



Amersham, Chalfonts and Missendens Neighbourhood Policing Team

The Amersham, Chalfonts and Missendens Neighbourhood Team consists of:

Sergeant 3675 Darren Walsh

Constable 401 Andy Mayhew and Constable 6038 Tom Shrieve

Police Community Support Officers Charlotte Stephens, Kam Benawra, Jacqueline Day,
Chris Hinkley–Ging. Soon to be joined by PCSO Emma Dyer.

Neighbourhood Team Priorities

The top three priorities for the last quarter were chosen at the Chiltern and South Buckinghamshire Policing Issues Forum on 26th July 2023. This steering group is made of members of the community and representatives from across the area. The Police do not run the panel, although we do attend as representatives. Discussing results of the public surveys (where there were 400 responses) and speaking to a wide cross-section of the community, we aim to understand what is most important to you, what you most want improved, and consider how we can accomplish these aims with the help of the community and partner agencies.

You said: [Burglary is a concern](#)

We did:

Burglary continues to be a concern to the public and is continually voted as one of the highest priorities. Your Neighbourhood team uses local knowledge, ANPR, analytical data and area hotspots to continue to conduct visible directed patrols.

Year to date there have been 27 residential burglaries in Amersham (an 18% reduction), 35 in the Chalfonts (a 3% reduction) and 19 in The Missendens (a 111% increase).

In the case of business burglaries, there have been 6 in Amersham (a 25% reduction), 14 in the Chalfonts (a 56% increase) and 4 in The Missendens (a 33% increase).

3 robberies of individuals took place in Amersham (a 200% increase), 4 in the Chalfonts (a 100% increase) and none in The Missendens.

The Priority Crime Team have informed us that there have been a number of arrests for burglaries, further enquiries are taking place in relation to this.

As the evenings start to draw in, we expect to see an increase in burglaries, so it is important that you continue to look out for yourself and your neighbours. Are you a member of the Neighbourhood watch? If not, we greatly recommend you join. The NHW aims to make you be and feel safer within your community, as a member you can also benefit from discounts on security devices and receive newsletters with expert crime prevention advice. Their autumn campaign, 'WIDEN', has the main objective of encouraging citizens to be diligent in protecting their homes, this is something every member of the community should consider.



- Windows: Lock your windows.**
- Interior: Put your interior lights on a timer.**
- Doors: Double or deadlock your doors.**
- Exterior: Put your exterior lights on a sensor.**
- Neighbours: Keep an eye out for your neighbours.**

Find out more at www.ourwatch.org

You said: **Drugs are a concern**

We did:

People may be lead to believe that smoking or taking drugs is a victimless crime - think again. As per the findings of a recent police pilot scheme, 150 individuals were arrested for domestic violence and were then drug tested while in custody, 85% of them were found to be under the influence of some sort of drug.

County Lines is another issue we continue to be diligent on and is an example of the wider damage drugs can do to our communities. It is the term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, they do this by using dedicated mobile phone lines or other forms of "Deal lines". County lines not only massively contribute to drug problems, but also create gun and knife crime in the area, as well as economic crime. In some cases, these drug operations can lead to murder. In addition there is a trickledown effect on the users of the county lines, as they will regularly resort to theft and other illegal activity to pay for the drugs, as well as experience mental health issues and paranoia due to the intimidation and pressure from the gang members they buy from.

County lines are also known to be involved in modern day slavery, and regularly exploit children and vulnerable adults into moving and storing the drugs and money. They will utilise coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons to control people. This is likely to lead to youths carrying weapons for protection. This is a great deal of concern for teachers and parents. We will look to provide additional support to parents and youths who find themselves involved in CDL. If you are a parent and would like more information on the signs to look out, please e-mail me: darren.walsh@thamesvalley.police.uk

We continue to deal with complaints of neighbours smoking drugs at home. Individuals smoking drugs within the home is still very much an illegal practice, so we will investigate these complaints by seeking corroborating evidence, and look to deal with the suspects by putting problem solving measures in place or gathering intelligence that will lead to warrants. We work with partner agencies to stop repeat offending. To name a few examples, we had a case where a person's erratic behaviour led to them being sectioned under the mental Health act, they were then issued with an injunction. In another case, an injunction was served on an individual due to behaviour suspected to be caused by substance abuse. In the case of Housing Association properties, this can lead to breach



of tenancy and eviction.

