programme. Here are some details:

AHOY Sailing Centre www.ahoy.org.uk

The AHOY Sailing Centre (Royal Yacht Association accredited training centre) offers the opportunity for all young people to be involved in learning to sail, race, row, maintain boats, join holiday schemes and assist in race management. Their aim is to target potentially excluded groups of young people and offer activities to build self-esteem, self-confidence and training. The Foundation has provided financial support to Ahoy to develop a diversion project which provides water based courses for offenders and those at risk of offending to provide a creative alternative to crime. The SLF grant has been used to part fund a Senior Instructor. SLF has also provided a volunteer to work at the centre.

Army Cadet Force Outreach Scheme www.reserve-forces-london.org.uk

The Army Cadet Force Outreach Scheme focuses on young people who have been identified as crime-vulnerable by Youth Offending Teams, Safer Neighbourhood Teams, schools or other agencies. 104 young people attended a selection weekend in April 2006 and 70 attended a week long adventure training camp in May. They were joined by other cadets from across London which provided a broad mix of young people. The project aims are to prevent young people on the scheme being involved in crime and anti-social behaviour by offering structure to their lives and offer an opportunity to join the Cadets. The grant from Safer London Foundation has allowed the Army Cadet Force for the first time to invite vulnerable young people referred by Youth Offending Teams, Safer Neighbourhood Teams and Schools from across London to take part in the programme.

Community Safety Office www.communitysafetyoffice.org

Based on an original idea developed in Arnhem, Holland, the Community Safety Office (CSO) is currently operating from Peter Street, Soho. CSO is a community owned and managed facility that enables the police, local authority and other service providers to be an integral part of the community along with local residents and businesses by providing community based accommodation where people can meet and share information. The project plans to integrate the Safer Neighbourhood Police Team which will soon be housed in the CSO offices. This will enable the community to take advantage of this exciting opportunity to interact with community police officers on safe and neutral ground. SLF has provided CSO with mentoring for the Chair of the Board, volunteer IT consultant and volunteer staff member, a public relations officer, and helped source a new Treasurer for the board.

Hackney Quest www.hackneyquest.org.uk

Hackney Quest's aim is to educate at-risk young people with leisure time activities to develop, nurture and encourage their full potential and to divert them from crime and anti-social behaviour. Hackney Quest provides activities for 120 young people; aged nine-16 from diverse ethnic backgrounds based in extremely deprived areas of Hackney. Our grant has provided ten educational workshops which include Understanding Anti-social Behaviour; Preventing Knife Crime; Preventing Gun Crime; Exploring Feelings and Self-awareness; Personal Safety; Dealing Positively with Anger; Conflict Resolution; Dealing Positively with Authority; Ex-offender advice followed by discussion and evaluation of the workshops.

Heartstone www.heartstone.co.uk

Heartstone's aim is to challenge racism, xenophobia and intolerance through the use of story - fiction, history, photo-documentary - covering contemporary issues which are presented in exhibitions, events and publications. The educational project which follows on offers support to victims of racist or intolerant attitudes and actions as well as challenging perpetrators and raising awareness of these issues. The project also raises core skills of literacy and oral communication as well as self-esteem and confidence. The SLF Grant allowed Heartstone to update their material and work with 30 additional schools and youth groups in six London boroughs, each receiving both an exhibition to raise awareness and involve young people in the project.

Pointless Taxi Productions www.welling.bexley.sch.uk

Pointless Taxi Productions is an exciting after-school project for GCSE and A level students. They make short films that focus on issues such as bullying, domestic violence and anti-social behaviour in Bexley. Pointless Taxi Productions runs a young persons film production company that provides young people aged 14-19 with the opportunity to make films from idea to distribution which challenge criminal and anti-social behaviour within the Community Safety Action Zone, address the fear of crime which in turn builds sustainable communities. The project also provides high quality vocational training as well as giving young people a voice within their community and increasing confidence, motivation and expectations of young people at risk of social and educational exclusion. The Foundation was able to fully fund the project which included film distribution across London Safer Neighbourhood Teams.



Pointless Taxis - Students in Action!

