

# Wiltshire Police Calne



Calne Police – January/ February 2009

## Sergeant's message

The efforts and commitment of all Officers has had a positive effect on the most recent crime figures which are included in this report.

I am pleased to report the recent arrest of three suspects for a spate of graffiti in and around the town. This has been an intelligence-led operation working closely with Calne Town Council (CCTV) and our other partner Agencies. I am aware of the huge impact this type of offence has on the community and I want to assure you we will always take robust and positive action with these types of offences.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Calne Town Council and Wiltshire County Council for their full support throughout this investigation.

I am sure you have all read that Calne is to have a new Police Station - surveyors have already visited the site and I will keep you posted on the progress.

I have an "open door" policy, and welcome any suggestions from our community that will continue to maintain Calne as one of the safest towns in one of the safest Counties.

Phil Connor  
Sergeant Calne NPT

## Statistics

Included in report

## Priorities & ongoing activity.

Police performance is bench marked against 'year on year' performance and our targets for both the volume of crime committed and the percentage of crime detected are set at the beginning of the financial year. These targets are set to ensure that our performance continues to improve. The targets for the volume of crime committed are set to ensure that the number of recorded crimes is reduced from the previous years and that the percentage of detections is increased. These targets are challenging and are designed to focus and drive activity.

As we approach the end of the financial year, a clear picture of Police performance over a sustained period is emerging. I am happy to report that the performance in Chippenham Corsham and Calne is very pleasing, the highlights of which are:

- The number of robberies is DOWN
- The number of burglaries is DOWN
- The number of theft from motor vehicles is DOWN
- The total number of crimes is DOWN
- Our target for detecting crime is 28% and your local police teams are detecting 28.7% of all crime committed in Chippenham, Corsham and Calne.

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One of the most worrying types of offence is violent crime and the Chief Constable set the Force a challenging 60% detection rate. Your local police teams are currently detecting in excess 56% of violent crime committed in Chippenham, Corsham and Calne. We are focused on improving this area of our performance.

Overall this means that there have been fewer victims of crime than last year and, when a crime does take place, more offenders have been identified and brought to justice. I and my staff are focused on ensuring that this level of performance continues until the end of March and then on into the new financial year.

This performance has been achieved by focusing police activity on our priorities, whether these are prolific offenders, Force priorities such as violent crime or your locally identified neighbourhood issues. All my staff work together to deliver results for their local communities.

## Credit Crunch

The widely discussed economic down turn is likely to have a negative effect on overall crime and particularly theft and money-based offences. As a result, I have included some crime prevention advice at the end of this report. Whilst I do not want to create a fear of crime, I think some simple, pragmatic advice about keeping personal property safe is always welcome. As I believe crime prevention and Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) go hand in hand, I would also like to ask our NHW Coordinators to circulate this crime prevention advice and if further information or support is needed to contact their NPT Sergeant.

Kate PAIN

Sector Head

Chippenham, Corsham and Calne

# Wiltshire Police Calne



## CALNE WEST

### **CURRENT PRIORITIES:**

- TRAFFIC ISSUES CHURCH ROAD, DERRY HILL new
- PARKING ISSUES ARISING FROM SCHOOL USERS OF St. EDMUNDS RC PRIMARY, DUNCAN STREET (LICKHILL WARD)
- YOUTH ISSUES WENHILL HEIGHTS new

Work is continuing regarding the above priorities with the assistance of partner agencies, which include the Highways Department, Derry Hill Parish, Calne Town Council, Community Safety Department of NWDC and St Edmunds RC School. A full update of the priorities and their progress will be given at the next Neighbourhood Tasking Group meeting which is combined with the Calne Community Safety Forum.

The two new priorities have recently been set (280109) and work is in its infancy. I have commenced Wenhill Heights to support the Town NPT following complaints from residents of youths banging on doors and items being thrown at windows. This ties in with similar complaints being received from residents in Church Street and The Green areas (Town NPT).

Derry Hill has recently had its traffic calming measures installed and speed restriction lowered to 20mph. However, residents living in Church Road have reported to me, and the Parish Council, traffic apparently driving in excess of the 20mph and taking off over the speed bumps. Work from myself, Traffic Management Services and Highways will need to be explored further, with liaison with the Parish Council and complainants.

PCSO Mussard has main control of the Parking Issues in Duncan Street and is working closely with the school and nearby residents. It is hoped that the pupils themselves will become involved in the problem solving.

### **Statistics for Calne West NPT:**

All statistics are based on year to date figures ie; April 2008-February 2009

- Dwelling Burglary: 18 reported offences.  
Recorded offences this time last year stood at 13.
- Non-Dwelling Burglary: 25 reported offences.  
Recorded offences this time last year stood at 39.
- Criminal Damage: 52 reported offences.  
Recorded offences this time last year stood at 85.
- Violent offences: 48 reported offences.  
Recorded offences this time last year stood at 50.
- Vehicle crime: 18 reported offences. No increase since the last report.  
Recorded offences this time last year stood at 39.

TOTAL CRIME FOR CALNE WEST currently stands at 239, compared with 324 this time last year.

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## CALNE EAST

### **CURRENT PRIORITIES:**

- SPEEDING – STOCKLEY AND HEDDINGTON
- SPEEDING – HILMARTON AND GOATACRE
- PARKING PROBLEMS – A4 LONDON ROAD, HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

All three priorities have been rolled over for another period.

The speeding through Stockley and Heddington is still being monitored by the Beat Manager, with periodic speed checks being conducted. Very few vehicles have been found to be travelling above the recognised speed limit. Those vehicles travelling over the speed limit were only a few m.p.h. above the limit and words of advice given. No fixed penalty notices were issued during this period.

