

Horsham Weekly Bulletin

Tuesday 10th March 2020

Crime summary

Burglary

Reference: 0538 4th March

Location: Henderson Walk, Steyning

Date and time: Between 2345hrs 3rd March and 0100hrs 4th March

Details: A property was entered and a money box was stolen.

Reference: 1432 4th March

Location: Adams Close, Broadbridge Heath

Date and time: Between 1830hrs 3rd March and 2130hrs 4th March

Details: Entry was made to a house by breaking a window. Jewellery was stolen.

Reference: 0475 7th March

Location: The Boulevard, Horsham

Date and time: Approximately 0128hrs 7th March

Details: A male was seen on a ring doorbell camera to attempt to enter a premises. The premises were secure and no access was gained.

Reference: 0102 8th March

Location: Church Road, Broadbridge Heath

Date and time: Between 0040hrs and 0140hrs 8th March

Details: A rear door was forced open and several items were stolen including the car keys and car.

Reference: 0324 8th March

Location: The Willows, Horsham

Date and time: Between Midnight and 0700hrs 8th March

Details: A cat flap was removed in an attempt to enter the property, the attempt failed and no entry was gained and nothing was stolen.

Reference: 0098 10th March

Location: Windrum Close, Horsham

Date and time: At 0300hrs 9th March

Details: Damage was caused to a front door, believe in an attempt to enter the property.

Burglary other than Dwelling

There are no shed / garage breaks to report this week.

Other

Thefts and attempt thefts from vehicles.

Over the weekend there have been several reports from the central Horsham area and Steyning of someone attempting to access vehicles. Most of the vehicles were not entered as they were locked and secure, however, some were not locked and we would like to remind everyone to make sure their vehicles are locked and secure even if leaving them unattended for a short time. If you see anything suspicious please report on 101 or report online <https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/>

News and appeals

Over £4.7m worth of fraud prevented in Sussex due to Banking Protocol



Over £4.7 million worth of fraud - often targeting vulnerable and elderly customers - has been prevented in Sussex through the Banking Protocol, a UK-wide scheme that enables bank branch staff to spot potential fraud victims and request an immediate police response.

The latest figures from UK Finance show 995 calls have been made through the rapid response scheme to Sussex Police since its launch in the region in June 2017, with an average of £4,700 of fraud being prevented per call. The initiative has led to the arrest of 43 suspected fraudsters in the region.

A total of 695 safeguarding concerns have been raised and a total of £4,700,242 financial loss has been prevented.

The Banking Protocol was introduced to crack down on scams in which customers are tricked into visiting their bank in person to withdraw money and hand it over to a criminal.

Under the initiative, developed in partnership between UK Finance, local police forces and National Trading Standards, bank branch staff are trained to spot the warning signs that suggest a customer may be falling victim to such a scam. Nationally, the scheme has prevented a total of £100 million of financial loss due to fraud.

The staff member can then invoke the Banking Protocol, leading the local police to send a priority response to the branch to investigate the suspected fraud and arrest any suspects still on the scene.

The protocol has formed an important part of Operation Signature, Sussex Police's campaign launched by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to identify and support vulnerable victims of fraud.

PC Bernadette Lawrie, Surrey and Sussex Police Financial Abuse Safeguarding Officer, said: "The Banking Protocol is a crucial scheme that helps stop fraudsters in their tracks, assisting police in identifying criminals and vulnerable victims. It means we can give individuals the necessary prevention advice to make sure they don't lose out on their cash by falling victim to these awful scams."

In Sussex, all fraud should be reported to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040. However, where the victim is vulnerable or elderly, please contact Sussex Police directly by calling 101. For more information and advice see our Operation Signature information page 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/over-4.7m-worth-of-fraud-prevented-in-sussex-due-to-banking-protocol/>

Two men arrested after knifepoint robberies in Horsham



Police have arrested two men after two knifepoint robberies in Horsham town centre on Friday morning (March 6).

Officers were called at 1.37am to reports a man had been approached and threatened with blades outside Barclays Bank, Carfax. The suspects demanded the victim hand over his phone, bag, bank card and cash, which he did.

Police received a second call at 1.49am by a man reporting he had also been approached by two men in Carfax and threatened with a knife. The victim had no belongings on him and so the suspects left empty-handed.

Two men were later arrested on suspicion of robbery - one at 1.58am after he was detained by door staff and an off-duty British Transport Police officer, and one around an hour later at 3.05am.

