



Devon & Cornwall
POLICE

Issue 4
1/11/2023

South Hams Policing team Newsletter

Welcome to the South Hams Local Policing Newsletter, a quarterly overview of what we have been doing.

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- Partnership working
- Halloween/fireworks/Christmas crime prevention
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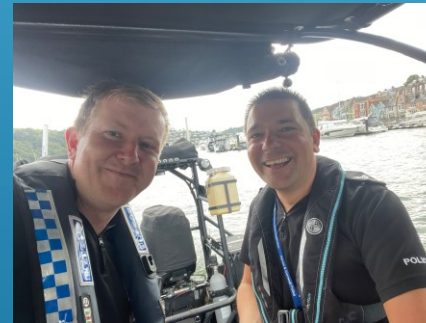
Dartmouth Community Information

So, another summer has passed by here in Dartmouth and as the weather turns cooler and sadly wetter, we reflect back on a busy period for the team. We have supported the delivery of Dartmouth Pride 2023 with Officers walking and engaging with those attending, offered a visible presence during the 178th Port of Dartmouth Royal Regatta and continue to investigate reports of Anti Social Behaviour and Crime in the local area. The team have now been joined by an additional member of staff. PC 17212 Matthew Edworthy started with the team in September 2023 and has already made a big impact. We expect our newest and final member (for now) to join us in November 2023 so watch this space!!



Between 23rd and 26th August 2023 Dartmouth welcomed thousands of visitors from across the Country to join local residents in celebration of the 178th Port of Dartmouth Royal Regatta. Neighbourhood Officers were present on all days and were able to speak with lots of people. The interaction with young children and those a little older was amazing. We were tempted to get involved with the tug of war in the Boat Float but thought we'd give others a chance! 😊 Officers were able to take part in the opening ceremony and felt privileged to be invited to the Captains House to celebrate such a wonderful occasion – we were even able to dress up in our Sunday best! A big thank you to the Regatta Committee for such a wonderful event and to all those stall holders, businesses, bands and members of the public for making it so successful. One last BIG shout out to Dot.....our saviour, for all the teas and biscuits that kept us going through very long shifts!!! She's a star!

Reports continue to come in regarding noisy motorcycles being driven anti socially in the Town Centre and on surrounding roads. The team have seized 3 such vehicles in recent weeks and continue to carry out patrols, visits and enforcement where required. Please continue to report such incidents to us and we will look in to them!



Our team website page is currently being update with priorities and actions we are taking. Please visit [Dartmouth Town | Your area | Devon and Cornwall Police | Devon & Cornwall Police \(devon-cornwall.police.uk\)](#) for more information. Details of upcoming meetings, Police Surgeries and events will be added shortly!!!

Totnes Community information

Totnes Neighbourhood Team continue to engage with partner agencies and support services to assist those experiencing homelessness. It is part of our team's goal to engage, prevent and safeguard rather than allowing an individual's circumstances to spiral and then be looking into dealing with what could have been avoidable criminality, vulnerability and exploitation.

Together- Drug & alcohol service www.edp.org.uk/together
 South Hams Council - 01803 861234
 Shelter - England.shelter.org.uk

Citizens Advice
 at Caring Town Information
 Exchange
 The Mansion, 36 Fore Street, Totnes
Every Friday
10.30 - 2.30
 Come and talk to one of our experts -
 appointments not necessary

Our goal is to help everyone find
 a way forward whatever the
 problem they face...
 debt, housing, relationships,
 benefit, entitlement, work...

From April 6th
 Citizens Advice South Hams
southhams.org.uk Tel: 03 666 111 666

Upcoming dates for a "Police Street Surgery"

Totnes Town

- Friday 3rd November 1500-1630hrs at Morrisons
- Friday 11th November 1000-1200 Totnes Methodist Church, Fore street
- Wednesday 29th November 1300-1430 at Morrisons
- Saturday 9th December 1500-1630 at Totnes Market, Civic square
- Friday 15th December 1000-1200 at Totnes Methodist Church, Fore street
- Tuesday 19th December 1500-1630 at Morrisons

Totnes Rural

- Tuesday 7th November 1000-1100 Marldon village shops
- Thursday 9th November 1000-1100 Stoke Gabriel village centre
- Thursday 30th November 1030-1130 St Johns Church Littlehempston

Totnes Neighbourhood Team attended this year's Junior Life skills run at Totnes Leisure centre for local Year 6 students. This is a good chance for young people to learn vital lifesaving a safety skills. Multiple organisations attend these events and is something our team has supported for several years.

From a policing perspective we addressed the issue of online safety and exploitation providing safeguarding and crime prevention advice. More information on this can be found www.thinkuknow.co.uk



We responded to reports of speeding in the Marldon area, Officers attended a conducted a speed check. Most drivers were within the speed limit, and those over the limit were not excessively so. We continue to monitor area's highlighted as having a speeding issue.

