



## Horsham Weekly Bulletin

**Wednesday 23rd May 2018**

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### News and appeals

Due to campaigns that we have running this week I am sending out an early bulletin. If there is anything else of note on Friday morning I will endeavour to send another one out as usual.

## Prolific burglars targeted during Operation Magpie

Victims share their stories about how burglary has impacted on their lives at the start of the latest burglary awareness campaign.

The force has launched Operation Magpie, the summer burglary crime prevention and awareness campaign.

During this week (May 20 to May 27) there will be operational activity where our Prevention Enforcement Teams from across the county will concentrate their efforts on searching for people who are wanted on warrant and for those who are named as suspects.

We'll also be sharing, on our social media stories, from real people who have experienced burglary together with the consequences. **Their stories** reflect the emotional impact which this crime has on individuals, their families and the convictions given to those responsible.

Between May 2017 and April 2018 there were on average 411 burglary offences per month across the force. This total includes both residential and non-residential burglaries.

Detective Chief Inspector Alasdair Henry, Sussex Police burglary prevention lead said: "Operation Magpie launched in 2015 and acts as a reminder for residents about how to keep their property safe and reduce the chance of being burgled.

"Already in the last couple of weeks we've had some excellent results catching those suspected of committing burglary within our county. Six people have been remanded in custody for burglary offences.

"How we tackle the investigation of burglary is business as usual for our teams, we have planned some targeted operational activity to find people wanted on

warrant for burglary offences and trace suspects. We aim to send a clear message that there are serious consequences to would-be offenders and make sure our communities know that burglary is investigated. We'll keep you up to date on our local district social media accounts during the week.

"The victim stories we will be sharing show how much burglary can affect someone and their life and bring home the impact. The stories are from real people who have experienced burglary first hand and given their permission for us to share them. We have changed their names to protect their identities. For these cases three of the four suspects had custodial sentences imposed and the other there is a suspect who has been charged and is awaiting trial. These will be posted along with crime prevention messages, so please keep a look out and find us on social media."

Of the 43 UK police forces, Sussex is rated as eighth highest in the national league table as one of the least likely places to live and be burgled.

Commenting on Operation Magpie, Katy Bourne, the county's Police & Crime Commissioner said: "Burglary can have a profound effect on victims who often describe it as a robbery or an invasion of their home - terms that actually relate to acts perpetrated on a person not a property. This reinforces the deep, personal impact that a burglary has on someone who experiences it.

Nobody should feel unsafe in their home which is why I have made a commitment to ensure the force maintains effective prevention and deterrent activities as well as taking prolific burglars off our streets.

I am pleased that Sussex Police is continuing to give crime prevention advice to help save homeowners from the awful impact of being burgled

We all have a part to play to help keep Sussex safe and I urge residents to follow police advice and keep their property secure so that they are not a target for burglars."

To help protect yourself this summer whether you are home or planning a trip away please read our crime prevention [advice](#).

Register your belongings on the [Immobilise](#) national property register. It's free and takes just a few minutes and if your valuables are stolen it will allow you to tell the police, your insurer and secondhand traders to assist in recovering your property and catch the thief.

You can also be kept up to date by joining Sussex Police's Community Message service, In the Know which will keep you up to date on the latest news in your police district. Find out how to join [here](#).

Communities can work together to prevent crime. By joining an existing [Neighbourhood Watch scheme](#) or becoming a NHW coordinator your community can be stronger together.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/prolific-burglars-targeted-during-operation-magpie/>

## Do you care for someone with dementia and worry

# they may go missing?

**A new scheme to help find vulnerable missing people with dementia and related conditions is being adopted across Sussex.**

During Dementia Action Week, which starts on Monday (21 May), Sussex Police and partner agencies are formally adopting the 'Herbert Protocol', giving carers, relatives or friends the ability to prepare, in advance, information that police will need quickly if ever their loved one goes missing.

With more than 850,000 people affected by dementia in the UK and numbers set to rise, Sussex Police have worked in partnership with the [Alzheimer's Society](#) and [Sussex Search and Rescue \(SusSAR\)](#) to plan this scheme.

The Protocol, already adopted by several forces across the UK, is named after George Herbert from Norfolk, a veteran of the Normandy landings, who lived with dementia and repeatedly went missing from his care home.

It consists of a [form](#) that can be completed by relatives, friends or carers of those affected by dementia, recording vital information about the person including their regular medication, previous addresses and daily routines. Should the person they care for go missing, the form can be handed straight to the attending police officers, with a photograph.

This will help provide officers with the most up to date information about the vulnerable missing person, helping to accurately guide their search, and also avoid further unnecessary questions for families at what can be an extremely distressing time.

Chief Superintendent Lisa Bell said: "When a vulnerable person is reported missing it can be deeply distressing for their family and friends. Finding them quickly before they come to harm is critical. We know that people may find it difficult to recall information when they are worried and distressed, and having vital information to hand about regular routines and previous addresses, will help officers to act fast to locate the missing person, returning them home safely.

"This will be an extra resource for our priority task of safeguarding and protecting those most vulnerable in our communities."

The form once completed should be regularly updated and kept in a safe place, with a photo, where it can be easily located and handed to the attending officers should the person you care for go missing. To get the form and find out more, just [visit here](#).

Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner Katy Bourne said: "With an ageing population increasing across our county, the need for the 'Herbert Protocol' has never been greater.

"As people live longer, they may also become increasingly vulnerable and this is no doubt made worse when they suffer from a debilitating disease like dementia.

"I am really pleased that Sussex Police have adopted this protocol as it will help everyone from the police to families and carers to be best prepared for an

unanticipated emergency and help protect the more vulnerable in our society.“

If you are concerned for the whereabouts of a friend or relative, please dial 101. If you feel the person may be in immediate danger, please call 999 as soon as possible.

For more information about Dementia Action Week visit [here](#).

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/do-you-care-for-someone-with-dementia-and-worry-they-may-go-missing/>

## Identity sought following handbag theft in Horsham

Police would like to trace a man and woman following the theft of a handbag in **Horsham**.

The victim was sat in Pret a Manger, West Street, Horsham between 2pm and 2.30pm on Friday 20 April when her handbag was taken.

Her bank cards were then used in Waitrose and Sainsbury's in Horsham.

The man was described as white, 5' 6", in his 30s, of slim build, with dark hair and wearing a light blue shirt, dark trousers and sunglasses. Photos of the pair can be found on our website by clicking the link below.

The woman was described as in her mid-20s, with long brown hair tied up in a bun and wearing black skinny jeans, white trainers and a crop top.

If anyone recognises the pair or has any information please report [online](#) or call 101 quoting reference 743 of 20/04.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/identity-sought-following-handbag-theft-in-horsham/>

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### Crime summary

#### Burglary

Reference: 0920 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Location: Lemmington Way, Horsham

Date and time: Approx. 1500hrs 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Details: Rear doors were forced and watch was stolen.

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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)