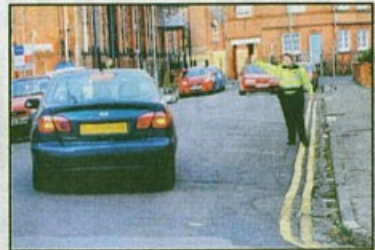




**RED-HANDED** – Above and below, a driver dashes down Northfield Road before being flagged down



**RED-HANDED** – Above, an officer stops the Royal Mail driver caught driving the wrong way down Northfield Road, right

Picture: DAVID BEARNE (Ref 9824)

**POSTIE:** one of three motorists flouting one-way rules in crackdown

# Police target traffic rogues

BY JONNY FORDHAM  
CRIME REPORTER

THIS cheeky Royal Mail driver was one of three motorists caught flouting traffic regulations in the latest joint crackdown by the community and police.

Members of Bell Tower Community Association in the Oxford Road North policing neighbourhood helped their bobbies in a third traffic operation in Northfield Road on Friday last week.

Residents were getting increasingly frustrated with drivers using the road as a shortcut and ignoring the 'No Entry' signs just before Swansea Road.

Teresa Colliass, who chairs the association, said: "When we identified the problem we asked for support from the team and PC Aaron Gibbs.

"Even though traffic is not a priority for the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG), it is an issue for people living within the Bell Tower and we conducted a survey to all households which backed this up.

"We have since received positive feedback from residents and hopefully people will get the message about driving the wrong way down the road.

"It also proves community associations like ours working with our neighbourhood police team have the

opportunity to make their neighbourhood a better place to live."

The beat's neighbourhood specialist officer PC Gibbs said so far the team had issued five law-breakers with £60 fixed penalty notices and slapped three points on their licence for flouting traffic regulations in this particular area.

"This is something that the community wanted to do and came to one of our police surgeries and told us about it," said PC Gibbs.

"Traffic issues are not something that have been flagged up by the NAG, but at the same time the area does not really have problems with prostitution and drugs.

"These traffic operations will most probably become a regular occurrence as we aim to send out a message to members of the public who are breaking the law."

After the postman got the stamp of disapproval a Royal Mail spokesman added it always reminds drivers of the importance of following the Highway Code.

■ PC Gibbs will be holding one of his monthly surgeries at the New Hope Community Church in York Road on Monday, April 6, between 7pm and 9pm.

You can also contact your neighbourhood police team on 08458 505 505.

For more on Bell Tower Community Association, visit [www.bell-tower.org.uk](http://www.bell-tower.org.uk).

**CLEAR MESSAGE** – Barbara Kendall, left, and Teresa Colliass on Northfield Road



**Air your views on policing**

**HAVE** your say on crime and policing at the next meeting of Woodley Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) at the Oakwood Centre in Headley Road on Wednesday, April 8, at 7.30pm. Call the Woodley Neighbourhood Team on (0118) 969 1637.