



Issue 2024/1

Gerrards Cross & Denham

Neighbourhood Team

Your neighbourhood team consists of Sergeant 0035 Shaunagh HALL PC 0795 Bryony POWELL PCSO 9345 Paul DOBBIN PCSO 7958 Paul AUSTIN PCSO 9605 Sarah CHURCHWARD

Neighbourhood Priorities

The priorities for your Neighbourhood Policing Team (NHPT) will be decided by the Policing Issues Panel; comprised of local volunteers, and representatives from Community Boards from across South Buckinghamshire policing area. The Police do not run the panel, although we do attend as representatives. This allows us to speak to a wide cross-section of the community, find out what most needs improvement in the area, and considering how we and others can accomplish these aims. The top three priorities are chosen by the forum every three months and are then assumed by your Neighbourhood Policing Team. If you wish to learn more please use the following hyperlink: <u>Chiltern &</u> <u>South Bucks Policing Issues Forum – Community and Neighbourhood Police stronger</u> together (csb-forum.org)

You Said – Speeding is a concern

We Did:

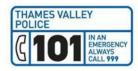
Our Road Safety vans and fixed cameras provide enforcement and a visual deterrent across the area. Their aim is to help support you to reduce the speed of traffic, making the roads safer for all road users, and reduce the risk of injury, collisions and casualties in your district.

Figures from the Road Safety Mobile and Speed Enforcement Team show the following: Oct; 950 tickets from mobile enforcement & 73 tickets from fixed cameras. Nov; 564 tickets from mobile enforcement & 89 tickets from fixed cameras.

Neighbourhood Officers have been not been able to complete speed checks due to other commitments and poor weather conditions during this quarter.

In addition, we have our Community Speed Watch scheme. If you are a member of your community who feels strongly about speeding, this could be a great opportunity to assist in preventing it. You would be volunteering your time to monitor speeds in areas highlighted as a concern by fellow residents. This is an advisory scheme which looks to











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warn speeders about the risks they present and the possible consequences of their behaviour on the road. This has been significantly effective, with a 96% success rate in preventing re-offending. If you are interested in helping out, then please contact PC Lee Turnham, Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator lee.turnham@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

You Said – Burglary is a concern

We Did:

In the seasonal period running up to Christmas time, we expected to see a rise in residential burglaries. This is primarily due to a combination of increased hours of darkness and the increased prospect of people having more valuables in their homes due to the purchase and storage of Christmas presents. These factors makes this period of the year a lucrative time for burglars to offend.

Operation Grotto was the South Buckinghamshire LPA's crime initiative to focus on the habitual rise in burglaries and ran until the New Year. Police conducted an increased number of overt patrols, with a focus on identified high-risk areas for residential burglary, which include Gt Missenden. Homeowners were left with our crime prevention letter. If you would like a copy of this, you can download it at: <u>https://www.csb-forum.org/operation-grotto-the-most-important-partner-we-can-work-with-is-you/</u>

Burglary is a national issue, with Organised Crime Groups targeting properties across the UK. One group are targeting large houses that are often secluded or backed by wide open land. Entry is frequently made via the first floor with garden furniture or ladders being used to access these windows.

Offending levels for Burglary have increased slightly this quarter with five in October, thirteen in November and seven in December.

The Priority Crime Team advised that 25 persons have been charged/ summonsed or cautioned this year for burglaries. The team worked with the MET which resulted in one OCG having 7 people charged with over 60 offences, 19 of those in the TVP area.

Working with surrounding our forces we have been concentrating NHP and Roads policing resources on the M25 corridors to target burglars coming into our areas. In October a 4 day operation led to 68 arrests (7 in TVP), 26 weapons being seized (1 in TVP), 66 instances with drugs being seized (4 in TVP), 51 vehicles being seized (8 in TVP).

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 benefit from discounts on security devices and receive newsletters with expert crime











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prevention advice. Find out more at <u>www.ourwatch.org</u>

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.