Streatham Streetlink www.spires.org.uk

Located at the Spires Centre in Streatham, Streatham Streetlink provides services to meet the needs of street based sex workers, with the ultimate aim of enabling as many of them as possible to leave prostitution. Their work includes: outreach (late evening and early morning); meeting sex workers' immediate needs (safe space, food, shelter, clothes, needle exchange, distributing condoms), court diversion services, information about housing/drug/alcohol support; accessible follow up services (support work); liaising with local residents; working with other agencies. As a result of the grant made by SLF a new member of staff has been employed to work with a minimum of 50 new clients who will be given professional support in dealing with the courts, police, housing advice, referrals to drugs detox and health services. This will have a great impact on reducing service users' future risk of criminal activity and increase potential to move away from prostitution in the future. SLF has also provided a volunteer who is a professional healthcare worker to work at the centre.

Urban Concepts www.dont-trigger.com

Urban Concepts are a South London based project that has teamed up with Mothers Against Guns to form the "Don't Trigger Campaign". This campaign has been designed to eliminate the gun crime that exists on the streets and has been backed by Mothers Against Guns all of whom have lost loved ones to this harsh, brutal yet very real crime. The campaign has collaborated with the music industry, and has backing from the Mayor of London. A collection of music singles were released in the charts in October 2005. SLF provided an interest free loan to assist with the production and distribution of the Don't Trigger video, which has been seen by over five million people.

The Violence Initiative www.tvicc.v.org

The Violence Initiative (TVI) works with people from all over London who have been referred to them. TVI helps individuals learn to manage anger and control their violence, with early intervention offsetting an escalating cycle of violent behaviour. SLF has provided funds to contribute to the salary of a full-time senior counsellor, which will enable increased service capacity. This extra capacity will be devoted to developing further links with key services, including the Metropolitan Police Service and National Offender Management Service. The funding will also contribute to the development of a new anti-violence programme for prisoners at HMP Wormwood Scrubs.

YESS (Youth Entertainment Sound System) www.yess.co.uk

Based in North London, the YESS (Youth Entertainment Sound System) is a foundation which hones the skills and creative minds of young people and channels them away from criminal activity. The YESS Project addresses the cultural difficulties in North London area as well as addressing the issues surrounding the gang culture that exists in the local area. SLF has enabled YESS to showcase performers at events such as the Tottenham Carnival and Community Festival and Finsbury Park Diversity Festival and has also provided a business mentor for the director of YESS.

Watford Football Club's Community Sports and Educational Trust www.watfordfc.premiumtv.co.uk



SLF Volunteer David Andrews (third from right) representing SLF at Watford Football Club during half-time on 4 March 2006. David has supported Watford FC for 37 years!

The Trust has been working closely with the Metropolitan Police for some considerable time, and this project links closely with the Safer Neighbourhoods teams. The project aims are to give young people at risk of offending the opportunities for participation which help to reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour and crime by young people, to encourage community cohesion (uniting multi-cultural/racial communities), good citizenship, as well as providing training and employment opportunities. Approximately 300 young people per month take part in various activities including twilight football; holiday courses; rookie coach scheme; junior citizen scheme; inter-estate league/festival and film-making at Watford FC. The SLF Grant is being used to fund the Trust to run the scheme for two years as well as enabling them to secure match funding to run expanded programmes for four years.

“ The Safer London Foundation has been great both in terms of funding the AHOY centre to employ a Senior Instructor as well as great advice and professional service. They have also helped us with volunteer recruitment and volunteer days at the AHOY. (Ahoy Sailing Centre) ”

Rentokil-Initial Seconded, Jill Andrews - On her secondment as Operations Manager to the Safer London Foundation

Jill's Story

In the summer of 2005 I saw an advertisement in the Rentokil Initial newsletter for a secondment to the Safer London Foundation, the charitable arm of the Metropolitan Police Service. I had been working for just over two years as a Project Manager, looking after Thistle Hotels, but was interested in gaining some experience in the not for profit sector. The Foundation's vision is to make London the safest capital city in the world. Rentokil Initial is a core sponsor of the Safer London Foundation - which relies totally on sponsorship and donations from corporate sponsors - without whom SLF would be unable to continue the important work of supporting innovative crime reducing projects.

The Foundation has offered me the opportunity to transfer the skills and expertise that I have gained over many years in the commercial sector. Modern charities are in fact charitable businesses and so I found that I was able to make a meaningful contribution to the development of the Foundation in its first year of operation whilst learning a great deal from my colleagues.

