

# **Community Beat Officer Report & Neighbourhood Watch Bulletin March 2006**

## **New Milton and area**

Despite a couple of headline grabbing incidents during February, the total reported crime for the month was only marginally up on last year's low figure of 159 reports. We would like to be able to be specific and quote figures, as is our custom, but this month, due to a technical difficulty, that is not possible.

## ***New Milton Pub Watch***

The Watch has just celebrated its first anniversary. It is appropriate to take every effort to raise the profile of the Watch as it has truly been a success and has contributed significantly to the reduction that we have seen in violent behaviour in the town. In its first year in operation the Watch has banned 20 people from Watch premises and many others have received warning letters about their behaviour. Whilst we do have, from time to time, problems related to licensed premises, we do not have any public houses in the New Milton police area that do not assist the police in efforts to combat disorder. Licensees have demonstrated in the past, not only do they try to keep disorder to an absolute minimum, but that they are willing to work with the police to the community's benefit.

## **The Town centre – PC Steve Jennings**

Although I am unable to quote figures this month, reported crime in February was lower than January in all categories.

## ***Assault***

There were not many assaults in the Town Centre during February, two incidents occurred on the street in Station Rd and were related to licensed premises. A third incident which received press coverage involved a group beating up on an unidentified male on the round-a-bout at the corner of the Rec. Police were called the following evening by a witness to the incident, by which time of course, there was nothing we could do apart from record it.

Following a press release both the aggrieved and further witness have been located and enquiries are continuing.

## ***Arson***

The difference between playing with matches and a fire with serious consequences is a very fine one. On the 13/02, behind shop premises in Westcroft Parade, somebody set fire to a bin bag. Although in this instance no serious damage was caused, the potential was there. As I have patrolled around the town centre, it has caused me concern to see that some business premises, often with living accommodation above, have heaped waste next to the building. I would urge anybody with responsibility for shop premises to minimise the risk by removing waste promptly, and where possible, store it away from the building.

## ***Spencer Rd toilets***

On the 10/02 three boys were seen to throw what was later confirmed to have been a firework through the air vent of the disabled toilet in Spencer Rd. No damage was caused on this occasion. A youth was arrested but was subsequently released due to insufficient evidence of his involvement. On the 21/02, the toilet block, which is now locked in the evenings, was forcibly entered when somebody levered one of the doors open causing damage to the door and lock. You may recall earlier reports of a fire set by youths in the toilet on the night of the 03/12 which did cause some smoke damage. Patrols do give as much attention to this area as possible but we rely upon the public reporting any gatherings. There have also been reports of individuals loitering in and around the toilets in circumstances that would raise questions about their purpose in being there. Any reports of such behaviour will be promptly investigated.

## ***Juvenile nuisance***

The Recreation Ground made the headlines in last month's report because of disorder there at the end of December and into January. As a result of complaints received we did respond during late January and well into February with additional attention paid to that area, particularly on Friday and Saturday evenings. Throughout that period of extra attention there were no incidents of note. We do still get periodic complaints of excessive noise coming from the Rec, and whilst some of those complaints may be justified, as I explained last month, our options in dealing with noise complaints are limited.

The residents of lower Station Rd in the vicinity of Newlands Rd have had the periodic attention of youths who have rung door bells and caused minor damage to plant pots. I have given this area some attention, lurking in the shadows, and have spoken to a number of youths without actually seeing any disorder. I will continue to give this area my time when able.

## **Milford and Barton – PC Del Jones**

### ***Burglary***

Although there was a marked reduction in the number of dwelling burglaries in February, a number of offences were recorded involving outbuildings and commercial premises. On the 12th of February staff disturbed two males who had broken into Carrington Motors. Staff gave chase but the offenders evaded them by driving away in a light coloured vehicle. Staff later discovered a cash box missing from the premises. At the beginning of the month, in Becton Lane, a building site was broken into and an industrial power washer stolen from within a locked storage container. The following week, in the Milford area, a commercial premises was entered and a number of stone statues stolen. If you have any information about this or any other crime you can call Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

### ***Vehicle Crime***

A vehicle parked in a public car park at Barton was broken into and items stolen from within. The owner was away from the vehicle for only a short time. As a result of Police enquiries two persons have now been arrested and property has been recovered.

### ***Damage***

Several reports of damage were reported in February, in particular, fences along footpaths in the Barton area. Residents are encouraged to call the Police at the time if they see damage being caused. In Milford Village a vehicle was damaged whilst parked near to the junction of Sea Road and River Gardens, both wing mirrors were broken off. Also in Milford a vehicle parked in Lawn Road had its windscreen and one of the headlights smashed during the evening of the 11th of February.

