

# Wiltshire Police Corsham



Corsham Police October 2009

## Sergeant's message

Corsham has continued to remain a pleasant and safe environment. There have been few reported crimes and levels of antisocial behaviour and nuisance during the school summer holidays has remained relatively low, no doubt in part helped by the predictable British summer weather!

However, autumn will soon be upon us followed by the festivities of Halloween and Bonfire Night with the associated problems that they entail.

Please rest assured that there will be extra staff on duty to deal with the annual demands of these dates and we will deal appropriately with anyone found misusing fireworks or behaving in an antisocial manner during trick or treat.

Alex Reid

Sgt – Corsham Police

## Priorities & ongoing activity

### **Corsham Town (covering Easton, Westrop and environs)**

1. **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR** - Martingate Centre, Mansion House Mews, Springfield Recreation Park and Recreation park Alexander Terrace.
2. **LEAD THEFTS TOWN CENTRE** – Several thefts from commercial premises.

There continue to be sporadic reports of youths congregating within the town centre area. Officers have dealt with a few instances of antisocial behaviour with verbal warnings given, letters to parents and one male was issued a fixed penalty notice for cycling within the pedestrianised precinct area.

Patrols will continue and if issues persist, more stringent enforcement measures will be brought into use.

There was criminal damage to a wall reported at the Springfield Centre skate park. Enquiries are still ongoing and several persons have been dealt with by police for criminal damage related offences.

There has also been a burglary to a shop in the town centre. Two local males were arrested for this offence and are currently going through the Court system.

During recent weeks there was a spate of lead thefts from roofs of commercial properties within the town. Two local males were arrested at the scene of one crime and are currently on bail pending further enquiries.

Speeding concerns around the town are to be addressed by local NPT, Roads Policing Officers and the Camera Safety Van partnership. To support this, initial progress has been made into setting up a Community Speedwatch scheme.

This is a valuable part of community engagement to address local concerns whereby community members can carry out speed checks in problem areas. Details of offending vehicles are then passed to the police for the offending drivers to receive warning letters. Should particular vehicles come to police attention on more than a couple of occasions, more stringent action can be taken.

A local male was recently arrested for theft of a vehicle and other offences from the Corsham Town area and has received a six week custodial sentence.

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## Corsham South (Covering Lacock, Neston, Gastard, Notton)

### 1. **THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE** - Lacock

There has been a theft from a works van overnight in August. The door was forced open and power and hand tools were stolen from within.

Two individuals in Lacock were found in possession of a small amount of personal cannabis and are currently being dealt with by Police.

Damage was caused to a field of crops by unknown persons in a vehicle driving around in an inconsiderate manner.

### 2. **ATTEMPTED BURGLARY** – Neston

An elderly female was subject to an attempted distraction type burglary offence in late August where a male came to her house and claimed he had carried out gardening work that her relatives had in fact done. He demanded payment for this work. Fortunately the lady concerned was not duped and sent the individual away without any monies being handed over.

Enquiries are still ongoing, but any information relating to rogue traders or suspicions over cold callers should be reported to the police as soon as possible.

## Corsham North (covering Colerne, Box and Rudloe)

### 1. **CRIMINAL DAMAGE** – Colerne village.

### 2. **BOX** – Distraction burglary.

As reported in June, there were a number of criminal damages offences to motor vehicles in Colerne reported to police. A local male from Colerne was arrested in respect of these offences and is currently on bail out of the Wiltshire area pending further enquiries by police. Again, should anyone have any information that may assist the police in these matters then please consider reporting them via the contact details at the end or anonymously via Crimestoppers.

Antisocial behaviour in Colerne has risen slightly again. Police presence within the village has been increased and several individuals have been spoken to in an effort to reduce these issues.

Local NPT will continue to address this as a priority.

There was an attempted theft of a motor vehicle in Box, the offender was arrested at the scene and is being dealt with through the Courts.

Another male was arrested for drink driving in Box after being reported by a vigilant member of the public.

Rudloe has suffered instances of theft of coping stones and lead from properties.

This is an ongoing problem across the county and beyond. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity.

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**Chippenham Rural (covering Biddestone, North Wraxall, Castle Combe, Yatton Keynell, Langley Burrell, Stanton St Quinton, Kington St Michael, Kington Langley, Sutton Benger, Christian Malford, Burton, Grittleton, Hullavington and Seagry).**

There have been reports of antisocial behaviour by youths within Kington Langley. Regular patrols have been carried out and there have been no further reports to-date.