Every day is different but I usually arrive in the office at 9.00am and catch up on emails and administration before making visits to crime reduction projects which are either making an application to the Foundation or already being supported. I might have to provide advice on making an application to the Foundation or monitor progress; the role of Operations Manager requires high level management skills as well as diplomacy and sensitivity.

I've really enjoyed meeting the project co-ordinators and learning about their exciting ideas and experiencing their passion for their projects and the people they support.



Clive Ward, Sector Managing Director at Rentokil-Initial and Jill Andrews, SLF Operations Manger, seconded from Rentokil-Initial.

I have learned a whole new range of people skills as well as seeing the causes of crime and the criminal justice system from a totally different perspective.

Would I recommend the experience of a secondment to other senior managers from the commercial sector? Most certainly YES!

A Policeman's Lot...



For the past 11 months I have been working at the Safer London Foundation as a seconded Police Officer from the Metropolitan Police Service. As Operations Manager I have really enjoyed contributing to the important work of the Foundation. However, it's typical of me - I land the best job a police officer can have and then I get myself promoted and have to move on! I recently passed the MPS promotion exams and will shortly be promoted to Chief Inspector. Regrettably, this means I will have to leave the Safer London Foundation

When I first heard about the role of Operations Manager at SLF I recognised immediately that this would be an incredible opportunity for me personally as well as providing an opportunity to benefit my career by learning a new set of skills.

Nowhere else could offer the unique experience I have had of working directly alongside other charities, community groups, police teams and the corporate business sector.

At the promotion exams I was able to talk proudly of the part I had played in SLF's successes and achievements in the past year. I am sure that the panel were impressed by the quality of work that I have accomplished in such a short time which made a positive contribution to my interview.

As I move on, I take with me a new set of skills and experiences that I know will assist me in my new role as Chief Inspector and am sure that I will continue to keep contact with the Foundation over the years to come.

I would like to personally thank Tony Shepherd and everyone else involved in the Foundation for their support during my stay. I believe that the Safer London Foundation has already made a major contribution to crime reduction across London since its launch in June 2005 and I look forward to following the Foundation's future developments.

Chief Inspector Mark Sheeran, SLF Operations Manager



The generous support shown by the Safer London Foundation has enabled the Trust to further develop a Social Inclusion football project in Harrow. (Watford FC Community Sports and Educational Trust)



Operation Quadrant Leadership Week for South Asian Youths

The Metropolitan Police Service has developed a programme of short six day courses in association with the Brathay Hall Trust to develop self esteem, leadership, self confidence and team working amongst young people within the South Asian community and to educate them on the crimes that happen in the Metropolitan region.

The MPS, as part of Operation Quadrant, has now run three successful programmes. The latest was during the Easter holidays. The MPS took twelve young Asian girls and two youth leaders to Brathay Hall in Windermere, Lake District where they were accompanied by an Asian female officer, Sergeant Amar Saggar.

Acting Detective Inspector Gurpal Viridi, who is now seconded to the Safer London Foundation as an Operations Manager and who organises these programmes, said "This was challenging because young Asian girls do not get the opportunity to go on such programmes. To organise an ALL female event required a lot of negotiations but we got there eventually." He also thanked the London Asian communities for believing in and supporting the project.

A typical day commenced at 7am with breakfast followed by an action packed range of on and offsite activities including rock climbing, hiking, abseiling, orienteering, obstacle courses and caving in the Yorkshire Dales.

Gurpal Viridi said "Much of the challenge lies in building initial confidence, capability and capacity among such young people, so that they actually believe in themselves, their own skills and abilities, and sustainability is built into everything they seek to achieve. This is where Brathay Hall Trust fits into the equation".

They were given a presentation on the work of the MPS which drew a lot of interest from inquisitive youngsters.

Sergeant Saggar said "I believe that the young women learned a lot about themselves, at first they were not keen to carry out some of the activities, however once they did, they gained a great deal of personal satisfaction."

Youth worker Shushoma Khatun said "The weekend was a great success and the young women who took part got a lot out of it. It was particularly good to see a residential course organised specifically for young Asian women. This group often misses out because it is difficult to get their families to consent to them being away from home overnight. I know all the girls who went on this one really enjoyed themselves. Not only did it provide them with some new skills, it has got them thinking about their future career options."

Photo: Operation Quadrant Participants and Gurpal Viridi in Brathay, April 2006

