



NEW MILTON BEAT REPORT DECEMBER 2008



Sgt Dave Tanner

The Officers and Staff of New Milton police station would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

This is my very last New Milton beat report as my retirement date is now fast approaching. I was very proud to receive a plaque from the town council at a recent town council meeting in recognition

of my time spent in the New Milton area. I first arrived as a Police Constable in 1983 and moved to Lymington three years later as an Area Car driver, still covering the New Milton area. I moved to Shirley on promotion in 1990 but returned to New Milton again in 1997 where I have remained until the end of my career. As you can see, I am a firm believer in staying at a station and getting to understand the area and obtain local knowledge, in my view the most effective method of policing. I would like to express my appreciation to the many partners I have worked with over the past years and in particular those who provide such valuable support for the young people. There have been many challenges along the way, fortunately there have been many more highs than lows throughout my career, which has been extremely enjoyable and rewarding. Now it is time to move on and pass the helm at New Milton to my successor Sergeant Neil Chippindale, I wish him well for the future.

Every police officer, PCSO and member of the Special Constabulary at New Milton were involved in this year's Remembrance Day parades at New Milton, Hordle, Milford and Sway. All were well supported and it was good to see the number of youth groups supporting the parade in the town.

In our September report you may have read the article regarding a series of incidents in late August, early September at Arnewood School, Culver Road youth club and One Stop. The investigation has been completed. Four youths have been arrested and charged/reprimanded for their respective involvement in five offences of burglary and criminal damage.

During November we had a report of suspicious individuals who were offering gardening services to residents in Elizabeth Crescent, Hordle. The men involved gained access to a resident's back garden and asked if they needed their trees cutting back.

They completed the work without the resident's agreement and asked for a substantial amount of money. Fortunately, despite parting with some money, the initial amount requested was not given. I would ask you to be wary about these kind of individuals, check their identification and if you have any concerns please call us. If you have an elderly or vulnerable neighbour please keep a watchful eye for suspicious people in your area. Please don't hesitate to give police a call, we are only too pleased to attend and speak to these individuals and check out their credentials.

We are all very fortunate to live in the New Forest which is a low crime area, compared not only nationally, but also to other areas in Hampshire. Christmas is only just around the corner. Becoming a victim of crime is distressing at any time of year but causes extra heartache at Christmas. I hope that the following crime reduction advice will help keep you safe on the street and prevent gifts for family and friends from becoming early Christmas presents for heartless thieves:



'Locks, Lights & Lookout!'

As the light evenings are getting shorter it is worth remembering to use those locks on your windows and doors and to leave lights on when you are out in the evenings. Make sure that you take reasonable precautions to restrict those opportunities – improve lighting around the outside of your house and restrict rear garden access. Please also be alert to suspicious behaviour, and report your suspicions at the time. You and your neighbours know your street better than anybody else – if you think somebody is out of place, we would like to know.

People sometimes hesitate to call the police when their suspicions are aroused. Please do call us, we want to know!



To report anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood issues, call 101.



In an emergency, dial 999.





Don't make it a merry Christmas for thieves

With the Christmas holiday season almost upon us, now is a good time to remind people to take steps to ensure that your Christmas isn't spoiled by criminals. Christmas presents, when wrapped and under the tree, are often seen as easy pickings for burglars, so remember the 'Lights, locks and Look out' campaign and protect your home.

It is not only your home which may be vulnerable at this time of the year. Remember when you are out shopping not to leave purchases and valuables in your car. Be aware of what is going on around you in the shops and in the street as well as being careful about where you park your car.

Christmas Shopping.

Park your car in a well lit public places, avoid isolated dark areas and do not leave objects on display. It might be prudent to make more than one trip to the shops rather than leave the unattended car loaded up with expensive items. To a thief, your car is little more than a glass display case on wheels!

- ✚ Avoid carrying too much around with you, the more bags you've got the more vulnerable you are to street crime.
- ✚ Keep your purse or wallet somewhere close to your body where you can feel it. Keep your chequebooks and cheque cards separately. Mobile phones should also be out of sight
- ✚ If you take a tea or lunch break, don't leave your bags unattended, not even for a few seconds.
- ✚ Be alert to card crime. Card crime not only involves someone stealing your card but also skimming, which is a method of illegally obtaining your card details by swiping your card through a small card reader. The details can then be used to make a counterfeit copy. Be careful with receipts that bear your card details.
- ✚ Be extra vigilant at cash machines. You should report anything which looks out of place on the machine, *particularly anything attached to the card entry port*, or anyone you see hanging around in the vicinity of the machines. for everyone to see.