In Ford and Castle Combe there have been issues with speeding vehicles. Local NPT Officers and the Traffic department have made patrols, staff are also arranging an input about speed and driving to students at Wiltshire College to educate about the dangers and antisocial behaviour aspect that speeding causes.

In Langley Burrell at Birds Marsh Woods there have been reports of antisocial behaviour. This appears to be a seasonal problem linked to the school holidays involving youths camping out and occasionally causing issues.

Patrols have been increased and persons moved on when found to be causing a problem.

Hullavington has also had a few instances of nuisance behaviour, mostly noise related from youths in the mid to late evening. Patrols through the village have been increased and this has dealt with the issue.

The Traffic Roads Policing Unit has been operating across the rural area in recent weeks. As a result of their activity nine vehicles have been seized for a variety of offences including no insurance/driving licence etc, ten fixed penalty notices were issued and three drivers reported for other traffic related offences.

A commercial burglary also occurred in Burton where a number of flat screen televisions were taken from a licensed premise. Enquiries are still ongoing into this matter.

There have been some reports of domestic/commercial heating oil being stolen across the area due to the ongoing economic downturn and increased cost of fuel. Premises in Burton and Nettleton were targeted.

Please see the guidance at the end on how to reduce the risk of being a victim of this type of crime.

## **Neighbourhood Watch**

Neighbourhood Watch is an easy way of being part of your community and ensuring that everyone works together to reduce the likelihood of a crime occurring.

Anyone interested in joining or setting up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme is welcome to make contact with the NPT Team and we will pass your details onto one of the Community Area co-ordinators.

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## **Reminder - What to note if you see something suspicious**

If you see or hear anything suspicious or think a crime is being committed – this kind of information will be useful to the police:

**An exact description of what you have seen, including:**

The time

The date

The exact location

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## **A description of the people involved:**

Male / female

Age (approx.)

Height (approx.)

Hair (colour, length etc)

Other distinguishing features

## **A description of any vehicle involved:**

Make

Model

Colour

Type (saloon/estate, etc)

REGISTRATION NUMBER (even part)

The direction of travel

Distinguishing features (sign writing, roof rack)

**If you consider the incident to be an emergency – please call 999 immediately, alternatively please give this information to the operator on 0845 408 7000**

## **Theft of Domestic Heating Oil**

Wiltshire police have recently seen an increase in the theft of household heating oil from tanks. This type of theft is becoming more desirable due to the increasing global prices of oil, along with easy access to the storage containers which are usually housed in people's gardens.

Crime Reduction Officer, Claire Rooney from Wiltshire Police said "Many homes, especially those in rural locations throughout Wiltshire are served by this form of heating, and their oil is stored in large tanks in the garden, with the average oil tank costing £1000 to fill, I would urge anyone with an oil tank to take some basic crime prevention measures".

### **Crime Prevention Measures**

- ❖ Ensure the tank is as out of sight as possible, if you are unable to do this camouflage as best you can, wicker screening is a cheap effective option.
- ❖ Conceal exterior pipe work, again shrubs, bushes or pots etc can all be used.
- ❖ Keep front gates to your property shut and any side gates locked.
- ❖ Check your tank regularly and report anything suspicious to your local police as soon as possible.
- ❖ A metal cage with padlock can be used to protect the tap.
- ❖ Install security lighting.
- ❖ Ensure that you have adequate insurance cover.
- ❖ Consider setting up a NHW scheme if there is not one with your locality.

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Anyone with information is urged to contact the Police. If you require any further information on Crime Prevention, please contact the Community Affairs Department at Salisbury Police Station 0845 408 7000.

The NPT Team continues to carry out the published street meetings, in some villages attendance is very good, whilst in others no-one attends.

We ask for your help in this matter and pass the word around. Details are published on the Wiltshire Police website and flyers published by the Parish councils. Flyers will also be sent out to the NHW.

Contact is also made in the villages that the mobile library visits each month. This is a good local point of contact and allows for minor issues to be reported or discussed that do not require more formal action.

We also attend meetings/clubs or coffee mornings if invited and able to do so. This is another good opportunity to meet a broader cross section of the community.

If you have a group or club you wish us to visit, please use the contact details published below;

**Contact details** - Telephone 0845 408 7000 ext 733 817

## **Corsham NPT**

[corshamtownnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:corshamtownnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

Sgt Alex Reid, PC Lauren Bishop-Bailey & PCSO Shaun Redmond.

[corshamruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:corshamruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

PC Mandie Ball, PCSOs Charles Campbell & Val Wagstaff.

## **Chippenham Rural NPT**

[chippenhamruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:chippenhamruralnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Butler.

PC Heather Barham, PCSOs Norman Webster & Steven