



NORTHERN NEW FOREST

Monthly Beat Report – March 2017



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Hello and welcome to March'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 20127 Steven Norris.

Beat Surgeries

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

Bramshaw Village Shop on Monday 24th April at 8am.

Bartley Post Office on Monday 24th April at 9am.

Minstead Village Shop on Saturday 8th April at 10am.

St Michael and All Angels Church in Lyndhurst on Sunday 9th April at 10.30am.

Lyndhurst Baptist Church on Sunday 9th April at 11.30am.

Outside the Co Op in Ashurst on Monday 24th April at 10am.

Burglaries

There have been 11 burglaries in March, with 10 of them happening in Ashurst over a two week period. Our understanding is that they all happened during the day when people were either at work or away on holiday or business. Investigations continue into those and the other one that happened in Cadnam. PC Norris and I have spent a considerable amount of time in Ashurst talking to residents about the security of their properties and we have both been surprised by how many houses aren't protected by CCTV. Having CCTV installed around the outside of your property is an excellent deterrent and can provide us with excellent evidence. I know I've already given you this advice but at a time like this I think it's worth going through it again. So please take time to read the suggestions listed below, thank you

- Check your insurance documents for any specific security requirements or upgrades.
- Ensure side gates are locked to prevent access to the rear of the property.
- Ensure rear fencing is in good repair.
- Lock all windows and doors, remembering to double lock UPVC doors (lift handle and turn the key)
- Keep all keys out of reach and sight from the letterbox (remember a device could be used to hook keys through letterbox).
- Do not leave ladders and garden tools in your garden, lock them away in your shed.

- Improve natural surveillance at the front of your property i.e. trim high hedges.
- Consider fitting security lighting and a burglar alarm. CCTV cameras are an excellent deterrent to thieves and are a great way of helping us to catch them.
- Mark your property with your postcode and house number and register your property for free with www.immobilise.com
- Make use of timer switches to make the property appear occupied.
- Get a trusted neighbour to keep an eye on your property.
- Consider joining or forming a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.
- Remove valuables from view of ground floor windows.
- Store any high value items (ie jewellery, passports and so on) in a properly secured safe or bank vault.

I must mention the large amount of information that has been given to us by the Ashurst Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Not only has this helped us build up a picture of who has been in Ashurst recently but it has also been a way of passing on crime prevention advice to the more vulnerable members of the community. The Ashurst branch is an outstanding example of how well Neighbourhood Watch can and should work, so perhaps it's worth considering if a similar scheme would benefit your community. Increased patrols have been arranged for Ashurst and the surrounding area, but please be vigilant and report anything and anyone that appears out of place or suspicious.

There have been 8 Non Dwelling burglaries this month with Ashurst, Brook, Minstead, Winsor and Stoney Cross the areas affected. One of these incidents involved an attempted break to one of the outbuildings at a pub in Brook. Nothing has been stolen and investigation are ongoing to see if any suspects can be identified.

PC NORRIS and I are being joined by some of our local Police Cadets for an operation that is going to take place over the weekend of the 8th and 9th April.



Operations FALCON is our campaign to make rural areas a hostile environment for criminals. In March 15 vehicles were broken into in this part of the New Forest, with Fritham, Andrews Mare, Millyford Bridge, Janesmoor Pond and Bolderwood the car parks targeted. But vehicles has also been attacked when they've been parked on the side of the road in Ashurst, Minstead, Ower and Stoney Cross. ALL of these vehicles either had valuables on display or had put them in the boot. Sadly thieves who steal from car parks will wait and watch what you do with your valuables. They will see you put them in the boot and then break in to your car when you have gone for your walk. Over the weekend of the 8th and 9th April myself and some of the Hampshire Police Cadets will be touring the New Forest Heart area and handing out

crime prevention advice in the hope that more and more of you will make your cars less of a target for thieves. The information below is very good advice and definitely worth following.

Try to park in signposted parking areas.

Be cautious about parking your car in isolation. Thieves can be put off when other people are around.

Do not leave anything in your vehicle. A jacket or coat left behind may be of very little value to you, but a thief may think it has been used to hide a laptop or handbag and will break into your vehicle to find out.

Take items with you rather than locking them in the boot; you can't be sure who has seen you.

Before you leave home, think about what you need and leave any unnecessary items of value at home.

Make sure you do not leave documents which have your personal details on in your vehicle.

If you have a portable sat-nav device, do not leave it in your vehicle and don't forget to remove the cradle and wipe the sucker marks from your windscreen.

Remember to shut all windows and sunroofs and lock all doors. Activate the alarm and immobiliser. Make use of any security products you might have such as steering locks.

Whilst enjoying the sights make sure you keep your bag with you.

Other Incidents of notes:

There was a large fire in a field off Barrow Hill Road at Copythorne that happened on the afternoon of Sunday 26th March and although no one was injured, damage has been caused to the area so if you have any information about how the fire started then please let us know. Criminal damage has been caused to a property in Bartley where someone flattened some wire fencing, a motorbike has been seen riding off road on the Forest floor in and around the Stoney Cross car park, and 23 motorists have been caught speeding in Lyndhurst, Cadnam, Ashurst and Brook.

Thank you again for all the calls made to the Police in March 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.

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