

'Cash saved will pay for officers'

by **Hannah Raven**
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POLICING in the borough is set for a complete restructure as the Mayor of London introduces the Local Policing Model (LPM).

All nine SNTs in the north of the borough will now be based at Ruimsip police station in The Oaks, meaning officers will have to cycle, use public transport or get dropped off by a police force mini bus in order to patrol their wards, some four miles away.

Rob Wilson, chief inspector of partnerships at Hillingdon police, said: "The Met currently spends thousands of pounds on small SNT offices which they would

prefer to spend on officers. But as well as saving money, we want to improve services."

Every ward in the borough will now have at least one PC and one Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), supported by a team of officers who can move to the areas that need them most.

CID and response team staff will be transferred from their office roles to increase neighbourhood officer numbers. "I do think it will be better policing," said Mr Wilson.

"We've seen good crime reduction in every crime type in Hillingdon, and I think the LPM will increase that further. "We seem to have lost the community engagement in the north of the borough and we aim to bring it back.

"We want the SNTs to become the focal point of local policing. It's all achievable."

Under the moves, Harfield police office, the Northwood police front desk and all the Safer Neighbourhoods Teams (SNTs) offices will close, as part of Boris Johnson's plans to save £520million over the next three years by reducing the number of buildings in the Met's estate.

When the changes are introduced in mid-June, the SNTs will operate for more hours, from 8am-midnight Sunday to Wednesday, and until 2am on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

■ Is the thin, blue line overstretched? See page 14 for ways to get in touch and have your say.

Burglar sent down after three strikes

A BURGLAR has been jailed for three years after breaking a 'three strikes and out' law aimed at deterring repeat intruders.

Alic Chalcraft, of Central Avenue, Hayes, admitted his third domestic burglary, and was given the minimum three-year custodial term, imposed under section 111 of the Powers of

Criminal Courts Act which was first introduced in 1999. Chalcraft, 24, stole two laptops, a camera, gold, an expensive watch, and £7,000 in cash in the burglary at a home in Church Road, Hayes, on February 7.

He was sentenced at Isleworth Crown Court on Tuesday, April 9.

Monk's blessing perfect therapy for new shop



■ **DIVINE INSPIRATION:** Buddhist monk Seng Pannyawansa blesses new Peace Star Thai Therapy in Herries Road, Hillingdon
Photo by Chris Berry NL20135002_7

THE owners of a new business hope a little divine inspiration will help it flourish.

The Peace Star Thai Therapy shop officially opened its doors on Monday in Herries Road, Hillingdon, and a special guest was there to bring them luck.

The venerable Seng Pannyawansa, a Thai Buddhist monk, was invited down to perform a blessing of the shop to bring it good fortune in the years ahead.

Wearing traditional robes, the monk led the staff in the blessing before performing a ritual inside the shop to bring peace and happiness to all.

He had travelled to Hillingdon from Oxford, where he teaches at a Buddhist temple.

The shop will be run by two experienced masseurs, Dao Romyen and Sawan Billings, who have both trained in Thailand and are members of the Federation of Holistic Therapists.

Ms Romyen, said: "Our partners have worked very hard in converting the shop from a motorcycle repair shop into the wonderfully calm environment that exists today."

Mrs Billings added: "We are both very excited by our new venture and will work hard to ensure its success."



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SPORT



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ON THE WEB

RUISLIP FAMILY DEATHS TRAGEDY - SEE UPDATES ALL WEEK AT uxbridgegazette.co.uk

Money will go to charity which helped arthritis suffering granddaughter

by **Carl Cavaghan**
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A RETIRED firefighter is off on a round-the-world motorcycle trip in aid of a charity close to his heart.

Paul Phillips, 57, from Cowley, and his friend Greg Pepper, 43, from Dover will travel through more than 16 countries to raise money for the Children's Arthritis Trust.

Mr Phillips, of Delfield Crescent,

chose the charity because his granddaughter, Megan, suffered from juvenile arthritis and he and his family are grateful for the treatment she received at a hospital it supports.

The bikers expect to travel for 16 weeks on their BMW 1200GS motorcycles, sleeping wherever they can pitch their tent on the self-funded expedition.

Mr Phillips, who now runs a small heating company, told the Gazette:

"It is something we have both always wanted to do and this year we are finally getting around to it."

"It was only once we started planning that we decided to use the trip to raise money for The Children's Arthritis Trust, as my 14-year-old granddaughter, Megan, suffered from juvenile arthritis."

"The doctors at Great Ormond Street Hospital have been great with her, so it will be good to raise some money for the charity."

The pair depart on Friday next week and will ride through France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Siberia and Mongolia.

From there they will head to South Korea and Japan, before flying into Anchorage, Alaska, then riding across Canada and back into and heading back to Europe.

Mr Phillips said: "I think we will rack up around 20,000 miles, and there will only be the two of us, so if something goes wrong it will be up to us to sort it out."

"We are looking forward to it. It will be the experience of a lifetime and a dream realised for us both."

They are hoping to raise more than £5,000 over the course of the trip.

To sponsor their trip, visit www.justgiving.com/mototrekks. The bikers will be updating their progress at www.mototrekks.com.



DEVOTION: Buddhist monk Seng Pannayamsa and a staff member at Peace Star Thai Therapy

NI20136502_2 www.buddhistphotos.co.uk

Therapy in a Buddhist blessing

If you want your business to succeed, get a Buddhist monk to give it a helping hand.

That's what the owners of a new Thai therapy business in Hillingdon believed when they secured the services of The Venerable Seng Pannayamsa to bless their premises.

Full story and another picture on page 7.

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