

NORTHERN NEW FOREST HEART

Monthly Beat Report – April 2018

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Hello and welcome to April's Beat Report for the Northern New Forest Heart area. I am PCSO 14495 Richard Williams, one of the Beat Officers for this area, and I am based at Lyndhurst Police Station with my colleague PC 20127 Steven Norris.

Beat Surgeries

Please come and meet us, in May 2018 we will be at -

Minstead Village Shop on Saturday 5th May at 10am.

St Michael and All Angels Church in Lyndhurst on Sunday 6th May at 10.30am.

Lyndhurst Baptist Church on Sunday 6th May at 11.30am.

The Tip, Leaf and Bean café in the New Forest Centre in Lyndhurst on Sunday 13th May at 10am.

Colbury Parish Church on Deer Leap Lane on Sunday 13th May at 11.00am.

Lyndhurst Parish Council Shop on Friday 18th May at 2pm.

Bramshaw Village Shop on Monday 21st May at 8am.

Copythorne Parish Hall on Tuesday 22nd May at 3.30pm.

<u>Burglaries:</u> There have been five residential burglaries in April. All of them happened during the day and 2 of them took place on the same road in Ashurst, one on Woodlands Road and the others on the outskirts of Calmore and in Cadnam. Investigations into all of these burglaries are ongoing. Also April has seen 5 sheds, stables and outbuildings broken into. Again it is mostly garden tools that have been stolen from Cadnam, Bramshaw, Lyndhurst and Stoney Cross, while alcohol and some computer items were taken during a break in at a cricket club close to Tatchbury.

The fine weather means that our homes and outbuildings can now be more vulnerable than at other times of the year. The temptation is to leave windows open and to forget to put garden furniture, tools and other items away when we aren't using them. Please have a read through the following suggestions about how best to keep your property secure at this time of year. I'm sure you've seen most of the advice before but I think it's always a good idea to remind ourselves.

- As tempting as it is to leave a window open because of the heat, this is an open invitation to a thief. Also don't be tempted to leave doors and windows wide open at the front of the house if you are in the garden. It only takes a thief seconds to find something worth stealing especially if they haven't got to break in.
- Lock all of your garden tools and other equipment away, don't be tempted to leave them outside in the garden. Last year we had a series of thefts from gardens where people had left tools, bikes and play equipment on display.

- Make your outbuildings as secure as possible. Alarmed padlocks are a great idea and try and secure your more expensive items to an anchor point with the shed or garage.
- Keep your outbuilding in good repair and create barriers to stop thieves getting near the doors or windows.
- Consider covering windows with curtains to obscure the view of the contents.
- Ensure that the sides of your house are protected. I've just moved into a new house and one of the first things I did was to make the sides of it as secure as possible. It's now extremely difficult to get round the back of my house without a key to the gate.
- Mark all items with a postcode and record serial numbers and register the details for free on www.immobilise.com
- And consider CCTV. These days it isn't as expensive and is a really useful deterrent and can provide excellent evidence.

Theft From Motor Vehicle: 10 vehicles have been broken into in April, with Fritham, Stoney Cross, Rufus Stone, Bramshaw Wood and Bolderwood the car parks targeted in the New Forest. Over the Easter weekend myself and some of the New Forest Police cadets spent two days visiting as many of the New Forest car parks as we could passing on the "DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING VALUABLE ON DISPLAY IN YOUR VEHICLE" message. The two days were a great success and we found hundreds of vehicles that had been left completely empty BUT we also found cars where handbags, wallets, suitcases and so on were clearly visible inside. Please pass on the message to as many people as you can. Thanks you. And if you would like one of our NOTHING VALUABLE HAS BEEN LEFT IN THIS VEHICLE leaflets, email me and I will send you one.

Two shops had items stolen from them on the High Street in Lyndhurst and there has also been an increase in fly tipping at various locations in the Forest. If you see anyone doing this please let us know. Get as much information and evidence as you can and send it to me. A photograph is excellent evidence but never put yourself at risk whilst taking it. Also fuel has been stolen from a tank on a property in Winsor.

27 people have been caught speeding in Lyndhurst, Bramshaw and Cadnam.

During April, the Speed Watch team in Minstead monitored 872 vehicles travelling along Mill Lane and 502 of them so nearly 58% were exceeding the 30mph speed limit. Of those, 117 vehicles were travelling at 35 mph or more and have received warning letters from the Police. At least 5 vehicles were recorded at speeds of more than 50 mph. Also in Minstead on Lyndhurst Road, 92 vehicles were monitored at various locations and 13 of them, so 14%, were exceeding the 30 mph limit. Of those only 2 were travelling at 35 mph or more and the highest speed recorded was 38mph. The Speed Watch team in Lyndhurst surveyed various roads in the village and monitored 1464 vehicles in April and of those 622 so nearly 43% were travelling over the 30 mph speed limit. 104 of those vehicles have received warning letters from the Police for recording speeds of 35 mph or more with one vehicle on Chapel Lane reaching 54 mph !!!

The Copythorne Speed Watch team spent a total of 6 hours surveying the roads in and around the parish in April. They monitored 1242 vehicles and 126 of them were recorded at 35 mph or over and have received letters from the Police. The Copythorne team is still looking for new volunteers to join them so if you have at least 1 and a half hours a month to spare and would like to help in keeping the roads in the Parish safer then please let me know and I will put you in touch with their team leader. April has seen the newly formed Ashurst Speed Watch group surveying traffic on Whartons Lane and on the main A35 and in May they expect to be monitoring traffic on Woodlands Road as well.

We are still looking for volunteers wanting to start Speed watch schemes in the New Forest Heart area. If you would like to help reduce the speed of vehicles in and around your community then please contact me at richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk. I am especially keen to hear from people in the Netley Marsh area. The Ashurst group is now up and running and I want to start a new group in Netley Marsh next.

We've had some excellent calls from you in April reporting suspicious people and their vehicles. Please report anything suspicious that you see in your community to 101 or call myself or PC NORRIS directly. Thank you.

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