

New Forest Community Newsletter

December 2005

News from the New Forest Community Safety Partnership

Working together for a safer community

Welcome to the first edition of the New Forest Community Newsletter. We will be giving you the latest information on how all the New Forest Community Safety Partnership agencies are working together to make your community a safer place to live and work. Included in each newsletter will be information and updates from your area, partnership projects, the work of your police officers and crime prevention advice.

How do we work?

The New Forest Community Safety Partnership is made up of representatives from core agencies including: Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire County Council, New Forest District Council, Social Services, health chiefs, the National Probation Service, Hampshire Fire and Rescue, the Wessex Youth Offending Team, the Forestry Commission, New Forest Magistrates Court, Hampshire Police Authority, South West Hampshire Primary Care Trust, the Government Office for the South

East, Connexions, Community First New Forest and Hampshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT). The strategic aims of the partnership are to address issues such as drug and alcohol crime, anti-social behaviour and reducing the fear of crime. More information is available at www.nfdc.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=139

Your community

Although the New Forest is considered to be one of the safest places to live and work, there is no room for complacency and that's why we are continually striving to make a difference.

The police

Each month the community newsletter will focus on specific partners. This month is the turn of Hampshire Constabulary. The force is divided up into ten Basic Command Units (BCU). The New Forest BCU is split into four sectors, north, south, east and west and houses seven police stations and contains approximately 220 officers. **Turn over to find out more.**

Coming to your area soon

The Community Safety Partnership has recently purchased a speed indicator device (SID). This piece of equipment is designed to act as a visible deterrent and educational tool for speeding motorists, as well as providing vital enforcement data for the police.

The Safer Roads action group meets regularly to discuss and prioritise deployment requests from a variety of different sources, including parish councils. The speed indicator device may be coming to your area soon! This device is not designed to prosecute but to educate motorists. For further information contact Community Safety Inspector, Mick Buckle, at Lyndhurst police station on 0845 045 45 45.

Crime reduction advice for dark nights

With winter upon us, it is a good time to review our home security. Traditionally, despite an overall reduction in New Forest burglary figures, the number of domestic burglaries tends to rise during the autumn/winter months. Most opportunistic burglars, whilst preferring to operate under the cover of darkness, also want to identify empty homes as potential targets. Empty houses during late afternoons are prime targets. With darkness falling before most people arrive home from work or when popping out to collect the children from school, the potential burglar will find plenty of opportunities. It is important that you protect your home and stop yourself from becoming a victim. **Turn to page two for some handy hints and tips on how you can protect your property during the winter months.**

New Forest West

Ringwood Sector (NFW) covers an area of approximately 150 square miles. The boundaries span from north of Fordingbridge to the Wiltshire border at Downton, a southerly point at Hinton on the A35 and from the Dorset border at St. Ives in the west to Bolderwood in the east.

New Forest West sector has 25 officers grouped into five shifts consisting of community beat officers and sector response officers, each shift is headed by a sergeant who has beat manager responsibility. In total, 22 officers are based at Ringwood police station, with three officers working from Fordingbridge.

The sector has a total of seven beats. Each beat has one dedicated beat officer other than Fordingbridge town, which has two. The beat officers currently assigned are. Beat 1 (Ringwood town centre) PC Chris WHITE. Beat 2 (Hightown) PC Helen ROBERTS. Beat 3 (Poulner) PC Steve CORNWELL. Beat 4 (Bransgore and Burley) PC Nigel LINFORD. Beat 5 (Fordingbridge town) PC Andy ROBBINS & PC Karen WARREN. Beat 6 (Ibsley) PC Kevin HUGHES. Beat 7 (Breamore) PC Tony HATCHER.

Although levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in the Ringwood sector are relatively low in comparison to other parts of the New Forest, which itself is a low crime area, the fear of crime remains a significant issue for many of our residents. To combat this and to provide continued reassurance to our communities, we will continue our commitment to providing a strong uniformed presence on the streets through high-visibility foot and vehicles patrols and the use of the mobile police station to reach the more remote communities.

Should any resident have concerns that they wish to discuss with their local beat officer, please call 0845 045 45 45. You can report any crime anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

New Forest East

New Forest East (NFE) covers an area of some 80 square miles and incorporates Hythe, Dibden, Fawley, Netley View and Calshot. Policing demands vary across the parishes in terms of crime and disorder issues.

Generally, most areas have low levels of crime, a trend in-keeping with the rest of the New Forest BCU as a whole. One of the sector's main focuses is Holbury Precinct and North Road. Efforts are being made to police these areas robustly. Holbury Precinct is being looked at closely, with initiatives taking place to ensure that the appropriate agencies work together in addressing problems of anti-social behaviour. Officers have also been carrying out high visibility patrols in these areas to discourage anti-social and public order issues. Some of

the problems relating to anti-social behaviour in the sector can be linked to a lack of youth provision.

The Waterside Youth Steering Group is currently in the process of discussing these issues with young people in the Holbury area, to identify their needs. If successful, this will create an environment that can promote a far healthier and more positive impact upon the local community.

