

Horsham Police weekly update 4th November 2016-11-04

News and appeals

Community resolution for free runner who damaged Horsham rooftop

A man has been given a community resolution by police investigating the ongoing issue of free running – also known as parkour – in Horsham.

On the afternoon of Friday 26 August, officers were on duty in the town centre when they became aware of two men on the roofs of buildings in West Street.

One of them was seen to break approximately three tiles as he performed a manoeuvre on the rooftop of The Works, before causing more damage to the same structure shortly afterwards.

PC James Munden gained access to the scene, where he spoke to the free runners about the damage he had witnessed, while PCSO Andy Reed watched on from a nearby car park which had been used by the officers as a vantage point.

On Wednesday 26 October, a 24-year-old man from Horsham was issued with a community resolution for criminal damage, and ordered to pay £200 in compensation. As part of the community resolution, he is required to attend a meeting about to discuss the impact free running on businesses and residents in the town.

PC Munden, of the Horsham Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: "While free running is not a criminal offence generally, individuals can be prosecuted if they commit an offence while doing so, such as criminal damage or antisocial behaviour.

"The activity is an ongoing issue in Horsham and some other parts of Sussex, and it is extremely dangerous and can result in serious injury or death. It's an issue which has blighted businesses and residents in Horsham town centre for several years, and a number of retailers have had to fund repairs to their roofs due to leaks caused by broken tiles.

"I hope this serves as a warning to others about the risks associated with free running, and sends out the message that we will continue to respond to reports of free running and take robust action against offenders accordingly."

Witnesses sought to violent house robbery in Shillinglee, West Sussex

Detectives are investigating a violent robbery at an isolated house in West Sussex.

At about 5.45pm on Wednesday (26 October), police were called to a robbery which had happened at a house off Shillinglee Road, Shillinglee in West Sussex very near the border with Surrey.

The postal location for the address is for Chiddingfold, Surrey, but the actual address is in West Sussex, between the village of Plaistow and the junction with the A283 at Fisher Street.

A man had entered, probably through an upstairs window, and was disturbed by the 52-year old owner who arrived at his address with a friend, a 51-year old woman, while the intruder was still in the house.

The owner struggled with the man and sustained facial and head cuts, and bruises to his body, and his partner sustained a bruised hand.

The suspect stole a Mercedes ML320 4x4 from the property, which was found abandoned at 7pm that evening in a nearby lane just off Shillinglee Road.

He also took several hundred-worth of dollars and sterling notes, as well as four licensed shotguns in their carry cases, and some cartridges, and a distinctive 20-year old stainless steel Seiko Chronograph diver's watch with a black face incorporating 360 degree turn dial. The retail value of the watch was £300.

The suspect is described as being of dark complexion, speaking good English and of Eastern European or Arabic appearance, about 5'9"-10", in his early thirties, of average build but with strongly muscular lower arms, with short dark hair.

He was wearing a dark coloured possibly black sweatshirt and jeans or trousers. He wore a neck warmer covering the lower part of his face.

Detective Constable Jo French said; "The intruder was very threatening and violent, assaulting the couple and putting them in great fear, although they did try to resist him.

"This was a most unusual incident for the area and we think local people may have noticed something suspicious late on Wednesday afternoon.

"We have already spoken to some nearby residents, but anyone with any information is asked to contact us via 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or by calling 101, quoting Operation Sparrowhawk."

Appeal for witnesses to Storrington burglary

Police are appealing for witnesses to a burglary at a house in Hampers Lane, Storrington.

The home owners had been out but when they returned home on Sunday (30 October) at 4pm, they found two men there who immediately fled the scene.

Police were called and after a brief search a man was located in nearby woods and subsequently arrested and charged.

However the second man was not found. He is described as white, 6', slim, aged between 20 and 30 and wearing a dark hooded top and dark trousers.

Detective Constable Gavin Percival said: "If you saw anything unusual or any suspicious vehicle, particularly any silver 4x4 that was in the area at the time, please contact us."

Any witness or anyone with information is asked to email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or ring 101 quoting serial 1128 of 30/10.

Joseph Carr, 51, of Brasslands Drive, Portslade, has been charged with committing burglary at a house in Hampers Lane on 30 October and stealing £30 cash. He appeared at Crawley Magistrates' Court on 1 November and was remanded in custody to appear at Lewes Crown Court on 29 November.

Crime summary

Burglary

Reference: 0342 28-10

Location: Potters Lane, Horsham

Date and time: 11.15 – 12.15 28/10/16

Details: Entry through an insecure door purse stolen.

Reference: 0842 29-10

Location: Lintot Square, Southwater

Date and time: Between 1730-2359 29/10/16

Details: A male seen to attempted to climb in informant's window. No access gained.

Other than Dwelling

Reference: 1511 02-11

Location: Shooting Field Steyning

Date and time: Between 2230 – 2245 02/11/2016

Details: Attempted shed break no entry gained two suspects disturbed.

Reference: 0864 10-11

Location: Commercial Premises Henfield

Date and time: 10/11/16 Between 1025-1039

Details: Rear gate forced 30 containers of used oil stolen

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

Your local teams

[Visit our Website](#) to contact your local team, view local news and follow our social media accounts. Simply type your post code in the '**Find a Local Area**' box located in the top right of the web page.