

Horsham Police Weekly Bulletin

Tuesday 4th December 2018

News and appeals

*"Jingle bells, here's our cells, open every day;
If you drive with drink or drugs, you'll soon be on your way."*

26 arrests made in first 48 hours of drink/drug-driving crackdown

News

A total of 26 arrests were made in the first 48 hours of a Christmas crackdown on drink and drug-drivers.

Chief Inspector Andy Gooch, of the Surrey and Sussex Roads Policing Unit, which runs the campaign, said: "To have made so many arrests in such a short space of time – just days after we publicised our messaging around the risks of drink and drug-driving – is quite unbelievable.

"Driving under the influence of drink or drugs is stupid, it's selfish and it's downright shameful, and anyone caught and convicted will be held accountable for their actions. Not only can you expect a lengthy ban, a hefty fine and possibly a prison sentence, you'll also get a criminal record, which could affect your job, your future insurance costs and your travel prospects.

"Worse still, you could kill yourself or someone else – last year in Sussex 13 people died in collisions which involved a drink-driver. Is it really worth it? We can assure you it's not."

The 26 arrests were made in Sussex on Saturday (1 December) and Sunday (2 December), and further statistics will be published as the campaign continues until its conclusion on 1 January 2019.

In line with previous campaigns, police will also publish details of those convicted, including their name, age, address and occupation.

Chief Insp Gooch added: "While this is a dedicated campaign which occurs twice a

year during peak periods – at Christmas and in the summer – we will still respond to reports of drink and drug-drivers as part of our routine policing 365 days a year.”

If you're going to consume drink or drugs, plan ahead – walk home, book a taxi, take public transport or get a lift with someone sober. Never get into a vehicle with someone you know is over the limit.

If you're planning to drive after 'just a couple', it's more than likely you'll be over the limit.

Also be mindful of the amount of time it takes for substances to leave your body – you could still be over the limit the next morning, even if you've had several hours' sleep.

Drink and drugs affect people according to a number of variants including your age, weight, height, gender and stress levels, to name a few.

The only way to safely guarantee you are under the limit is to drink OR drive; never both.

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

- 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;
- 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. The campaign is being run in conjunction with the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership and DriveSmart in Surrey.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/26-arrests-made-in-first-48-hours-of-drinkdrug-driving-crackdown/>

New recruits put to the test by High Sheriff of West Sussex

[News](#)

The High Sheriff of West Sussex Caroline Nicholls put trainee constables through their paces, posing as a driver stopped on suspicion of driving unsafely.

For the full story and to see a photo, please click on the link or see our website for further information.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/new-recruits-put-to-the-test-by-high-sheriff-of-west-sussex/>

Big steps made in mental health and partnership working continues

[News Force News](#)

Sussex Police has been leading the change in supporting how those in a mental health crisis are treated.

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services issued a national report on how the police force respond to people with mental health problems.

For the full story please click on the link or see our website.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/big-steps-made-in-mental-health-and-partnership-working-continues/>

Violent drug-dealer caught hiding in nettles

[News Justice Done](#)

A violent drug-dealer found hiding in nettles with almost £5,000 in cash has been jailed for numerous offences.

Police searched for Ben Atkinson following reports of an assault and criminal damage at a house in Churchill Way, [Horsham](#), about 3.50pm on 3 July.

"We were determined to catch up with him and we're thankful to the public for helping us to locate him. He was clearly intent on evading capture – running away from police – and only gave himself up when faced with a police dog.

"I'd also like to thank all the officers involved in this investigation. Together, we have helped to bring a cowardly criminal to justice and removed a substantial quantity of drugs from the streets of Sussex."

To see the full story and photos please click on the link or go to our website.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/violent-drug-dealer-caught-hiding-in-nettles/>

Crime summary

Burglary

Reference: 0522 27th November

Location: Furners Mead, Henfield

Date and time: Between 26th & 27th November

Details: A property was entered via insecure window. Unknown what was stolen.

Reference: 0667 3rd December

Location: Ryecroft Lane, Storrington

Date and time: Between 1200hrs 1st December and 1230hrs 3rd December

Details: A rear window was broken and jewellery was stolen from the bedroom.

Other than Dwelling

Reference: 0871 27th November

Location: Lanyon Close, Horsham

Date and time: Between 21st and 27th November

Details: Golf clubs were stolen from a garage.

Reference: 0544 29th November

Location: Cherry Tree Close, Billingshurst

Date and time: Between 1700hrs 28th November and 0800hrs 29th November

Details: A door was taken off a shed and a lawn mower was stolen.

Reference: 0117 30th November

Location: Faygate Lane, Faygate

Date and time: Between 29th and 30th November

Details: A lock was broken off a summer house and a motor cycle was stolen.

Other

Are you on Facebook or Twitter? Do you follow Sussex Police? Did you know if you like our pages you can share and retweet and keep up to date with all our news.

http://www.twitter.com/Horsham_police

<https://www.facebook.com/horshampolice>

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/>

Christmas and New Year bulletins.

Our next bulletin will be sent as usual next Tuesday 11th December, however due to Christmas day and New Year's Day falling on a Tuesday, the bulletins will be limited and may not be sent out as usual. We will of course send any urgent information that we feel relevant. We would like to thank you for your understanding and hope that you all have a safe and very Merry Christmas.

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.

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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