

Here is the latest Faringdon Police Neighbourhood Team update for you, from PCSO Kerry Davis.

Priorities

Rural crime continues to be one of our priorities. We are very fortunate to have use of the 4x4, which enables the team to cover areas such as, White Horse Hill, The Ridgeway, and surrounding farmland. Patrols have helped significantly to reduce reports of beauty spot vehicle breaks. We have received one report in the last month, where a vehicle was left insecure, resulting in a bag being stolen. Please do not leave any valuables in your vehicle.

Arrests

On 11/02/18, a male was reported to be trap cart racing along the A420. Officers attended and arrested two males. One of which has been reported for the offence of 'Driving with no insurance' and 'Causing an obstruction to the Public Highway'.

On 15/02/2018, officers attended an address in Faringdon, where a 15 year old male was arrested on suspicion of supplying Class A drugs. The arrested male is from the Coventry area, and is believed to have links to County Drugs Line (CDL). The address was being used for '**Cuckooing**'. Unfortunately, this is not the first incident of this kind for Faringdon.

Cuckooing

Cuckooing is on the increase in many areas across the country. Criminal gangs are targeting isolated/vulnerable individuals, usually living in Housing Association, or Council Accommodation, by befriending them, then taking over their homes to deal drugs. Initially, the offer of 'free' drugs is sometimes used to encourage vulnerable people, to allow their property to be used in this way. The gangs are able to operate from an unobtrusive property, and use the premise to deal and manufacture drugs. Once the gang are using the properties for criminal activity, the tenant is often left terrified of asking for help, out of fear that they will be suspected of involvement, and face losing their home. Gang members will also use intimidation and violence to control their victim.

If you are concerned about someone you know, or a premise being used for cuckooing, please call police on 101 and ask to speak to a member of the Faringdon Police Neighbourhood Team, where your details will be handled with the strictest of confidence.

Witness appeals

Did you hear or see anything?

- Overnight, 12/02/18, a vehicle was broken into in the Tuckers Rd area. A side window was smashed, property stolen. Occurrence number – 43180046205.
- Overnight, 17/02/18, a set of number plates were stolen from a vehicle along Ferndale Street. Occurrence number – 43180051902.
- Between 17/02/18, and, 19/02/18, a large building container was broken into at a building site in Southmoor. Several items of large building machinery were stolen. Offenders also attempted to steal a digger from the site, but were unsuccessful. Occurrence number – 43180052254
- Overnight, 25/02/18, a vehicle was broken into along Town End Rd in Faringdon. Offenders entered the vehicle by smashing a window, and stole a bag. Occurrence number – 43180060248

If you have any information on any of the above please call 101 and quote the occurrence number.

Shed break reports

On the 4/02/18, and 9/02/18, breaks and thefts to garden sheds were reported in the Tubney area, where offenders stole tools and garden machinery. House to house enquiries were conducted by PCSO Maralyn Pack and PCSO Esme Brown. During enquiries, it transpired that there had been several unreported sheds broken into in the area. Please can we ask that any crimes of this nature are reported to Police so we can offer any support that may be needed, and also assist with Crime Reduction advice to help prevent further crimes being committed. We cover a large geographical area, reported crime helps us to ensure that our patrols are carried out in areas of concern.

Internet Safety – Keeping your child safe.

Many children are very fortunate to have all the latest gadgets, giving them access to, social media, chat rooms, and a whole host of opportunities on the World Wide Web. Unfortunately, it can also be a very unsafe place with opportunity for, cyber bullying, sexting, and grooming.

We often receive reports of young people being contacted by people they don't know. What can start off as a 'friendly' chat, can very quickly spiral into a situation that a child cannot control.

Do you monitor your child's internet use? Are you aware of who your child is talking to online? Do you check that photographs and videos being shared with friends are appropriate?

Please do not wait for an incident to happen to your child, or your child's friend, before you discuss the consequences of online misuse. There are many useful tools to help you to keep your child safe –

www.parentprotect.co.uk

www.saferinternet.org.uk

www.google.co.uk/familysafety

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

If you have suspicions about a particular person's behaviour online, you can report them to the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) www.ceop.police.uk

Engagement

Where possible, one of the Faringdon Neighbourhood team will attend The Cake Café at The Pump House on Wednesday mornings between 9.30am–11.30am.

Please come and discuss any local concerns you may have, or, just come over for a chat!

Farewell from me – Kerry Davis

And lastly, on 7th March, after 9+ years of working on the neighbourhood team in Faringdon, I will be leaving Thames Valley Police for pastures new. It has been a real honour working in the Faringdon Community. I have met with, and worked alongside some truly fantastic people. The Faringdon Community never fail to amaze me, with the care and resilience that has been so clearly displayed, particularly over the last couple of years.

Look after each other!

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email

FaringdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact

Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your

neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today.

Please also follow us on Twitter @TVPSouthandVale.