- ✚ Make sure no one can see you entering your personal identification number (PIN) and do not walk away from the machine with cash in your hand for everyone to see.

At Home

Ensure the security of your house is adequate, this is important at all times but especially so at Christmas. Front and rear external doors should have good quality locks fitted to them along with door security bolts. All windows should have locking catches. If you have any doubts about the basic security of your home contact the Crime Reduction Officer via your local police station or visit the Crime Reduction website at www.crimereduction.gov.uk

- ✚ In the run up to Christmas store presents in a safe place— and don't put them out on display too early.
- ✚ With expensive presents ensure you make a note of serial numbers, reference numbers and/or identification marks before they are wrapped for Christmas so that should the worst happen, you have evidence of what was taken. Remember also that empty boxes and packaging left outside will advertise the fact that these goods are available inside! Dispose of packaging carefully. Are you adequately insured?
- ✚ Try not to position the Christmas tree right by a window; this may attract attention to presents from anyone looking in. It is best not to put the presents under the tree too long before Christmas. The longer they are on display the more opportunity there is for a burglary to take place.
- ✚ When out of the house make sure all your doors and windows are locked. After dark make it look as though someone is at home by leaving lights on, a radio playing is also a good idea. If you're going to be out for a longer period, say over night, use timing switches on lights around the house. If away over the holiday make sure that you cancel the milk, papers etc, try and arrange for a neighbour to check your property and pick up the mail, or contact the Post Office and have the mail re-directed.



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Out on the town

With office parties and general Christmas celebrations, pubs, restaurants and other venues are often crowded. Don't leave bags over the back of your chair and keep wallets and purses close to your body to make it more difficult for the pick pocket. Busy places make life easier for these type of thieves so be alert at all times. Make prior arrangements as to how you will get home. Avoid potential disturbances in the street and stay with your friends if possible. Make sure someone knows where you're going and what time you will be back. Don't accept drinks or lifts from people your not sure about and don't drink too much - this could make you a target.

PCSOs Nicki Marks, Alan McCaffery, Vicki Pressey and James Mitchener

November has seen a decrease in the number of young people hanging around in small or large groups in the recreation ground. During our High Visibility Patrols of the area, particularly at weekends, we have not seen an increase in the amount of alcohol seized.

There is still an ongoing issue with parking around the schools and neighbouring roads during the times of drop off and collection. This month we have started to monitor the parking by visiting schools during these busy periods to advise parents about parking. We will continue to monitor the schools during these times in the following weeks. Parking near schools has become a problem as there are limited parking spaces, however parents must remain considerate and allow access to residents. Please continue to be respectful to others and park in designated areas where there are no traffic enforcements. Reducing congestion outside of the schools increases the road safety of our children.



On Friday evenings there is local a youth project called 'Café light' which is currently being held at Culver Road youth club, over the past month PCSOs have been visiting for the evening to engage with the young people who attend.

We will continue to do this over the following weeks. We would like to point out this facility will be closed over the Christmas period.

Following recent events, PCSOs have been involved in high visibility reassurance patrols on the North Milton estate and this will continue due to positive feedback from local residents in and around the area, including Marryat Road and Davis Field.

PCSOs attended the Sway Women's Institute meeting during November where we discussed personal safety issues in relation to vulnerable people including lone females when out and about. As always we would like to remind people to be extra vigilant as the nights become darker more quickly and be aware of others around you.

Anyone with information for the PCSOs can contact us by phoning 0845 045 045 or emailing; new.milton.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

The Town Centre – PC Nick Rogers

Numerous shoplifters have been charged or cautioned this month. On November 26 a man was charged with six offences of theft/public order offences.

On November 27 a man was arrested and interviewed for multiple shoplifting offences on Station Road and has been bailed while further enquiries are completed.

On November 11 a wheelchair was taken from the foyer area of a doctor's surgery on Station Road. The wheelchair was then subsequently thrown onto the New Milton Railway line.

