

Horsham Weekly Bulletin

Tuesday 4th February 2020

Crime summary

There have been no burglary dwellings or burglary other than dwellings i.e. sheds or garages this week which is very good news but just remember to keep all valuables safe by locking sheds and garages when they are not in use and to shut windows when not at home.

News and appeals

Christmas Day drink-driver arrested twice in two weeks



A Worthing shopkeeper was arrested for drink-driving on Christmas Day – just two weeks after being caught committing the same offence.

Yax Patel is among 31 motorists who have so far been convicted as part of Surrey Police and Sussex Police's Christmas crackdown on drink and drug-drivers.

The campaign – set by the National Police Chief's Council – ran from 18 December to 1 January inclusive, and led to a total of 110 arrests in Sussex.

Here are the other latest convictions as part of the campaign:

Amanda Jones, 48, an admin assistant, of Burns Close, Horsham, was arrested in Burns Close, Horsham, on 22 December and charged with driving with 70mcg of alcohol per 100ml of breath in her system.

At Crawley Magistrates' Court on 9 January, she was disqualified from driving for 19 months. She was also ordered to pay a £541 fine, £85 costs and a £54 victim surcharge.

Nathan King, 43, a finance clerk, of Hurst Court, Horsham, was arrested in Hurst Court, Horsham, on 24 December and charged with driving with 115mcg of alcohol per 100ml of breath in his system.

At Crawley Magistrates' Court on 9 January, he was disqualified from driving for 28 months. He was also ordered to pay a £803 fine, £85 costs and a £80 victim surcharge.

Jan Garrett, 68, a gardener, of Hazelhurst Crescent, Horsham, was arrested in Crawley Road, Horsham, on 30 December and charged with driving with 58mcg of alcohol per 100ml of breath in her system.

At Crawley Magistrates' Court on 14 January, she was disqualified from driving for 16 months. She was also ordered to pay a £484 fine, £85 costs and a £48 victim surcharge.

If you're prepared to drive under the influence of drink or drugs, prepare to face the consequences. These could include the following:

- Killing or seriously injuring yourself or someone else;
- A minimum 12 month ban;
- An unlimited fine;
- A possible prison sentence;
- A criminal record, which could affect your current and future employment;
- An increase in your car insurance costs;
- Trouble travelling to countries such as the USA.

People in Sussex can text officers on 65999 with the details of people they suspect of drink or drug-driving, or visit the Operation Crackdown website. You can also contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or report it online.

If you know someone is driving while over the limit or after taking drugs, call 999. To see the full story and other people listed please click on the link or go to our website.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/court-results/christmas-day-drink-driver-arrested-twice-in-two-weeks/>

Former scout leader charged with child sex offences in Horsham

A West Sussex man has appeared in court to answer charges of voyeurism and a sexual assault, involving young children at scouting camps he helped to run.

Oliver Cooper, 25, a student, now of Kings Drive, Hopton, Staffs, and a former scout leader in Horsham, appeared at Crawley Magistrates Court on Wednesday 29 January, to answer 22 charges of voyeurism and one charge of a sexual assault, all allegedly occurring in 2018.

The voyeurism charges relate to allegedly covert indecent filming of children between ages of six and eight and the alleged sexual assault relates to a girl aged six.

Cooper pleaded not guilty to all charges and was sent for trial with a first appearance at Lewes Crown Court on 12 February. He is court bail meanwhile.

The charges, authorised by the CPS, follow an investigation by detectives from the West Sussex Safeguarding Investigations Unit. The Scouts Association and West Sussex Childrens' Services were immediately informed of the allegations and have worked closely with police to ensure all necessary safeguarding precautions were taken.

Police emphasise that the Scouts Association has given full co-operation throughout the investigation.

Parents of all children who were in the group, including those whose children have been identified as subjects of the alleged offences, have been kept informed. There is no current safeguarding risk to any child.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/news/former-scout-leader-charged-with-child-sex-offences-in-horsham/>

Disrupt, Enforce, Protect



A proactive police unit is helping to make Sussex a “hostile environment” for dangerous and persistent criminals targeting the county.

The Tactical Enforcement Unit is dedicated to capturing some of Sussex’s most wanted and prolific offenders, including those involved in serious violence, organised crime and county lines drugs gangs.



