



NEW FOREST HEART

Monthly Beat Report –
July 2020

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Hello and welcome to July's Beat Report for the 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 and we are responsible for Lyndhurst and the North of the Forest.

PC 2901 Jason Eastwood and PCSO 14215 Vicki Pressey take care of the Forest south of Lyndhurst.

Beat Surgeries

The good news is that we are hoping to resume our face to face Beat Surgeries very soon, obviously with social distancing very much a priority, but in the meantime as you know by now we are all still on duty and you can contact us via email, telephone or through our Facebook page at any time. But of course in an emergency always use 999. You can also report crimes and incidents on line via the Hampshire Police website. Our Facebook page is [New Forest Heart Cops](#).

We have two more SAFE AT HOME events scheduled for August. This is your chance to visit us and get help if you or someone you know isn't feeling safe at home or generally during the current climate. You will find us outside the [MINSTEAD COMMUNITY SHOP](#) on Friday 7th August from 11am for an hour and at the [CO OP](#) in Ashurst on Tuesday 18th August between 2pm and 3pm.

And remember for more information about the new guidelines and the latest Government advice go to their website at www.gov.uk because all of the answers about what we can and can't do at the moment are listed there.

This month 9 sheds and garages have been broken into, two of them on the same night in Copythorne. Tools, lawn mowers and garden equipment were taken from outbuildings in East Boldre, Lyndhurst, Woodlands, Bramshaw and Stoney Cross.

4 properties on the same road in Brockenhurst were targeted by a man working on his own. He made his way into the staff areas of shops and restaurants but was seen by an eagle eyed member of staff who called us and the male was arrested for burglary.

Other thefts this month include the dog kennels from the car park of the Longdown Activity Farm on Deerleap Lane while tools and other items were stolen from a site close to Furzey Gardens in Minstead. 6 bicycles have also been taken in July, two on the same night in Lyndhurst, one was stolen from an open garage in Ashurst while the home owners were in the garden and the other two were taken from the back of a car parked outside a restaurant in Brockenhurst.

Two Section 59 warnings have been issued this month to motorcyclists who were riding their bikes on the Forest floor at the Beaulieu Heath airfield. If the two men are seen riding these or any other motorbikes in this way in the next 12 months their motorbikes will be seized.

More criminal damage has been caused to the phone box in East Boldre as well as a gate and fence in the same village, catapults have been used to fire stones at a house in Bramshaw but they didn't penetrate the glass and a commemorative bench and some lights outside St Michael and All Angels Church in Lyndhurst have also been damaged.

The number of thefts from parked vehicles has increased to 11 this month with the car parks at Deerleap and Fritham those targeted. Cars parked in Brook, Ashurst, Lyndhurst and on the site of the Tatchbury Mount hospital were also targeted this month. One car was left parked in the layby outside Copythorne School for less than ten minutes, but that was still enough time for thieves to smash a window and steal a parcel from inside. Please make sure you take everything valuable with you and don't hide anything anywhere in your vehicle because you never know who is watching you. And if you would like one of our NO VALUABLES HAVE BEEN LEFT IN THIS VEHICLE cards then email richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk and we will send you one.

Although our face to face engagement has been put on hold because of the Coronavirus outbreak, we have this week held our first SCAM BUSTING talk via ZOOM so if any of you are meeting via the internet and would like an input from us about the latest Scams doing the rounds then let us know, just email richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk This though is some excellent advice from our colleagues at Action Fraud, please have a read and if possible please pass the information on to anyone you know who would benefit from it. Thanks

Have you bought anything online recently?

Almost 34% of all retail sales during May 2020 were carried out online, and new research suggests that only 16% of UK consumers intend to return to their old shopping habits post-lockdown.

Online shopping fraud during lockdown

Action Fraud, the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cyber crime, received **over 16,000 reports** relating to online shopping and auction fraud during the lockdown, with losses totalling over **£16m**. Members of the public have reported buying mobile phones (19%), vehicles (22%), electronics (10%) such as games consoles, AirPods and MacBooks, and footwear (4%) on sites such as eBay (18%), Facebook (18%), Gumtree (10%) and Depop (6%), only to have the items never arrive.

Top tips for shopping online securely

Choosing where to shop:

If you're making a purchase from a company or seller you don't know and trust, carry out some research first. For example, by checking to see if others have used the site and what their experience was.

Email accounts

Use a strong, separate password for your email account. Criminals can use your email to access other online accounts, such as those you use for online shopping.

Scam messages

Some of the emails or texts you receive about amazing offers may contain links to fake websites. Not all links are bad, but if you're unsure don't use the link, go separately to the website. And remember, if a deal looks too good to be true, it probably is.

Payment method

If you decide to go ahead with the purchase, use a credit card if you have one as other payment

providers may not provide the same protection.

What to do if you've fallen victim to online shopping fraud

We all make mistakes and these days the scams can be incredibly convincing.

If you think you've visited, or made a purchase on, a bogus website, you should first, take a note of the website's address, then close down your internet browser. You should then report the details to Action Fraud and contact your bank to seek advice.

Whether you've been a victim of fraud will depend on how much information you've provided to the website, so keep an eye on your bank transactions, if you can. Contact your bank immediately about anything that you don't recognise, even small amounts.

For more information about how to stay safe online, please visit www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime

Don't forget you can contact any of us on the New Forest Heart Police team on the details below but please use 999, 101 or the on line reporting page on the Hampshire Police website to record crimes or incidents of anti-social behaviour

For Lyndhurst and the north of the Forest its
steven.norris@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
07554 775477
richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
07554 775469

And for the Forest south of Lyndhurst its
jason.eastwood@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
07979 707939
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**Stay safe everyone and we look forward to seeing you
in person again soon**



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