A girl has been arrested for obstructing a railway. She has been interviewed and bailed pending advice from the Crown Prosecution Service. Fortunately, the incident did not cause injury or disruption to railway users. This was a mindless incident which could have had serious consequences.

On November 15 a man was issued with a street warning for possessing cannabis inside premises on Spencer Road. On November 20 a man was arrested for shouting and swearing on Station Road. He was subsequently charged with a public order offence and an Anti Social Behaviour Order application has been made to the court on his conviction.



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Burglary

On November 14 a man opened a till of a retail premises on Station Road and stole a quantity of notes. This matter is still being investigated by police.

Assaults

On November 2 a male was cautioned for a domestic assault that took place inside premises on Spencer Road.

Damage

On November 7 an unoccupied taxi window was smashed on Whitefield Road in an attempt to try and steal takings.

On November 12 the glass window of a flat door was smashed by an unknown person. The flat was located at the rear of a business premises on Old Milton Road. There does not appear to be any motive for the damage.

On November 15 youths damaged the wooden fencing that surrounds the children's play area of New Milton Recreation Ground. The youth believed to have been responsible was not present upon Police arrival. Details of other youths present were taken and letters sent to their parents.

On November 22 youths set off the fire alarm to a block of flats on Osborne Road.



Milford and Barton – PC Del Jones

After a short spell working with another department within Hampshire Constabulary, I am now back working from New Milton and keen to resume my role within the local community. This will be the last beat report before the festive season and I would like to take the opportunity to wish all the residents of Barton and Milford a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. I also send my best wishes to a number of local residents who are serving overseas in the armed forces and wish them a safe and peaceful festive period.

During the coming year I will be again focusing on reducing anti-social behaviour and alcohol related crime on my beat, although not a major problem of late these types of offences affect people's perception of crime in our area. I will be increasing the number of patrols on the beaches; in the parks and other public areas where anti-social behaviour has in the past been an issue. I would like to stress that these patrols are not designed to stop people enjoying themselves but alcohol fuelled vandalism and rowdy behaviour will not be tolerated especially when it affects the quality of life of other members of the public.

Burglary

There were only three reported dwelling burglaries on my beat during November, whilst this figure is lower than the same time last year it is still three to many. As the Christmas period approaches, thieves will know that homes will be packed with presents, gifts and additional food and drink. Please don't make it easy for them ensure that your house is as secure as possible and don't leave presents on display.

At approx 7pm on November 9 a premises in Rookcliffe Way, Milford was targeted, a ground floor patio window was smashed but fortunately the offenders did not gain access to the property.

Overnight on November 17 an integral garage of a house in Seaward Avenue, Barton was entered and paint items stolen. Fortunately, no entry was gained to the main part of the house.

On November 20 a disc cutter was stolen from a house in Milford on Sea.

There have also been a number of non-dwelling burglaries in the area. In particular a number of garages in the Barton area have been targeted. Although damage to the garage door was caused, in most occasions very little has been stolen. It would appear that the offenders were looking for presents and alcohol.

Assaults

There have been six reported assaults on my beat during November. Two of the six related to the same incident. The man responsible was arrested at the scene and later received an adult caution. Earlier in the month a domestic dispute occurred in a local café and as a result of which a man involved was arrested and also received a caution.



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On November 20 a man attended an address in Milford on Sea, when the door was opened he assaulted the occupant. A man was arrested a short time later and is currently on bail pending further enquiries.

On November 29 an altercation took place between a couple and a group of youths who had made inappropriate gestures towards the female, this matter is still being investigated.

Theft

On November 5, two bottles of milk were stolen from outside a property in Spindlewood Close, Barton. Overnight on November 10/11, a games console and a number of games were stolen from a chalet at a local holiday park. At sometime during the night on 27/28, a door bell was stolen from a property in Boldre Close, Barton. Finally, I am currently investigating a shoplifting which occurred on the November 29 at the Co-op, High Street, Milford on Sea, where two young males were seen to steal items and leave without payment.

Damage

Only four reports of damage have been recorded by police in relation to incidents on my beat during November, all of these relate in incidents in Milford on Sea and appear to be of a minor nature. This figure is considerably lower than the same period last year.

