

NEW FOREST HEART

Monthly Beat Report – October 2020

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Hello and welcome to October's Beat Report for the New Forest Heart area. 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 20127 Steven Norris and we are responsible for Lyndhurst and the North of the Forest.

PC 2901 Jason Eastwood and PCSO 14215 Vicki Pressey take care of the Forest south of Lyndhurst.

Beat Surgeries

As we enter a second national lockdown we will again be postponing our face to face Beat Surgeries but we will be holding two more SAFE AT HOME events in November. These SAFE AT HOME events will be held at places where we are already gathering, like supermarkets, but where we can still maintain our social distancing. During the last lockdown we saw a rise in domestic abuse and these SAFE AT HOME events are designed to support those victims. So if you or someone you know isn't feeling safe at home then please come and see. We will be outside the CO OP in Ashurst between 2 and 3pm on Wednesday 11th November and opposite the CO OP on the High Street in Lyndhurst also between 2 and 3pm on Monday 23rd November.

These are difficult times for all of us and we would encourage you to contact us if you need our help in any way. If we can help then we will. You can contact us via email, telephone or through our Facebook page which is NEW FOREST HEART COPS.

The best way to find out exactly what you can and can't do now that a second Lockdown has been announced is still to visit the Governent's website. It is always being updated and very easy to understand and most importantly it gives you the absolute answers to what is and isn't lawful at this time and how best to stay safe. The address is www.gov.uk and follow the links to the coronavirus updates.

17 homes on our Beat have had their outbuildings broken into this month, including 6 properties that were targeted on the same night in Lyndhurst at the beginning of the month and another 4 in a different part of the village at the end of the month. Some very unique items were taken from one of the garages, where overnight between 20th and 21st October a large number of gold nuggets, precious stones, metals and crystals as well as an antique vase, Japanese sword and a metal detector were stolen. If you know anything that can help us identify those responsible or if you know where any of the items are then please let us know, quoting the crime number 44200408787. You can see the stolen items on our Facebook page at NEW FOREST HEART COPS.

Items were also stolen from garages in Brockenhurst, Bartley and Ower and the office at a car garage in Cadnam was also broken into this month. Four very expensive mountain bikes were taken overnight from the conservatory of a house on Queens Road in Lyndhurst. Investigations are ongoing and if you have any information for us or if you know who has some new mountain bikes for sale let us know and the crime number is 44200415511.

There have been 10 thefts from vehicles this month. 2 vans have again been broken into in the car park of the hotel on the main A31 at Stoney Cross while the only New Forest car parks targeted were Fritham and Puttles Bridge just off the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive. Cars and vans parked in Ower, Minstead and Netley Marsh have also been broken into this month and a catalytic converter has also been stolen from a car parked at Paultons. Thieves steal catalytic converters for the valuable metals they contain. Vehicles with a higher chassis are often targeted, as are hybrid vehicles. To keep yours safe, ask your car dealer if they can give you advice on locks, cages or guards that are approved by your vehicle's manufacturer. Stealing catalytic converters is on the rise across the whole country so here are some easy steps to follow to help keep your vehicle safe

- -Park your vehicle in a locked garage, but if this isn't an option then leave it in a well-lit and well-populated area.
- -If using a public car park, park alongside other cars and face your bonnet towards a wall where possible.
- -Avoid parking half on the pavement, this makes the underside of your vehicle more accessible
- -If your catalytic converter is bolted on, think about having them welded shut
- -Installing security lighting and CCTV on your drive can act as a deterrent

In other incidents more glass has been smashed at the telephone boxes in Newbridge, Copythorne and East Boldre, 5 cars have had their windows damaged on a driveway in Brockenhurst, and we seized two cars in October because their drivers didn't have any insurance. Also this month more than a dozen KOI carp have been stolen from a pond in a garden in Bramshaw, 2 fence energisers have been taken from a farm in Newbridge, drums of used cooking oil have been stolen from a pub in Ower and a car window was smashed in a pub car park in Minstead.

The Copythorne Community Speed Watch team has again been out checking the speed of traffic in the Parish. During October they spent 9 hours monitoring almost 2,000 vehicles and 254 of them were found to be exceeding the 30 mph limit and 3 drivers were recorded going over 50mph. The good news though is that 35% of those vehicles recorded were travelling at or below the 30 mph limit so thank you very much. Please stick to the speed limit across the whole Forest especially now that the evenings are darker and the weather restricts our visibility.

Don't forget you can contact any of us on the New Forest Heart Police team on the details below but please use 999, 101 or the on line reporting page on the Hampshire Police website to record crimes or incidents of anti-social behaviour

For Lyndhurst and the north of the Forest its steven.norris@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

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And for the Forest south of Lyndhurst its jason.eastwood@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
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Stay safe everyone and we look forward to seeing you in person again soon