The team continue to take part in joint police operations with neighbouring forces and our Road Policing colleagues. A joint South East Operation in July resulted in over £250,000 of cash seized, over 150 arrests (16 in Thames Valley) and 81 cars being seized (13 in Thames Valley). There were 74 instances where drugs were seized (14 of which occurred in South Bucks).

Regionally, Thames Valley Police carried out 31 warrants on suspected cannabis grows. This was part of the largest national operation of its kind, aimed at unearthing and disrupting organised crime groups and their illegal revenue streams. The warrants, which ran through June 2023, saw 35 arrests as well as the seizures of drugs, plants, and electronic devices. Cannabis 'factories' are a very real threat. Those tasked to look after the plants are often vulnerable and sometimes the victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. The size of criminal cannabis factories means that damage is often caused to the properties themselves; the buildings can become dangerous as a result of fire risks, booby traps, unlawful abstraction of electricity, fumes and water damage.

Anyone with information about a potential cannabis factory, or drug dealing in general, can contact Thames Valley Police online or via 101. In an emergency always call 999. You can also contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or [crimestoppers-uk.org](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

Drugs really do ruin lives.

You said: **Speeding is a concern**

We did: Whilst speed enforcement is not principally owned by Neighbourhood Policing, we do conduct speed enforcement in locations that it is safe to do so. Speeding continues to be a community priority, which was raised during the last resident's survey. Department of Transport statistics showed that speed was the contributing factor in almost a third of road deaths in 2022. As a society, we need to challenge and build a stigma against those who speed on the road, with the aim to make it as socially unacceptable as drink driving.

Following concerns of speeding taking place at Weedon Hill in Hyde Heath, our PCSOs conducted checks over a 50-minute period. A hundred and thirty three vehicles drove past, of which 16 were travelling over 35 mph. The highest speed recorded was 41 mph. Checks were conducted at Joiners Lane over a 30-minute period, with thirty-four vehicles recorded and 4 drivers breaking the speed limit. The team carried out checks at Woodside Road, Amersham and Austenwood Lane, Chalfont St Peter where speed enforcement was conducted by way of fixed penalty tickets.

On Tuesday 7th November 2023, between 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Great Missenden Memorial Centre, we will be holding a meeting to discuss the benefits of Community Speedwatch. Speakers include Councillor Peter Martin, Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Barber, CSW lead Lee Turnham and Paul Egan from the Prestwood and Missenden CSW scheme.



Are you concerned about speeding around the Missendens? You can help to be part of the change.
Tuesday 7 November 2023, 6.30pm - 8.30pm | Great Missenden Memorial Hall

If you are concerned about the speeds in your area and would be interested in helping to take action, you can become a member of your local Speedwatch group or even start your own. Find out more at <https://www.communityspeedwatch.org>

Speed Cameras in Chiltern

Our Road Safety vans and fixed cameras provide enforcement and a visual deterrent across the area. Their aim is to help support you to reduce the speed of traffic, making the roads safer for all road users, and reduce the risk of injury, collisions and casualties in your district.

Figures from the Road Safety Mobile and Speed Enforcement Team show the following:

June; 472 tickets from mobile enforcement & 149 tickets from fixed cameras.

July; 287 tickets from mobile enforcement & 470 tickets from fixed cameras.

Aug; 417 tickets from mobile enforcement & 0 tickets from fixed cameras.

Other News

Assault in Gt Missenden

CID are investigating an assault on a female in her 30's, which occurred on a footpath in the woods between Great Missenden and Prestwood on Thursday 24 August. This incident has caused a lot of fear in the community and has led to a number of rumours and suspected sightings of the offender. This does appear to be a single incident and there has been no further attacks on females. The NH team have been doing additional patrols in the area in an effort to reassure the public.

Fraud

This year Thames Valley Police created the Central Fraud Unit. Their 36 officers will assist local areas to investigate fraud and will support the Economic Crime Unit. This is highly beneficial for the victims as it means that when there are investigative leads, they will have a specialist officer dealing with their case.