Update on Stepping Stones food bank and TQ9 Community Food Club

At Stepping Stones Totnes every week

Monday	TQ9 Community Food Club 10 items for £2.50	1:30 - 6pm
Tuesday	Totnes Food Bank Vegan Soup Relaxation & Anxiety Management	10.00 - 2:30pm 11.45 - 2-ish 3.00 - 5pm
Wednesday - Closed & Weekends	Emergency food available in a box in the childrens corner of St Mary's Church or from the Mansion office.	
Thursday	Totnes Food Bank Vegan Soup	10:00 - 2:30 pm 11:45 - 2-ish
Friday	TQ9 Community Food Club 10 items for £2.50	9:30 - 2.30pm

You are welcome to pop in for a cuppa, and join us for crafting, mindful colouring, playing games, jigsaw puzzling and chatting any time we are open.

St Mary's Church Hall
 From the High Street- down the cobbled alley to the left of the church, turn left again at the little iron gates.
 Tel: 07988639514
contact@steppingstonesTotnes.co.uk

Ivybridge Community Information

Officers from the Ivybridge Neighbourhood Team responded to an incident in Yealmpton where an unknown male had passed a fake £50 note. Using Facebook to alert the local communities, we received further reports from Kingsbridge and Totnes, making this part of a series. After some good old fashioned investigation and using ANPR technology, officers have been able to identify a number of suspects that have committed like offences all over the Devon and Cornwall area. The case has now been passed to the force Fraud Support Team who are progressing the investigation. There is no doubt that the initial investigation was helped by a simple Facebook post so please ensure you are following your local Police Facebook pages.



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~~ASB~~

Ivybridge Neighbourhood Team remain engaged with the local Council and other local Partners regarding community reports about Anti social behaviour. The local team remain committed to tackling local issues and will react to any reports made about ASB. Again we rely upon the Community to highlight issues to us so we can target the problem. Proactive and disruptive patrols will remain in place.

If you have found or been given cash you believe is counterfeit, take this to your local bank. If you work in a business where someone has tried to pay you using the note, call the Police or hand it in at the nearest Police station.

Report ASB to Police and the local ASB Officer at South Hams District Council. You can also report Criminal ASB to CrimeStoppers

You can report ASB, if relevant, to housing associations.

CrimeStoppers.
0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.

If you have any Crime information you can report this anonymously via crime stoppers either on the phone or online.

What can be done about ASB?

- Police may implement a section 35 dispersal notice on area
- South Hams district Council can issue Warning letters about ASB through the ASB escalation process
- A person could be issued a community protection warning escalating to a community protection notice is necessary
- A Criminal behaviour order can be applied for and imposed on a person who is impacting the community
- Support provided by local Policing teams and other partner agencies
- Prevention intervention with youth services and drug and alcohol services

Kingsbridge Community Information

Project Access

Insp Ben Shardlow – “Policing in the South Hams is a beautiful part of the country to deliver a service to, but it does come with some challenges. The rural characteristics can negatively impact on police visibility and how it connects with many of the smaller communities. Project Access has been set up to encourage police officers to utilise many of the local parish buildings, to bridge that gap and connect with local residents. These can be used as both planned police community surgeries and as routine drop-ins by officers on patrol. Increasing the ability for our local communities to have access to the police ensures we have a better understanding of their concerns and builds more trust in our service. I thank the local Parish Councils who have agreed to be part of this new project”.

NPT engaging with parish council and Local authority to tackle persistent ASB in East Allington. There is a local “Tasking” in place for South Hams Officers to carry out proactive and preventative patrols.



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We have had a further theft of GPS transponder unit from a tractor at a farm in Modbury. Precision agriculture is one of many modern farming practices that make production more efficient. To achieve this a lot of tractors and other farm machinery is fitted with GNSS/GPS satellite receivers and a controller in the cab, enabling high precision control and delivery/auto pilot of the machinery to optimise the task being carried out. Please report suspicious behaviour to Police- if happening at that time on **999**, or use 101 or website contact pages if it has already happened.



Operation Snap

Operation SNAP is a response to increasing submissions of video and photographic evidence relating to driving offences that members of the public have witnessed.

If you submit footage to Operation Snap you must be able to provide the registration number of the offending vehicle, and you should be prepared to sign a witness statement; there is a possibility that you will need to give evidence in court. We can only accept a statement for Operation Snap from persons aged 18 or over.



There are a broad range of offences that we will review including dangerous driving, driving whilst using a mobile phone, driving without due care and attention, careless driving, overtaking on solid white lines, not in proper control of the vehicle, traffic light contravention or any other road traffic offence that is clearly shown in the footage.

General parking complaints are more likely to need to be reported to the relevant local authority, however any parking on Zig Zag lines or parking that is placing pedestrians at risk will be actioned.

Please do not report window or number plate offences such as tinted glass or smoked plates as we are unable to verify the offences from footage alone.

It will be reviewed by one of our road traffic police officers to see if the footage is of a good enough quality and if an offence is shown.

If the clip is of a good enough quality and an offence is clearly shown then we will consider issuing an advisory letter to the owner of the offending vehicle, inviting them to an educational course, issuing a fixed penalty notice or, where appropriate, seeking a prosecution.

