



## Horsham Weekly Bulletin

**Friday 6th July 2018**

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### News and appeals

## Dismissal ruling for former detective

A detective constable, who failed to adequately investigate an allegation of child abuse, would have been dismissed if she had still been a member of the police force, a gross misconduct panel ruled.

That is the disciplinary action that would have been taken had DC Celia MacDonald not retired from Sussex Police days before the gross misconduct panel found that she had failed to adequately investigate an allegation of child abuse.

DC Celia MacDonald, 49, who was based in the safeguarding investigations unit at Horsham, dealt with a referral involving allegations of sexual abuse on children within a family in West Sussex. Initial actions included a joint visit with Social Services, but following that DC MacDonald decided that there was no criminality, did not record a crime or undertake any further investigation and handed the case back to Social Services.

Please click on the link for more information on this story.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/dismissal-ruling-for-former-detective/>

## Former teachers convicted of sex offences against pupils at Sussex public school

Two former teachers at Christ's Hospital School in [Horsham](#) have been convicted of sexual offences against pupils in their care at the school in the 1980s and 1990s, following a Sussex Police investigation and a five-week trial at Hove Crown Court.

Gary Dobbie, 67, of Rue De La Piale, Albi, France and Andrew Husband, 68, of Wigginton Road, York had both pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Dobbie was convicted of 15 offences against eight pupils aged between 12 and 19;

- six counts of indecent assault on a boy (five of the counts relating to multiple occasions) between 1990 and 1996;
- one count of indecent assault on a boy between 1988 and 1990;
- two counts of indecent assault on a woman between 1995 and 1996;
- one count of indecent assault on another woman between 1994 and 1995;
- one count of attempted indecent assault on a man in 1990;
- one count of indecent assault on a boy aged 17 between 1993 and 1994;

- one count of indecent assault on a man, a former pupil, aged 21 in 2001;
- two counts of indecency with a boy between 1989 and 1991;

Husband was convicted of six offences - five counts of indecent assault and one count of rape, all against a girl in mid-teens between 1990 and 1994.

The victim of the offences by Husband is the same as the victim of Dobbie of the count of indecent assault on a woman between 1994 and 1995.

Three further counts of alleged rape of the same girl by Husband were discontinued during the trial.

Both men were remanded in custody for sentencing. Husband will be sentenced on Friday 13 July. No date has yet been arranged by the court for Dobbie to be sentenced.

Detective Inspector Wendy Burton of the Sussex Police Complex Abuse Unit said; "This has been a very complex and sensitive investigation in which we gained the confidence and support of nine people, who relived their distressing experiences of many years previously and gave evidence in court.

"We also emphasise that that all the matters involved in this case occurred between 17 and 30 years ago, and do not involve any recent staff or pupils at the school.

"Our investigation began in January 2016 when the victim of Husband contacted the school and reported the abuse. She subsequently made a statement to us and also said that Dobbie who was the school chaplain had, on learning of the systematic abuse of her by Husband, indecently assaulted her himself.

"As we began our investigation we spoke to other ex-pupils and ex-staff members and it became clear that Dobbie had also systematically exploited and abused other pupils over a period of up to eight years.

"We have had the fullest co-operation from the school throughout this investigation, and they have supported us in providing all the information we requested, which helped us to contact victims and witnesses.

"This case further demonstrates we will take all allegations of such abuse seriously, and will seek to investigate and to help victims gain access to sources of independent advice and support.

"Anyone suffering such abuse, now or in the past, does not need to stay silent. You can contact us online or by calling 101, and arrange to talk in confidence to experienced investigators."

For further advice and information on combating child sexual abuse see the Sussex Police [website](https://sussex.police.uk/news/former-teachers-convicted-of-sex-offences-against-pupils-at-sussex-public-school/).

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## Crime summary

### Burglary

Reference: 1548 1<sup>st</sup> July

Location: Watersfield, Pulborough

Date and time: Between 1245hrs 30<sup>th</sup> June & 1700hrs 1<sup>st</sup> July

Details: Rear door broken and entry gained. Car keys and car stolen from property.

### Other than Dwelling

Reference: 0826 29<sup>th</sup> June

Location: Rusper Road, Ifield

Date and time: Between 27<sup>th</sup> June – 1030hrs 29<sup>th</sup> June

Details: Attempt to enter garage, no entry gained.

### Other

It's going to be another hot weekend and Sussex Police are still receiving calls regarding dogs in hot cars. Just a reminder please do not leave dogs in vehicles, even for a few minutes. Temperatures inside vehicles can rise rapidly, which can make dogs very distressed.

If you see a dog in a hot car looking distressed dial 999.

Further advice can be found on the following link <https://bit.ly/2KMJVde>

### Sussex Safe Roads

Below is a link to the Sussex Safer Roads newsletter. This is their first official newsletter to go out and we hope you find it interesting.

<https://mailchi.mp/05c3f5da2ad7/ssrp-july-2018-newsletter>

For further information about Sussex Safer Roads please click on the link below that will take you to their website.

<https://www.sussexsaferroads.gov.uk/>

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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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## 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.

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**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.