



NORTHERN NEW FOREST

Monthly Beat Report – December 2016



www.hampshirealert.co.uk

Hello and welcome to December's Beat Report for the Northern New Forest. I am PCSO 14495 Richard Williams, one of the Beat Officers for this area, and I am based at Lyndhurst Police Station with my colleague PC Steven Norris.

Hampshire Alerts

Hampshire Alerts can help communities play a vital role in working with the Police to prevent and detect crime and anti-social behaviour. Improving the flow of information between the community and police is vital to achieving our aim to work together to deter criminals and keep communities safe. To register please go to:

www.hampshirealert.co.uk

Beat Surgeries

Please come and meet your Beat Officers, PC 20127 Steven NORRIS and PCSO 14495 Richard WILLIAMS. In January we will be at

Bramshaw Village Shop on Monday 30th January at 8am.

Bartley Post Office on Monday 30th January at 9am.

Minstead Village Shop on Saturday 14th January at 10am.

St Michael and All Angels Church in Lyndhurst on Sunday 15th January at 10.30am.

Lyndhurst Baptist Church on Sunday 15th January at 11.30am.

Lyndhurst Roman Catholic Church on Sunday 22nd January at 9.30am.

Colbury Parish Church on Deer Leap Lane in Colbury on Sunday 22nd January at 11.00am.

Since our last report we have had the following incidents reported to us.

Burglaries and Non Dwelling Burglaries:

In December there were 4 burglaries in Winsor, Furzley, Woodlands and Cadnam. Luckily the intruders were disturbed during one of the incidents and nothing was stolen but property was taken from all of the other burglaries. It's worth noting that access to one of the houses was gained through an unlocked back door, so please lock all doors and windows.

The number of non-dwelling burglaries fell from 10 to 3 in December. 2 of these incidents took place on the same night at two fencing companies who share the same site in Ower. The other was a theft from a storage unit also in Ower. As I mentioned last month, significant arrests have been made which will hopefully see a considerable decrease in the number of burglaries in our area.

Please don't forget to register the details of all of your valuable property for free on www.immobilise.com. I'm sure that most of us have received some new valuable items for Christmas, so now is the time to visit the website and register everything you own that

someone else might want to steal, then if you become a victim and your property is stolen, immobilise can help us return it to you.

And keep reporting every person and every vehicle that you think is acting suspiciously. In December, Police in this part of the New Forest received 23 calls highlighting suspicious activity and they are a great help to us, so keep them coming.

December has also seen an increase in the number of Cold Callers or Rogue Traders visiting us here in the New Forest. These are people who go door to door offering to carry out work on your house or garden, or want to read your meter, or they claim they are from the Water Board, Electricity Company or even the Police. They either trick their way into your house or they charge thousands of pounds for work that should have cost considerably less. And of course these type of thieves target the vulnerable in our communities. So can I ask that if you know of someone who might be susceptible to this sort of crime, can you visit them and pass on the advice listed below. Or if you think they would benefit from a visit from me then let me know.

- Always use a door chain when answering the door, and if you are not sure do not open the door.
- Always check the credentials of unknown callers. Do not phone the number on the ID card, use a phone book or a bill. A genuine caller will always be happy to wait while you check they are who they say they are.
- Never employ cold-calling doorstep traders or engage with cold callers on the phone.
- Do not keep substantial sums of money in the home.
- Always keep front and back doors locked.
- **LOCK STOP CHAIN and CHECK** - if unsure do not open the door.
- Consider joining or setting up a No Cold Calling Zone or Neighbourhood Watch scheme.
- Report any suspicious callers or activity to the police immediately, please call 999.
- Keep an eye on elderly or vulnerable neighbours, friends and family.

Theft from vehicle:

6 cars were broken into in December. The 3 car parks involved were Stoney Cross, Fritham and on 2 separate occasions Millyford Bridge. Again handbags “hidden” under the seat or in the boot were taken from both. The other two thefts saw fuel stolen from the same farm yard in Winsor on two separate occasions.

Other Incidents of notes:

A stolen credit card was used to buy an expensive bicycle from a shop in Lyndhurst, and some fake £20 notes have also been circulating in the village. If you are a business owner it's worth making your staff aware that they need to check every note they receive. A shoplifter was caught taking wine from the Co Op in Ashurst and another bicycle has been stolen from the shed at Ashurst train station. British Transport Police have been made aware of this and previous thefts and are looking at how to make the area more secure. 2 cannabis warnings were issued to 2 young men in the early hours of Christmas morning. They were caught smoking in the Fritham area.

In December 19 motorists were caught speeding in the Lyndhurst, Cadnam, Ashurst and Brook areas. Three cars have been seized, two because their drivers didn't think they needed any insurance, and the third because the driver didn't think she needed a full licence.

The Community Speed Watch schemes in Lyndhurst and Minstead have been busy during December and their success is spreading. It's hoped that in 2017 new groups will be set in Ashurst and Colbury, Copythorne and Netley Marsh. I'm a great fan of Community Speed Watch because it does have a direct effect on the speed of motorists on the roads in your community. Speed Watch allows members of the community to become Police Support Volunteers. Once a week or a fortnight, depending on how much time you can give, Speed Watch volunteers monitor the speed of passing traffic and letters are sent to those drivers caught exceeding the speed limit. Speed Watch is not enforcement, it is education, and in my opinion it is education that works. So if you think you can spare some time and you would like to make the roads where you live safer then contact me and I can give you all the details.

Finally can I once again ask for your help in putting an end to a problem that has started to re-emerge in and around the car parks in the New Forest. If you see anyone using a vehicle of any sort in a way that is dangerous, reckless, careless, or is causing damage to the Forest then please let us know. If you can provide us with the registration number of the vehicle involved then we can deal with the owner of that vehicle and put an end to this type of behaviour. If you can take photos of the vehicles involved then that provides us with excellent evidence but please don't put yourself at risk by taking photos or videos.

Thank you again for all the calls made to the Police in December about the suspicious people and vehicles you have seen in the Northern New Forest. Please keep those calls coming. You can call 101 or if you prefer you can call PC NORRIS or myself PCSO WILLIAMS directly. If there is no answer then that means we are on a rest day, so either leave us a message or send us an email. And remember if you are telling us about a vehicle, the most useful information you can give us is the registration number. You are our eyes and ears in your community and we value any information you can give us that will help us keep the places where you live safe.

Your Beat Officers are PC 20127 Steven NORRIS and PCSO 14495 Richard WILLIAMS. You can contact us on the details below.

But remember always dial 999 in an emergency.

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