If the footage shows a more serious offence, or we have evidence of someone committing repeat offences, then we will consider inviting them to an educational course, issuing a fixed penalty notice or, where appropriate, seeking a prosecution.

If the video is not of good enough quality or no offence is identified, then there will be no further action taken.

All submissions are dealt with pro-actively to help reduce risk-taking and poor driving on our counties' roads.

Any footage submitted through the portal can be used by us to help educate other road users and to advise on case results.



Devon & Cornwall Police

Halloween



Thinking about trick-or-treating?

Be considerate to those who might be distressed by strangers knocking at their door during the evening.



Your idea of Halloween fun might not be someone else's.

Avoid trick-or-treating at people's houses if you aren't sure they'd like to join in.



Seasonal Crime Prevention advice



Fireworks night

1. It is against the law to carry fireworks in public if you're under 18
2. Fireworks must not be sold to anyone who is under 18
3. It is an offence to let fireworks off during night hours (11 pm to 7 am), except on Bonfire Night (midnight), Diwali, New Year's Eve, and Chinese New Year (1am)
4. It is an offence under the **Explosives Act 1875** to tamper with or modify fireworks

If you see an under 18 year old with fireworks, any person acting in a dangerous way with fireworks **call 999** and ask for Police and the Fire service as appropriate.



Christmas



Crime prevention and helpful information

Information taken from the
Take five website

Warning issued over scam caller pretending to be police officer

Police investigating reports of a phone scam, which has led to one person aged in their 80s handing over substantial sums of money, are appealing for information.

Officers are also warning residents in Devon to be vigilant of the scam, in which the caller is pretending to be a police officer.

Detectives say they have had an increased number of calls about this scam over the past few weeks - particularly in the South Devon area.

In one case, the victim was persuaded to hand over more than £25,000.

It has been reported that the male caller pretends to be a police officer from a force in London. He tells the victim they have someone in custody who has cloned bank cards belonging to them. The bogus officer then requests that the elderly person transfers money to the police until the suspect is dealt with and they will then be reimbursed.

Detective Inspector Daniel Parkinson said: "We are advising anyone who receives such a call not to give any personal information and hang up straight away.

"We will never contact people to ask that they transfer money from an account to aid an investigation or request banking information.

"If anyone does this get this type of request, it is a scam."

He added: "Fraudsters often target geographical areas where they know elderly or vulnerable people live, so we are asking that if you have family or friends who are vulnerable in any way, that you make them aware of this warning."

If you have any information that could help the police with their enquiries, or know someone who has received a call of this nature, contact police via our website [here](#) or by calling 101 quoting reference number 50230192850.

Alternatively, independent charity Crimestoppers can be contacted anonymously online at [Crimestoppers-uk.org](https://www.crimestoppers-uk.org) or by calling freephone 0800 555111.

Police advice on receiving a scam call of this nature is to terminate the call, wait five minutes and ensure you can hear a dial tone before calling 101. Then call your bank using the number found on the back of your card.

All reports of this nature also need to be reported to Action Fraud 0300 123 2040 or online <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/>



www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk

Take five is a national campaign offering straight forward, impartial advice that helps prevent email, phone based and online fraud- particularly where criminals impersonate trusted organisations.

TAKE FIVE TO STOP FRAUD

Criminals are experts at impersonating people, organisations and the police. They spend hours researching you for their scams, hoping you'll let your guard down for just a moment. Stop and think. It could protect you and your money.

STOP

Taking a moment to stop and think before parting with your money or information could keep you safe.

CHALLENGE

Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals will try to rush or panic you.

PROTECT

Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to Action Fraud.

YOUR BANK OR THE POLICE WILL NEVER:

- Ask you for your One-Time Passcode (OTP), PIN or full banking password, including tapping them into your phone.
- Ask you to transfer money to a 'safe account' for fraud reasons, even if they say it is in your name.
- Call you to ask to verify your personal details or PIN by phone.
- Send a courier to collect cash, PIN, cards or cheque books, even if they say you have been a victim of fraud or a scam.
- Contact you to participate in an investigation in which you need to withdraw money from your bank or to purchase high-value goods for safe-keeping.

What is changing?

Why are we changing?

What do we need from you?

Please visit www.devon-cornwall.police.uk.
The **blue boxes** on the home page are links
to the public reporting forms



What is changing?

We have recently updated and improved our website – which includes a selection of online forms for making non-urgent and non-emergency reports

To help us in improving our service we will be asking everyone – public and partners – to **report via our website forms**, rather than via emailing the old 101 email address.

To support the exclusive use of web forms, we aim to remove the facility to be able to send emails to 101 on **17 April**

Why are we changing?

With emails, we often need to engage in a lengthy back and forth with the person making the report as there may be vital details missing which we need to be able to respond appropriately

This email conversation can take significant time, which unfortunately, then impacts on our ability to deal with other reports in a timely way

Our web forms are structured with “prompts” to ensure we have all the information we need, right from the first time someone gets in touch which means we can respond more quickly and effectively

NO LONGER IN USE

~~101@dc.police.uk~~

~~101@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk~~