At Hilmarton and Goatacre, the H.A.G.G.I.S. group are still continuing with their surveys and investigations, supported by the Beat Manager with periodic speed checks. H.A.G.G.I.S. is in consultation with the N.W.D.C. and W.C.C. regarding the placement of warning gates on the speed signs entering both villages.

Parking problems at Holy Trinity School: This priority is now being administered by PCSO Sarah HARDWIDGE. She attends the school regularly at the relevant times, and speaks with parents/guardians when dropping off and collecting their children. She reports that whilst the area is busy, particularly at collection times, parents are parking sensibly, and not blocking access points to other properties and businesses.

### **Statistics for Calne East NPT:**

Reported crime for the NPT, year to date, (April 2008 to February 2009), are as follows:

	This year	Last year	Difference	% Difference
Total crime	47	96	-49	-51%
Violent Crime	14	8	6	75.0%
Robbery	0	0	0	0
Sexual Offences	3	2	1	50.0%
Violent Crime	11	6	5	83.3%
Domestic Burglary	6	8	-2	-25%
Non Dwelling Burglary	9	18	-9	-50.0%
Vehicle Crime	1	7	-6	-85.7%
Criminal Damage	8	19	-11	-57.9%
Drugs	1	0	1	~
Fraud & Forgery	0	0	0	~
Other Crime	0	0	0	~

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These figures give an overall detection rate for the NPT of 21.3%, 3.7% down on the previous year.

Alan BLAKE  
Beat Manager  
Calne East NPT

## CALNE TOWN

- **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - STOKES CROFT:** complaints of minor damage use of mini-motos and children being out of control. There is a central attraction being the play park, which on occasion is occupied by older children, preventing younger ones from being able to play. Mini-motos being driven through Stokes Croft and adjoining residential streets. Increased patrol and positive Police action is being enforced (seizure of mini-moto's), partnership working with Westlea Housing Association to enforce tenancy agreements, and formal letters to parents regarding their Childs behaviour are all steps that are currently being taken.
- **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - THE KNAPP PLAY AREA:** Youths congregating during the evenings around the Play Park and Green areas; causing noise nuisance, littering, and behaving in an anti-social manner towards residents when confronted. Monitoring by Police and Resident groups as appropriate to prevent and deter groups, partnership working with Calne Town Council, Westlea Housing Association, Community Engagement Project and users of the Community centre is continuing and will do until such time as a resolution has been reached. The recent weather has played a part in a large reduction of calls to Police recently.
- **POLICE VISIBILITY/REASSURANCE - COLEMANS FARM ESTATE:** it has been recognised that very few NHW schemes are in existence in this area, and this is an area that requires further input and effort to commence new schemes and re-invigorate existing ones; which will hopefully help improve and build on community spirit and feelings of safety throughout the community.

Total Crime reported for Calne Town April 2008-Feb 2009 currently stands at 470, compared to 631 this time last year. The NPT is still running with a detection rate of just over 28% across all crime committed.

Recently Calne CCTV operators spotted a female acting suspiciously in Phelps Parade; the operators subsequently zoomed in and established that the female was urinating in a public place. The operators informed an officer who was on foot patrol close by in the town centre. A description was passed and the female was located by the officer and the offence was dealt with. A close working relationship continues between Calne police and the CCTV unit to combat crime and anti-social behaviour within the town centre.

In recent weeks the Town Centre has suffered a spate of criminal damage in the form Graffiti Tags being sprayed on various walls, road signs etc. Although this was not set as a priority it was clearly a problem which needed fast action to prevent it from escalating. As a consequence of dedicated work by PCSO 6043 BENNETT with John Bentley School, Calne town council CCTV unit, and a considerable amount of time spent photographing all the Graffiti Tags, she was able to successfully identify the persons believed responsible. A Police operation was set up and using the assistance of staff from all three NPT's in Calne, the 3 main suspects were arrested at their home addresses simultaneously. All three individuals are currently on Police Conditional Bail with a curfew, which is vigorously checked by Local Officers to ensure compliance. In total 50 separate criminal offences were committed by this small group.

# Wiltshire Police Calne



## Take precautions when you go away

If you're going away, you can reduce the risk of a break-in by:

- Leave a light on if you're going to be out during the evening, but not so as to draw unnecessary attention to your home.
- You could also consider getting a timer switch to control the lights automatically. You can buy these from most DIY stores.
- Ask a friend or neighbour to keep an eye on your home. This could include opening and shutting curtains, switching lights on and off and making sure post and papers are pushed through your letterbox properly.
- Remember to cancel paper and milk deliveries before you go away.

## Beware bogus callers

Bogus callers pretend to be officials from the council, engineers from gas, electricity or water companies, police officers or salespeople in order to gain access to people's homes and steal money or property. They usually carry fake identity cards and can seem very convincing.

## How do I protect myself from bogus callers?

If someone calls round at your home, it's best to take precautions:

- Put the chain on the door before answering it - if you rent your home and don't have a chain, ask your landlord to fit one for you.
- Ask to see identification.
- Check their identification isn't fake - ask which company they're from, then phone the company to check the caller is genuine. Look the company up in the phone book rather than using a number they give you.
- Ask a neighbour or friend to come round while the caller is there.

## Think about what's outside

- Never leave a key hidden outside your home (eg. under a doormat).
- Always lock sheds and garages.
- Always put ladders or tools away - they could be used by an intruder.

Don't leave packaging for new appliances and goods outside your home. Always crush it and put it in the bin.

**Contact details** - Telephone 0845 408 7000 ext 7 32 817

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