The team, made up of officers with specialist skills in proactive policing, is carrying out targeted disruption, enforcement and patrol activities wherever it is most needed. It enhances the work of local policing teams across the force using intelligence provided by community to disrupt the criminal activities of those causing most harm.

It carried out a successful early warrant at an address in Eastbourne on Thursday (30 January) just after 6am striking the front door and arresting a wanted man who had evaded capture for nearly a year after failing to appear at court in February 2019.

The 47-year-old had been charged in connection with a stabbing in Sorrel Drive, Eastbourne in 2018 before disappearing. He is now in custody.

Inspector Dan Hiles who leads the unit said: "The unit is designed to target the capture of some of Sussex's most dangerous criminals and disrupt serious organised crime.

"There is no officer who enjoys the idea of a criminal evading justice. This unit has been set up to target exactly those people.

"The team were supported by a number of extra officers today to make sure we could safely arrest the suspect and bring him to justice.

"We knew he posed a significant risk to officers as he had previously knocked an officer unconscious."

Since being launched last month, the team has made dozens of arrests, seized illegal drugs, weapons, cash and helped to safeguard vulnerable people and those at risk of exploitation.

One initial central team made up of eight PCs, a Sergeant and led by an inspector, will grow to form three geographically-based enforcement teams, one each based in East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove, from July this year.

Deputy Chief Constable Jo Shiner said: "We want Sussex to be a hostile environment for criminals and especially those involved in serious violence and targeting vulnerable people across our county, whether through county lines drugs gangs or other organised crime.

"The Tactical Enforcement Unit is a visible, proactive deterrent to those at the centre of the serious offending, supporting local policing teams in dealing with specific spikes in crimes that impact on the community and it is already making a difference.

"They respond to where the public need them most, providing reassurance and disruption across our communities. This unit takes our most prolific criminals off the streets, which makes our neighbourhoods safer."

The new unit has been established through an uplift in police officers with the force on track to recruit a net gain of 129 officers by March 2021, thanks to a combination of additional precept and Government funding.

Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne said: "On Friday 31 January I take my proposal for a £10 increase in how much Sussex residents pay for policing to the Police and Crime Panel for its approval.

"Chief Constable Giles York tells me that one of his asks from this proposed increase would be to implement a Tactical Enforcement Unit across every division in Sussex. So, it was important that I saw this team in action for myself.

"After witnessing today's tough enforcement activity, it is clear that Sussex Police have cemented their commitment to be even more proactive and disruptive towards prolific criminals.

"They are all an asset to the Force and, approval permitting, I would welcome an expansion of this team across the entire county.

“Our residents want to feel safe and know that strong action is being taken against those who wish to exploit or endanger them. This team are doing just that. They are a great example of how smarter, tougher policing works and are fast making our county a hostile environment for those seeking to break the law.”

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/force-news/disrupt-enforce-protect/>

Horsham man jailed for supplying cocaine and cannabis



A man has been jailed after police seized thousands of pounds worth of drugs from his home in Horsham.

Otis Watson, 27, unemployed, of Canberra Place, Horsham, was sentenced to three years and four months' imprisonment after appearing at Lewes Crown Court on Monday (January 27).

He was convicted of possession with intent to supply a Class A (cocaine) and a Class B (cannabis) drug when he appeared at Crawley Magistrates' Court on December 30, 2019.

Police raided and searched Watson's property on November 23, 2018, and found cocaine with an estimated street value of £75,000 and cannabis with an estimated street value of £13,000. They also found items relating to the sale and distribution of drugs.

The drugs were seized and Watson was arrested at the scene.

Investigating officer, Temporary Detective Sergeant James Gwynne, said: "The production and supply of drugs blights the lives of those that become dependent

on them and causes misery for those caught up in the criminality of running supply lines.

"We are delighted to have taken a sizeable quantity of Class A and Class B drugs off the streets of West Sussex.

"We hope this conviction acts as a message to others that we will not tolerate the dealing of illegal substances in our communities, and will bring to justice those who sell and distribute drugs across our fine county."

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/court-results/horsham-man-jailed-for-supply-cocaine-and-cannabis/>

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 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

Links and attachments: Sussex Police will only ever link you to secure Websites we trust. We will only send you attachments where we believe it is absolutely necessary.

Message Sent By

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