Police officers in the sector are grouped into five shifts, which have joint responsibilities for both response and community based policing issues. At other sectors the beat role is undertaken by designated Beat Officers. Each shift have been designated geographical areas of responsibility, which are: Netley View /Dibden Purlieu – Sergeant John McNEIL.

Crime reduction advice continued...

The key to prevention is to make your house look as though someone is at home. Lock all doors and windows when you go out (even for a few minutes) and do not leave a key under the mat or flowerpot. Thieves know all the hiding places.

Leave lights on in various locations inside the house. Use timer switches or low energy light bulbs to save energy. Leave a radio or TV on to make it look as though the property is occupied. Consider lighting around the outside of the property, this can be operated by infra red or dawn to dusk switches. Improve the natural surveillance of the front of your home by keeping hedges and shrubs down to a reasonable height, 3ft 6ins-4ft for a front fence/hedge. This helps your neighbours/ passers-by see if anyone is in your garden. Try not to leave gates open all day. It can give the impression that no-one is at home. Do not leave valuables on show near windows where a potential burglar could see them. For free advice or more information, call New Forest Crime Reduction Officer, Ron Smith, on 0845 045 45 45 or visit www.crimeprevention.gov.uk.

Marchwood/Beaulieu – Sergeant Darrel MASON. Hythe/Dibden – Sergeant Garry PACKER. Fawley/Blackfield – Sergeant Mark EMERY. Holbury – Sergeant Simon WOOD. Each Sergeant has regular meetings with their respective councils and complainants in order to discuss community issues and identify areas of concerns which need addressing.

New Forest North

Totton and Lyndhurst Sector (NFN) covers the north of the New Forest BCU bordering with Southampton to the east, Romsey to the north and Wiltshire to the north west. There are 31 staff grouped in five shifts, with both community beats officers and sector response officers. Twenty four hour coverage is provided from Totton station.

Members of the public can visit seven days a week from 9am-7pm. The sector has seven beats in total. Each beat has one dedicated officer and one beat manager (Sergeant). These are: Beat 1 (Totton Town Centre) PC Stuart TRIBBECK. Beat 2 (Testwood) PC Naomi MELLISH. Beat 3 (Calmore) PC Tristan PUGH. Beat 4 (Eling and Hounslow) PC Jennifer CARR. Beat 5 (West Totton, Ashurst and

Netley Marsh) PC Lisa WOODCOCK. Beat 6 (Lyndhurst) PC Steve ENNEW. Beat 7 (Cadnam/Copythorne) PC Sarah TATE.

We have a team of four beat cyclists who patrol the Totton area (beats 1-5). Lyndhurst village has a dedicated patrol officer. We are working towards having a greater uniformed presence on the street, both on foot, cycle and through patrol vehicles, to provide reassurance and a visible deterrent. We recognise local concerns over juvenile nuisance and are working hard to target the minority who do not respect others and the law. Totton officers have been particularly active in seizing alcohol from young people in order to reduce incidents of alcohol-related crime and nuisance.

New Forest South

New Forest South (NFS) incorporates Lymington, New Milton and the surrounding parishes.

Five teams (45 officers in total) cover 24 hours a day, seven days a week, responsible for responding to priority calls and dealing with incidents. The area is divided into beat areas. The beat officers are tasked with providing visibility in their respective areas and dealing with ongoing problems.

Beat officers are: DG1 (Lymington Town Centre) PC Peter HALL and PC Hayley WOLLASTON. DG2 (Pennington) PC Jason STEELE. DG3 (Sway and Hordle) PC Dave WOOLFREY. DG4 (Ashley) PC Sam BLAKE-WATKINS. DG5 (New Milton town centre) PC Steve JENNINGS. DG6 (Davis Field and North Milton Estate) PC Chrissie BENFIELD. DG7 (Milford and Barton on Sea) PC Del JONES. DG (Keyhaven and Lower Pennington) PC Nick BAXTER. DG9 (Brockenhurst and Boldre) PC Ian HUNT. The biggest challenge for this sector is to maximise our visibility and ensure



an effective and thorough response to incidents.

NFS has developed strategies in an attempt to reduce anti-social behaviour and increase visibility. There is a deployment of extra officers on Friday and Saturday nights in order to target areas which have high levels of reported nuisance; this can be in the form of anti-social consumption of alcohol, reports of rowdiness or criminal damage. This initiative has proved to be very successful in seizing large amounts of alcohol from under 18s.

CCTV van takes to the streets

The fight against crime in the New Forest continues with a brand new CCTV van to help local officers deal with the menace of anti-social behaviour.

Costing £33,000, the state-of-the-art mobile camera unit has been funded by the New Forest Community Safety Partnership and will be used across the Forest in a bid to tackle problem hotspots. The introduction of the mobile CCTV van will mean greater flexibility and the chance to monitor in more remote areas. Dave Moore, sector Inspector for New Forest North, originally put in a bid for the unit after identifying the need for a greater mobile CCTV presence across the New Forest BCU. Fitted with a top mounted camera which allows for 360 degree vision and a front pointing camera, the equipment will go a long way to tackling the area's key crime issues.

The New Forest Community newsletter is compiled by New Forest
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The publication is sent out to parish councils and community websites
across the New Forest.
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