



## Horsham Weekly Bulletin

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**Wednesday 29th January 2020**

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### **Crime summary**

#### **Burglary**

Reference: 0300 23rd January

Location: Castle Lane, Bramber

Date and time: Between 1800hrs 22nd January and 0730hrs 23rd January

Details: A window was broken believe in an attempt to enter the property, no entry was gained.

#### **Burglary other than Dwelling**

Reference: 0899 21st January

Location: Cowfold Road, West Grinstead

Date and time: Between 16th & 18th January

Details: The lock was cut off a shed and two quad bikes were stolen.

### **Other**

#### **Fraud Newsletter**

Please see the link to the special edition of the newsletter which covers Courier Fraud. This January all Police forces are working together on a national campaign to target criminals committing courier fraud, a crime which has become much more common over the last year.

We are doing all we can to put a stop to it but need your help. The newsletter tells you what courier fraud is, and what you can do to help.

Please help us prevent fraud by circulating this as widely as you can.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/sussex/advice/operations-initiatives-and-watch-schemes/operation-signature/fraud-newsletter-jan-2020-courier-fraud-special.pdf>

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## News and appeals

### Police seek witnesses to failed ram-raid in Partridge Green



At about 1.50am on Tuesday (21 January) an unsuccessful bid was made to break into the Co-Op post office stores in High Street, Partridge Green, south of Horsham.

A Ford Transit pick-up truck was used to try to batter down a security shutter protecting the main door.

Following several failed attempts, raiders abandoned the truck and drove off in a second vehicle, a white box van.

No one was hurt.

Police are investigating and would like to talk to anyone who saw or heard anything suspicious in the Partridge Green area during the early hours. Any CCTV, mobile phone or dash-cam footage would be particularly helpful.

Please contact Sussex Police online or phone 101, quoting serial 69 of 21/01. Alternatively, please contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/witness-appeals/police-seek-witnesses-to-failed-ram-raid-in-partridge-green/>

### Sussex Police warns of danger of courier fraud



Sussex Police warns of the dangers of courier fraud as it supports Operation Radium, a nationwide campaign to target fraudulent criminality and build up information on organised crime groups behind the scams.

In 2019 Sussex police received 550 reports of courier/impersonator fraud targeting vulnerable victims.

Out of those reports, 67% of victims lived alone and 78% were aged 75 and over. The recorded total loss to these victims is £1,057,136 with an average of £8000 being lost in each case where there was a loss.

An 83-year-old man from Pease Pottage, who wishes to remain anonymous, said he came close to being a victim of courier fraud in November 2019 when a conman called his home phone pretending to be from Essex Police.

He was told by the fraudster on the phone that there had been improper activity in his bank account that they suspected was part of a money laundering scheme.

The victim was asked to withdraw £5,000 to see if the bank notes were fraudulent. He was asked to read the bank note numbers and was told that they were a cause for concern. He was then told the money was to be taken to Essex Police station and that an officer would come and collect it.

To avoid becoming a courier fraud victim, always remember...  
Your bank or the police will NEVER:

- call and ask you for your full PIN or full banking password
- ask you to withdraw money to hand over to them
- ask you to transfer money out of your account

PC Bernadette Lawrie, BEM, Financial Abuse Safeguarding Officer for Surrey and Sussex Police says: "Behind all of the clever tricks and ever-changing narratives, there are a few basic recurring elements that are common across many frauds, including courier fraud.

In Sussex it has so far prevented £5 million being lost and has led to 49 arrests. For further advice and information on preventing this type of fraud, see the Sussex Police website here.

For further advice on fraud prevention, and information on Operation Signature, the work done by Sussex Police to prevent fraud and support victims, also see the force website here.

To see the full story, please click on the link or go to our website.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/force-news/sussex-police-warns-of-courier-fraud-dangers/>

## **West Sussex man sentenced for attempting to meet young girl for sex**



A West Sussex man has gone to prison after admitting attempting to meet a young girl for sexual purposes.

Edward Senior, 31, unemployed, of no fixed address, was sentenced to six years imprisonment at Lewes Crown Court on Thursday 20 January, having pleaded guilty at Crawley Magistrates Court on 23 December to: arranging to meet a child under-16 for sexual activity: attempting to have sexual communication with a child, and: breaching a Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO) imposed on 8 January 2016 which prohibits him from unsupervised contact with children under 16.

He had been arrested by Sussex Police officers in Horsham on 20 December following information supplied by members of the public.

He was also given a further extended licence period of five years. Detective Sergeant Samantha Jedrzejewska said; "Senior was already a current registered sex offender, having been convicted in January 2016 of engaging in sexual activity with a 14 year old girl in March 2015.

"He then engaged in online chat with what he thought was a young girl, and arranged to meet in Horsham, but in fact he had been talking to an adult posing as a child.

"He will now be a registered sex offender for life and a Sexual Harm Prevention Order (SHPO) already in place with conditions for his residence and contact with children will now last indefinitely and includes severe restrictions on his access to any computer or related device."

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/court-results/west-sussex-man-sentenced-for-attempting-to-meet-young-girl-for-sex/>

**Alerts/Press Releases sent out this week click the link to see full details.**

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### **Help us keep Sussex safe**

If you saw or heard anything, or have any information about any incident in this message please [contact us online](#), email us at [101@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:101@sussex.pnn.police.uk) or call **101**, quoting the reference number provided.

Alternatively you can contact the independent charity **Crimestoppers**, anonymously, on **0800 555 111**, or online at [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)

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### ***Message Sent By***

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