BEAT SURGERIES

I am delighted to report that the beat surgeries in both Barton and Milford have had an increase in popularity in the month of November. I have dealt with many queries at both venues and also from people just popping in to say hello and to introduce themselves to me.

The locations remain unaltered and are Milford village hall from 10am to 12pm and Barton on Sea Methodist Church from 2pm to 4pm on the first Monday of each month.

New Milton East – PCs Chrissie Benfield and Rhianon Greenslade

During the month of November, we were expecting numerous incidents of inappropriate use of fireworks around the time of Bonfire night, but only dealt with TWO reports of this nature. The number of reported incidents for this one night speaks for itself and our thanks go to all organisers of public displays and also to families having private displays, for a very peaceful and successful night.

Assault

There have been nine reported assaults during the month of November, compared to the four in October. Four of these reported incidents are either domestic related or involve neighbour disputes, and all aggrieved parties have received very minor injuries. One incident where by a person was assaulted, involved three men; one of whom brandished a knife. The knife was not used against anyone. Three men were arrested and bailed for further enquiries.

Burglary

There have been three reported dwelling burglaries during the month of November. This may come as no surprise to many, with the Christmas season fast approaching.

There have been six reports of burglaries other than in a dwelling. On the November 16, McColls Newsagents on Beechwood Avenue was the target of an attempted smash and grab. No items were stolen, possibly due to the presence of an audible alarm system. As a result of police enquiries suspects have been arrested and bailed for scenes of crime results.

Criminal Damage

There have been a total of six criminal damage reports this month, compared to 19 in October, which is an impressive improvement.

Theft

There have been nine reported incidents of thefts from motor vehicles reported. These incidents are happening in the Chatsworth Park area mainly on Friday, Saturday and Sunday night time. Car owners are advised to use a 'common sense' approach to crime prevention. Do not leave any property in your vehicle and park in a well lit area.



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New Milton East – PC Olivia Lucas

The cold month of November has been a quiet month in terms of anti-social behaviour incidents reported in Ashley area but with an increased number of criminal damage and non-dwelling burglary incidents reported.

Assaults

On November 20 a woman was driving along Ashley Road when her car was hit by what was believed to be an egg. The egg was thrown from another vehicle. The officers have obtained a partial registration number for the vehicle and are in the process of identifying the offenders.

On November 20, a man received an adult caution following an assault on his sister.

In the early hours of November 30, a male in his late 20s sustained serious head injuries when he was assaulted as he left the Ashley Public House. A 21 year-old man was arrested and later charged with wounding causing grievous bodily harm. Another man was arrested in relation to this incident but was later released on bail pending further enquiries.

Burglary

During November there were two reported dwelling burglaries and five non dwelling burglaries.

On November 8, a garage adjoining a detached bungalow in Oakwood Avenue was broken into and various items of garden machinery were stolen.

On November 14, a laptop and computer monitor was stolen from a commercial property in Lower Ashley Road. On the same day a brick was used to smash the glass panel of the main door at Ashley Junior School. After entry was gained the suspect(s) stole a laptop computer. Officers are making enquiries regarding possible person(s) involved following a forensic examination of the scene.

On November 22, various fishing gear and a lawn mower were stolen from a garage in Caird Avenue.

On November 29, two properties in Ashlet Gardens were broken into. Cash, jewellery and a TV were among the stolen items.

Damage

There were eight reported incidents relating to criminal damage in the Ashley area last month.

At the beginning of the month a fence belonging to a property in Manor Road was damaged. Around the same time a number of vehicles parked in Warwick Avenue/Ashley Road area sustained minor damage. These are believed to be caused by the same person(s). Towards the end of the month the number of incidents relating to vehicle damage increased during this time in Manor Road/Ashley Common Road area.



Theft

There were only two reported theft incidents in the Ashley area during the month of November.

A man had his mobile phone stolen from Melrose Court area on November 14. A suspect was identified and officers are currently dealing with the incident.

On November 23, a man was seen and caught on CCTV stealing petrol to the value of 5.86 from Tesco on Caird Avenue

Hordle and Everton – incorporating Bashley and Wooton

During November we have seen a rise in the number of thefts from vehicles. May I just take this opportunity to remind you not to leave items of value such as wallets and Sat Navs on show when leave your vehicle. It is also essential to leave all property secure as again garages and sheds which are insecure are easy targets for thieves.

