

# Your Local Police Newsletter

January 2023

Dear Parishes,

This is a more generic newsletter for the Sevenoaks district, within are the updates that we think will be of interest to yourselves and residents.

From the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January to the 29<sup>th</sup> is Neighbourhood Policing Week- we will be carrying out several targetted activities across the area . This will include visits to car washes and nail bars ensuring employee welfare.

There is still a Force wide drive to get residents of Kent to sign up to My Community Voice, this is becoming written into plans as to how we operate and will become fundamental in how we capture intelligence in the future. Please find the link and forward to your Parish residents please.

## **Swanley & Local areas**

This month has seen PC Beck arrive as the Swanley Town Centre officer. They have already undertaken the curent issues with nuisacne youths causing problems in local businesses.

13 Acceptable Behaviour Agreements have been issued to youths from Swanley with another being interviewed for several incidents wuith the case now being referred to the Youth Justice Team who will decide on an appropriate disposal.

## **New Ash Green & Local areas**

New Ash Green saw a walk about by Chief Inspector Jones with MP Laura Trott followed by a public meeting in the village hall. This was followed by the New Ash Green focus group, and attendance at the Fawham- West Kingsdown parish meeting. It is noted that there has been an over winter rise in thefts from outbuildings in the area that Police are investigating. Potential suspects have been named but as yet there is not enough evidence to take action so the investigation remains current. A tasking is on in the area that should afford more Police to the area when time allows.

Joint visit with Sevenoaks Planning officers to Oak View Stud at Horton Kirby to review enforcement orders took place on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

## **Sevenoaks & Local areas**

### **January proactive results for the town centre**

*The New year has continued to be busy for town centre police.*

#### ***Youths dealt with for causing issue in the town before Christmas***

*Following the major issues that a group of youths caused in the town on the evening of Friday 2nd December 2022 town centre police have identified and dealt with all 5 suspects and issued them with community resolutions and acceptable behaviour agreements, which will see them ban from the town centre for a year, unless accompanied by an adult.*

#### ***Drug driver stopped following a theft in town***

*During the afternoon of Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January, Marks and Spencers, Sevenoaks alerted town centre police to a theft of clothing in excess of £200. Staff were able to obtain a vehicle index as the vehicle made off. Town centre police broadcast the vehicle county wide and later that evening the vehicle was stopped in Rochester and the driver was arrested for theft, possession of class A drugs, drug driving and no insurance.*

#### ***Prolific town centre thief arrested and now in prison***

*During the morning of Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023, following a string of thefts and breaches of criminal behaviour order (CBO) at Waitrose, Sevenoaks, prolific offender David PURNELL was located and arrested. He was charged and remanded for 3 counts of theft and 5 counts of breach of criminal behaviour order. PURNELL was sentenced at court on 09/01/2022 where the magistrates sentenced him to 12 months in prison and ordered him to pay £1511 compensation to Waitrose, Sevenoaks. A great example of the effectiveness of a CBO in dealing with offenders who hurt the town the most. A CBO replaces the Anti-social Behaviour Order (ASBO) and the courts treat breaches of such orders very seriously.*

#### ***Police catch male in the act stealing from shop***

*During the afternoon of Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 town centre police observed security at Marks and Spencers detaining a male outside the store following a reported theft. The male was stop searched in store and was found with over £300 of clothing in his holdall. The report is currently under investigation.*

#### ***Police use facial recognition to identify prolific thief***

*Police have identified a male who reportedly stole over £700 of alcohol from Waitrose, Sevenoaks on 01/11/2022. The male was identified through facial recognition technology and has also been linked to theft in Tunbridge Wells on 02/11/2022 (Fenwick, Royal Victoria Place) and 08/11/2022 (Boots). Town centre police have captured the evidence to ensure this male is charged to court.*

#### ***Repeat offender identified and police look to issue Criminal Behaviour Order***

*During the afternoon of Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023, staff at Boots, Sevenoaks reported males stealing cosmetics from their store. Town centre officers have since viewed the CCTV footage and identified one of the offenders, who has previously targeted the area multiple times. Town centre officers are building an application for a criminal behaviour order against this male at court.*

Numerous reports for an address in Kemsing regarding animal cruelty have found to be false reports called in by persons not witnessing any incidents but responding to superfluous reports

on social media. The address has been attended by the Police, Housing and Animal Welfare Officer from Sevenoaks and no concerns about animal treatment were evidenced. This has caused significant distress to the family and used up authorities time. Enquiries are ongoing into the theft of the families dog.

A smash and grab type offence, overnight at Paydens Chemist where a quantity of perfume was stolen remains with no persons yet identified. It is believed it is a team from the Croydon area who have committed similar offences across the South East. Enquiries are ongoing with the investigation.

Smash and grab type offence at Vodafone overnight where intruders entered through the rear of the property and took a quantity of mobile phones. Similar offence occurred the same night in Orpington, same vehicle seen in area. Enquiries are ongoing with the investigation.

### **Edenbridge & Local areas**

Reports of local youths at the leisure center causing problems are being looked into with CCTV images being sent to schools for identification. Once identified antisocial behaviour warning letters will be issued to the youths/parents.

Community Safety Unit ASB officer has a successful prosecution on an individual in Westerham for the riding of a nuisance quad bike securing 9 charges.

Several reports of a male knocking on doors asking for money are being looked into. There is an image of the male but so far they are unrecognisable. Enquiries are ongoing.

### **Crime Prevention & General Advice**

Current crime trends still see a rise in keyless theft of high value motor vehicles. This can easily be prevented by storing car keys overnight in a signal blocker pouch/box. These are available from online stores for a reasonable cost.



Small Everyday Box - Car Key Signal Blocker Box



2 Pack Small Everyday Pouch for Car Keys - Car

## [My Community Voice Kent: Home Page](#)

Is there a speedwatch group in your area that is now dormant? Would you like help to set up a new one or revitalise an old one. Contact speedwatch [www.communityspeedwatch.org](http://www.communityspeedwatch.org) or e-mail Sevenoaks CSU [csu.sevenoaks@kent.police.uk](mailto:csu.sevenoaks@kent.police.uk) for assistance.



**Kent  
Police**

Call **101** for non-urgent issues.  
Call **999** in an emergency.  
If deaf or speech impaired text '**police**' and your  
message to **60066**.