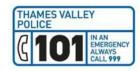
County Lines is another issue we continue to be diligent on and is an example of the wider damage drugs can do to our communities. It is the term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, they do this by 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.

During the last quarter we utilised our areas resources to combat County Drug Lines. Work carried out on the LPA included; 3 warrants being executed 12 arrests Seizure of 400 wraps of crack cocaine 193 wraps of Heroin seized 90 grams of cocaine seized 11 kilos of cannabis seized 16 weapons seized £13,000 in cash seized

We also conducted variety of community engagement activities. Partnership activity included; patrols, park sweeps, crime prevention events, youth engagement work (including the valuable asset of our police cadet programme) contextual safeguarding activities and assessments, and local authority joint working. We also conducted train station operations which include the use of police dogs and specialist units. In addition we work with The Children's Society, and work to raise awareness around the criminal exploitation of children through promotion of the #Lookcloser campaign, you can find more information surrounding this on the children's society website.

Sargent Shaunagh Hall is about to go off on maternity leave and we would like to wish her and her family all the best with their new arrival. When Shaunagh returns she will be taking over as Neighbourhood Sargent for the Marlow area. Sargent Hedley Gabriel will be taking her place as of February.











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As part of Violence against women and girls month of action, the neighbourhood team attended St Joseph's Church on the 19th and 26th November, where we shared information with residents on supporting vulnerable women and girls.

On 22nd November, We had a 'HAVE YOUR SAY' event at Wapsey's Wood Caravan park in Gerrard's Cross to find out about their specific community priorities. The local Neighbourhood team have been working on a community engagement project to support our seldom heard communities. 'Seldom-heard communities' refers to under-represented people in the community who use or might potentially use health or social services and are less likely to be heard by these service professionals and decision makers. We are trying to encourage community cohesion and work to understand cultural differences by listening to different perspectives and finding common ground. We want to be able to ensure all communities have access to Police support to reduce vulnerability and harm. Overall we had a positive response from the residents at Wapsey's wood.

Fraud - No Blame No Shame

The phrase 'fall for a scam' is often used, but you don't hear 'fall for a burglary'. This kind of language puts blame on the victim. We need to change the language we use when talking to, and about scam victims, to take away the blame and shame.

SCAM Prevention - Text message to Ofcom

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.

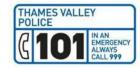
Rural Crime

For an update on rural crime please see the Autumn –Winter newsletter. Visit <u>www.csb-forum.org</u>.

Offenders Brought To Justice

- A male was arrested and charged for shoplifting
- A male was arrested and charged for criminal damage and assault
- A male was arrested and charged for drug offences
- A female was arrested and charged for assault on police
- A male was arrested and charged for firearms offences
- A male was arrested and cautioned for criminal damage/threats to life
- A male was arrested and charged for fraud











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A male received a caution for criminal damage

Have Your Say Events

We have now started our Have Your Say events again so please keep an eye on our social media where we will advertise where we will be.

We have worked to identify areas for us to be present and visible. We want the areas to be key points in each community where people are able to see us safely and feel able to approach us. Times will vary throughout month and locations, due to our commitments often times being unpredictable and also to prevent large gatherings, we will not be publishing times and dates. However we wish to make the community aware of these locations and if you see a Police vehicle or officer at these locations, we are there for you to speak to us. Please come and say hello, or help us identify any concerns you have or any information you may feel will assist us.

Contact Us:

Call 101 (Non-Emergency Contact Number) Call 999 in an emergency only

Thames Valley Police Webform: <u>https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/report-a-crime</u>

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Sign up to Thames Valley Alerts to receive crime and policing updates directly from your local Neighbourhood Team as well as more crime and policing issues. Sign up to the service online

at: <u>www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk</u> or speak with one of your Neighbourhood Team. <u>www.thamesvalley.police.uk</u>