Assault

There were two reported assaults that occurred in the Hordle area during November. One was an assault on the local postman, the other on a taxi driver. Two men have been arrested for the respective incidents.



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Burglary

There were two burglaries other than in a dwelling in the area during the month. On November 30, a pedal bike was stolen from an insecure garage on Everton Road, Hordle. The other incident happened on November 4 on Harts Way, Everton, when someone had entered via the back door of a property and taken a wallet containing cards and cash. The home owner was outside in the garden digging but did not see anything.

Damage

There was one incident on November 22, a window in a BT phone box was smashed located close to Hordle Recreation Ground.

Theft

There have been five thefts during November. The first occurred between November 2 and 3, a tax disc was stolen from a vehicle in the Everton area. The owner believes that this may have happened while the vehicle was left insecure and parked outside the local Post Office.

During the late hours on November 5 to 6 on East Lane, Everton, a cement mixer was stolen from a private drive during building work at the premises.

On November 9 on Everton Road, Hordle, the front passenger window of a vehicle parked on the driveway was smashed and a wallet was taken.

On November 14 the driver's window was smashed to a vehicle in Ashley Lane and a Sat Nav stolen.

During the late hours on November 17, a banner was stolen from the front garden of an address on Milford Road.

Sway – PCSO James Mitchener

On November 8 I attended St Lukes School for a fine fireworks display. Although the weather was slightly on the chilly side, it was perfect conditions for the event. It was wonderful to see that community spirit is still alive in the village, as the turnout was excellent. There were no problems or concerns during the evening. The event was extremely enjoyable and hotdogs were very tasty.

Ever since I have become the police community support officer for Sway, there has been a reoccurring problem within the village that is a subject I have touched on a train

station. Police are still receiving reports of young people congregating on the platforms on Friday and Saturday nights.

Police received a report of three or four young people who were walking on the train lines heading in the direction of New Milton. This is very worrying as the dangers of walking on/along the train tracks speaks for itself. Not only do the trains travel at speeds of 70-90mph, the third track is electrified. This behaviour could have resulted in death or serious injury to the individuals involved. I hope common sense would prevail in the future and hopefully police will not be receiving similar reports.

Assaults

There have been no assaults in the Sway area during the month.

Burglary

I am happy to report that there were no dwelling burglaries throughout the month of November.

In terms of burglaries other than in a dwelling, on November 1 a chainsaw was taken from a tractor holding/tractor shed after the door was smashed to gain entry. Unfortunately there are no further lines of enquiry at this time

Two barns situated in an isolated area in large grounds near Pitmore Lane were broken into on November 11. The rear doors to the barns were forced and a trailer containing clay pigeon equipment on a trailer stolen.

On November 27 in Pauls Lane, access was gained a storage building containing power tools. The barbed wire fence had been cut and various items were taken.

Damage

On November 9 there were three reports of criminal damage to vehicles parked in Church Lane and the Setthorns Estate, either the front or rear windscreens were smashed.

On November 25 on Westbeams Road, the windscreen of a car was smashed.

On November 26 on Station Road, the front passenger side window of a vehicle was smashed.



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Theft

On November 3, £2000 was taken from a concealed place at a home address in the village. This is part of an ongoing investigation.

There were two thefts from vehicles that occurred during the month. On November 24 the passenger side window on a van was smashed parked in Silver Street. A holdall was taken containing a video camera, clothing, cosmetics and other various items.

On October 31, an unknown instrument was used to remove a door lock from a motor vehicle, and garden loppers were removed. The vehicle was left in a gated but insecure yard overnight.

Anti-Social Behaviour

On November 7, police received a report of a large group of men trying to start a fight outside the Sway Social club, on Westbeams Road also a group of four or five young people were reported to be consistently ringing doorbells along Station Road on November 22. On both occasions police attended but those responsible were not located.

If you would like to make any comment regarding the content of the bulletin, or you have information that would enable us to target our patrols to address your local problem, your input would be welcomed. You can leave a message for either PS Dave Tanner or PC Del Jones on 0845 045 45 45 or e-mail us at:

new.milton.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

For non emergencies dial 101, in an emergency dial 999 or to provide information anonymously, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit:

www.hampshire.police.uk



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