### ***Beach Huts***

February saw the launch of Beach Hut Watch, a scheme where Police and Beach Hut Owners patrol the area on a rotational basis to reduce the instances of damage and Anti social behaviour around local beaches.

## **New Milton West – WPC Chrissie BENFIELD & PC Kirsten TROMAN**

February saw the arrival of PC Kirsten TROMAN who will be sharing the workload on the beat from now on.

### ***Assaults***

On the 14/02 an incident outside of a property in The Hyde resulted in four allegations of assault. As a result one person was arrested and enquiries are continuing. A serious incident occurred in Vincent Rd on the evening of the 18/02 when two youths were assaulted and sustained potentially serious injuries. On the night, four persons were arrested, and subsequently others too were arrested. Enquiries are continuing into this incident and we would still welcome any information that may be out there as to who was involved and how. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence. Please contact PC.TROMAN if you can assist.

### ***Indecent exposure***

On the 16/02 in Gore Rd in the mid-morning an incident of indecency occurred when a male got out of a blue van near to Arnewood School and dropped his trousers. An 'e-fit' picture of the suspect has been obtained and is shown below. The offender is described as being aged approx 40yrs and about 5ft 6in tall. He has a round face

and short brown hair that was a 'bit spikey.' If anyone can assist, please contact either Chrissie BENFIELD or Kirsten TROMAN in confidence.



### ***Theft***

We have taken a total of 5 theft reports in the month of February. Offenders in two cases were identified, arrested and charged.

### ***Criminal Damage***

On the evening of the 10/02 considerable damage was caused to a house on the outskirts of Walkford when a party got out of hand resulting in the house and contents being extensively damaged. Enquiries are on going.

### **New Milton East – PC Sam BLAKE-WATKINS**

Reported crime in February fell back to the December level after a small increase last month.

### ***Burglary***

There were two burglaries on the Beat in February and it is possible that the two were related. Both occurred during the day and both involved the breaking of a window at the back of the house to gain entry. The first, in Marston Road on the 06/02 occurred soon after lunch time. The second burglary in Akeshill Close on the 16/02, where the offender gained entry to a conservatory by climbing through a transom window that had been left open. Once inside a pane of glass in an internal door was broken, and as the door key was in the lock on the inside, the offender was able to let himself in. Be warned, it is difficult to counter a burglar who is prepared to break windows to enter your property but don't make it easy by leaving windows open and keys in doors.

### ***Assaults***

Although 10 assaults were reported during February, they were all of a relatively minor nature. Several involved residents of homes for adults with learning difficulties, and were 'in-house.' Four were domestic in nature and another was on a police officer during an arrest. Only three involved youths in public places and only one of those, a very minor matter, occurred in licensed premises.

### ***Damage***

Of the six instances of damage reported in February, three related to vehicles. At the beginning of the month, a car in Pennywell Gardens had a nail driven into a tyre wall, a car was believed to have been deliberately scratched

whilst parked in Tesco's car park, and another car being driven in Ashley Rd sustained damage when stones were thrown by a group of youths.

Ashley Junior School was the subject of a report after the weekend of the 24-27/02. Youths had been on the roof and tiles had been damaged. Should you see youths in the school grounds outside of school hours please phone it in.

## **HORDLE & SWAY – incorporating: EVERTON, BASHLEY, TIPTOE and HINTON - PC Dave WOOLFREY**

February saw a level of reported crime that shows that things are fairly static compared to last month and the same time last year.

### ***Non Dwelling Burglary***

Overnight on the 01/02 an outbuilding within a compound in Pitmore Lane was entered and half a ton of copper stolen valued at £900 was stolen. A hairdressers shop in Stopples Lane had its front door smashed overnight on the 03/02 and a quantity of cash taken from the till. Another hairdressers in Everton Rd also suffered an attempt burglary a night or two previously.

### ***Theft***

An electric fence unit was stolen from a field off Silver Street in Hordle. A couple of days later, the same field had a horse blanket slashed. If anybody should see anyone loitering around horses or outbuildings, particularly after dark, we would welcome a call at the time.

### ***Vehicle Crime***

A 600cc Yamaha motorcycle was stolen from the Brownhill Enclosure car park on the 05/02. The owner had only been away from it an hour and the machine was alarmed, but that did not stop the thieves. On the morning of the 24/02 a Range Rover parked at the roadside near Wooton Bridge was also stolen. There were no witnesses to either incident.

### ***Deception***

A lady was deceived by a male who purchased a German Sheppard puppy from her and paid £250 in counterfeit notes. Enquiries are in hand to trace the offender. These notes in the main tend to be of large denominations, and if closely scrutinized can be seen for what they are – pay particular attention to the watermark and the metal strip.

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**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 Steve JENNINGS on 0845 045 4545.**

**If you have information about any crime you can call 'Crimestoppers'  
0800 555 111**

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