Reports of fraud need to be recorded with Action Fraud, who will review cases and work alongside The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) of The City of London Police, which is the National lead for economic crime. The NFIB receives all of Action Fraud's reports. These are then used to identify serial offenders, organised crime groups and to find emerging crime types.



From these reports the NFIB will analyse, assess, and identify criminals that may be linked to reports. Reports are sent to local police forces or law enforcement agencies for investigation. NFIB may then remove websites, and close bank accounts and phone numbers that are being used by criminals. Not every report results in an investigation, but each report helps to build a clear picture and contributes to making the UK a more hostile place for fraudsters to operate.

Current trends

Thames Valley Police are seeing a high number of fraudulent offences involving the selling of items online and through social media. In the past 13 months, data provided by the NFIB shows that there have been 2,925 victims within the Thames Valley who have been targeted by this particular type of fraud. This accounts for 21% of all fraud in general, which resulted in losses of £2.3million.

If you are signed up to Neighbourhood Alerts you will have seen Trading Standards latest report on some common scams that are catching people out.

ULEZ and Ofgem scams.

M&S fake e-mail with 2000 meals free give away.

Film scams – £1 registration fee and then they have your banking details.

Fake Oral B toothbrush scam impersonating Boots seeking feedback.

Find out more at <https://news.comms.surreycc.info>

SCAM Text message

Received a suspected scam text message? Forward to Ofcom on 7726 (SPAM on older style key pads) and play your part in stopping the scammers.

Rural Crime

For an update on rural crime please see the Spring – Summer newsletter. Visit www.csb-forum.org.

Specials

We are privileged to have the neighbourhood team supported by our volunteer special constable officers. Have you ever thought about volunteering with Thames Valley Police in a role that would enable you to have the same power as regular officers? Recruitment is open for special constables. For more information please visit: <https://tvpcareers.co.uk/roles/special-constables/>

Offenders Brought to Justice

Offences from the 1st July: (This does not include persons who are currently under investigation)

Amersham:

Person given community resolution for cannabis.

Person charged for assaulting a police officer.

Person charged for assaulting a police officer.

Young person given community resolution for assault on police.



Young person given community resolution for shoplifting.
Person given community resolution for importation of controlled drug.
Person given conditional caution for assault on police officer.
Person given community resolution for importation of controlled drug.
Person charged for criminal damage to car.
Person given community resolution for cannabis.

Missendens:

Person given community resolution for cannabis.
Person charged with 3 assaults to ABH level.
Person charged with criminal damage to house.

Chalfonts:

Person given community resolution for allowing dog to be dangerously out of control.
Person charged with theft from employee.
Person charged with making threats to kill.
Person given community resolution for arson not endangering life.
Person given community resolution for causing damage to car.
Person given community resolution for cannabis.
Young person given community resolution for assault causing ABH.
Person given community resolution for cannabis.
Person charged with stalking.
Person charged for assaulting a police officer.
Person given community resolution for cannabis.
Person given community resolution for assault.

Local 'Have Your Say' events

Come and speak to a member of your local neighbourhood team and have your say.
19th October 2023

Times:

09:00 - 10:00 at Tesco, London Road West, Amersham.
10:30 – 11:30 at Rowan Garden Centre, Gorelands Lane, Chalfont St Giles.
13:00-14:30 at CO-OP, Station Hill, Great Missenden.

23rd November 2023

09:00 - 10:00 at CO-OP, High Street, Chalfont St Peter.
10:30 – 11:30 at Chilterns Lifestyle Centre, Chiltern Ave, Amersham.
13:00-14:30 at Hildreths Garden Centre, Wycombe Rd, Prestwood.

8th December 2023

09:00 - 10:00 at Rowan Garden Centre, Gorelands Lane, Chalfont St Giles.
10:30 – 11:30 at CO-OP, Station Hill, Great Missenden.
13:00-14:30 at Tesco, London Road West, Amersham.

Locations and timings to be confirmed and will be advertised on the www.csb-forum.org.
Please be advised that officers may be required operationally and these events could be cancelled at late notice.



Social media:

www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk 'TV Alerts' allow the subscriber to filter the subject matter which is of relevance to them, and only requires an email address to begin receiving local policing information.

Our Twitter feed and Facebook page will show you what the policing team are doing, will provide crime prevention information, witness appeals and "Good Result" stories.

To report crime online visit: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/>



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