The men, aged 20 and 21 from Horsham, have been released on bail with conditions.

Chief Inspector Sarah Leadbeatter, district commander, said: "Thanks to the bravery of the members of the public and the swift actions of our officers, we had two men arrested within an hour and a half of the first call coming in.

"We continue to work together with partners and the local community to ensure Horsham remains a safe place to live and visit and that this kind of public place violence will not be tolerated.

"We are supporting both victims and our investigation into these matters is ongoing."
<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/news/two-men-arrested-after-knifepoint-robberies-in-horsham/>

High flying PCSO blazes a trail for 35 new apprentices



New PCSO apprentice Chloe Wakeford joined Sussex Police to make a positive impact on people's lives, so when she was alerted that a seven-year-old was missing during her second day in the job, the 25-year-old was determined to track him down.

Within half an hour Chloe had located the distressed child on Bexhill seafront. She calmed him down and took him by the hand.

"When I reunited him with his mum, she was so relieved and thankful. As a mum myself, I knew what she would be going through. It felt great to make such a big difference to someone's life."

It was the first of an impressive list of achievements that the Bexhill-born mum has clocked up policing the streets of Battle and Bexhill, alongside tutor, PCSO Neil Holden.

In just her first few weeks, she helped pursue and detain a wanted woman and uncovered a drug den from intelligence she got from a business owner. On her tutor's day off, she took part in a warrant with police officers, helping to find more than 100 stolen items at a house. She has also helped settle neighbour disputes and defused an aggressive confrontation in the street.

Chloe is just one of the 100 additional PCSO apprentices Sussex Police has been recruiting over the last year, thanks to the 2019 rise in council tax. Many, like Chloe, are already out on the streets, learning on the job.

For the latest 35 apprentices, who have headed out to their new communities across Sussex for the first time this week, Chloe has set the bar high. The recruits will spend two weeks shadowing their new colleagues and meeting the public before completing their final four weeks' training at police HQ.

And with another 34 apprentices recruits prepare to start training on 30 March, Sussex is set to reach the target of 100 extra PCSOs this month.

Assistant Chief Constable for Local Policing Julia Chapman said: “I congratulate Chloe on the excellent contribution she has made to her local community and policing team; and all our new PCSO apprentices, who are making a positive impact on local policing across Sussex. “I’m sure the 35 apprentices who have gone out to shadow colleagues on the frontline this week will likewise make an excellent impression.

“Our PCSOs do an incredible job, engaging with the public and working alongside police officer colleagues to prevent and detect crime, and tackle anti-social behaviour in local communities. They perform a vital role in frontline policing, providing visibility and reassurance.

“As we near completion in recruiting an additional 100 new PCSOs for Sussex, we have had feedback from local residents and businesses that they are already seeing and feeling a difference.

“These extra PCSOs put us in the best position to continue working with our partners to keep our communities’ safe and feeling safe.”

Chloe said: “I am loving the role. I worked in the police contact centre for two years before, and longed to be out in the community, helping the public, face-to-face.

“PCSOs play such a vital role. I’m learning so much from Neil. As a longstanding PCSO in the area, he knows the community and the beat well, and is able to pick up the vital intelligence the force needs.”

The high-flier started her apprenticeship last October at the police HQ before joining the Rother team in January. As an apprentice, she gets a full salary from day one of the training.

“I didn’t go to university, and if it wasn’t for this apprenticeship, I doubt I would have got the opportunity to go back into education, as I am now mum to my 19 month-year-old son. It’s great to be earning a Level 4 qualification without getting in debt.”

Tutor, Neil, is passionate about the job after 12 years’ in the role.

“The more you put into the role, the more you get out. I went into this job, age 49, after a previous career in hotel management, and at 61, I still get so much out of it.

“I’m learning as much from Chloe as she is learning from me. You should never stop learning.”

Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne comments: “Well done to Chloe, what an impact to make on your first few shifts on the beat. This should demonstrate to the public just how valuable the PCSO role is in gathering vital community intelligence, offering mediation to disputes and assisting officers in taking down criminals who are hiding under the radar.

“100 extra PCSOs will have been recruited by the end of this month thanks to resident’s contributions through the police precept. This will mean more boots on the ground, visible deterrents in our communities and hopefully give public confidence a boost - visible policing matters.”

We open for recruitment for PCSOs on 16th March 2020. You can register your interest here.

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/force-news/high-flying-pcso-blazes-a-trail-for-35-new-apprentices-as-they-meet-their-communities/>

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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