



Avon and Somerset Police
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

SGTS UPDATE

NEWS IN YOUR AREA

June 2022



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Your Policing Team

Police Officers:
PS 2781 Lee KERSLAKE
(07889 656025)

A/PS 3467 Paul LEWIS
PC 1954 Bridget GRIFFITHS
PC 4469 Justina LEWIS
PC 4175 Gary MARRIOTT (a)

Police Community Support Officers:

PCSO 6398 Amy HOLLAND
PCSO 8999 Dan JACKSON
PCSO 9382 Connor AITKEN
PCSO 9779 Julie BERCHALL
PCSO 7948 Kate TURNER
PCSO 8471 Sue HAWKINS
PCSO 7280 Chea SCANDRETT
PCSO 7268 Andy GATENBY (a)

CSW Coordinator – Jon Hunter

(a) - Currently away

Get in touch

In an emergency always call 999

For non-emergency matters call us on 101 or report online via www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report

To report a crime anonymously, contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Introduction

I have been interested in social media activity over the last few weeks. It is always amazing to see the way in which it affects how people view an area. I have been policing nearly 20 years now and can say the level of issues now are less than when I started, yet now a single post on a Facebook Forum can have a huge impact on how hundreds feel about an area, way beyond the reality of the impact on life for you directly, as various disparate negative influences corroborate each other's' efforts to berate their home town. It's such a shame that, while there's no doubt issues exist, the community that is required to raise the young of our various towns and villages often seem more intent on demonising them. I realise the reality is social media lives will always trump reality for many. As the head of the 'cuddly police' for our area I can only say I hope the below items provide some reassurance we work hard to tackle issues and this is a small snapshot of the huge amount of work ongoing in your area...an area that is still a very safe area to live and work.

If you had trouble getting hold of me it was because my emails topped 700 and it was all a bit out of hand... which is why the return to the office of our long standing Beat Manager PC Justina Lewis and PCSO Sue Hawkins has been a fantastic boost for us. However, we are entering a busy time of year for policing that has an impact on our team's capacity. More details on the last page. But the team still remain willing and able to work with you to manage local issues – keep talking to us and we will do whatever we can for you... including keeping you updated by writing Newsletters at 2am...

Warrant in Pill

On 25th May 2022 we executed a misuse of drugs act warrant in Pill. The warrant was completed with assistance from other Neighbourhood Policing colleagues and involved forcing entry to a premise where we had information of suspected drugs production. At the location we found drugs and an imitation firearm. An offender at the location has been dealt with for drugs offences.

This has ensured drugs and potentially dangerous items have been removed from North Somerset. We will always try to act on information you provide us relating to the safety of your area so if you have any information about crime please contact us directly or CrimeStoppers where you can remain anonymous.

Harassment in Langford

Following a significant local issue for residents in Langford we managed to secure prosecutions of a local couple causing considerable problems. A difficult investigation by PC Bridget Griffiths led to the securing multiple charges against the couple involved. As this progressed to court the couple failed to attend and we quickly located and arrested them to be presented for trial. Following this arrest we secured guilty pleas in court and they are awaiting sentencing.

Residents were suffering abuse, threats and assault; this fantastic piece of work by Bridget has hopefully made these residents safer and feeling protected from the influence of those intent on committing crime.

Dog Bite Incident in Nailsea

There was a dog bite incident on a young boy and his father in Nailsea around the Grove Sports Centre which I know caused a lot of concern in the community. The owner of the dog was located that night and the dog seized as a suspected prohibited breed. Following an assessment of the dog and an investigation into the incident the owner was charged with having a dog dangerously out of control causing injury and for possessing a prohibited breed dog. He failed to appear at court and was arrested on warrant. We are awaiting the court outcome with the dog remaining in the possession of Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

Road Safety

As part of the support our amazing Special Constabulary has provided Nailsea Area NPT's proactive road safety operations, the first of regular evenings of action on our roads took place on a Saturday night. This led to a significant presence in our high speeding and driving offence hotspots... exactly what many have been asking for.

The highlight of the evening was the arrest of a very problematic drink driver in Backwell who had spent most of their day downing pints and deemed it appropriate to then try to get into their car and drive off. This individual was significantly inebriated to the extent they struggled to enter the police van - a significant risk to our roads that had been removed and taken to custody...

This action was directly aimed at the things we see people concerned about in social media - with a focus on areas and people you are telling us we need to look at. High speed hotspots and drink driving locations are the centre of this activity.

We will continue to do what we can to manage those who cause a danger to you across North Somerset. If you know of those who cause a risk to the safety of others on our roads, including drink driving locations/vehicle details, contact us and we will do what we can to deal with it.

lee.kerslake@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Summer Policing – What do you need to know?

As summer period hits us we enter a high demand time in relation to calls into the Police. At this time the organisation make difficult decisions over how we manage these calls and they have decided to take Neighbourhood Police Officers away from Neighbourhood Policing to become 'Patrol' Officers. As of June 1st this is in place and is currently expected to last across the summer period.

During this time our Beat Managers are subject to something called 'Operation Demand'. This means that as far as my team is concerned, PCs will in the main not be 'Neighbourhood Officers' but 'Patrol Officers' purely responding to calls from individuals into the organisation, what we call 'logs'. They are still police officers, still based at Nailsea, just purely responding to calls into the organisation and may be deployed outside our local area as required.

For you what this means is direct calls to our Beat Managers as would have previously been managed or coming into Nailsea Police Station, along with our capacity to proactively respond to anything locally from an officer perspective, will be taken over by responding to 'logs'.

This does not affect PCSOs, who will still be responsible for patrolling areas and responding to anti-social behaviour. And I am still here to manage what we can during this time. If there's anything you need to discuss please continue to contact us and we'll do what we can for you. Some of the services we have offered however will not be possible during this time.

For your information, your local PCSOs are:

Nailsea/Backwell:

Chea Scandrett
Andrew Gatenby (a)
Sue Hawkins (a)

Redwood (Pill/Long Ashton/Abbots Leigh/Felton/Dundry)

Dan Jackson
Amy Holland
Connor Aitken

Yeo Vale/Wrington

Julie Berchall
Kate Turner

(a) absent or abstracted

We like to help...

As a bit of light relief you may have seen that our team made the national press recently for helping out a bride in her time of need...

[Stranded bride's wedding day saved by police officers - BBC News](#)

(or Google 'Nailsea Police Wedding')

Kate and Bridget saved the day, taking a stranded bride to her wedding in Bristol... but this isn't the first time we've helped a lady in her time of need with Bridget at the centre of it. Only a month or so previously Bridget saw a broken down car in Nailsea Town Centre and a lady looking very concerned next to it.

On stopping and offering to help we established she was 9 months pregnant, having just attempted the return drive from the doctors where she had been induced and broken down at the traffic lights. We duly obliged to make her car safe and drive her home, where she was able to relax with her husband and await the imminent birth of her lovely child.

So, if you're in need and don't know who to call, just say Bridget 3 times and you never know... she may appear...

Intray Snapshot

The above provides a little bit of detail on some of the things done over the last month... but here's a few more:

Long Ashton – Problematic Individual

We have been supporting a resident of Long Ashton who caused daily issues in Long Ashton, Weston and Bristol including abusive and disorderly behaviour. Thanks to the work of PCSO Dan Jackson since January and with efforts from several partner agencies and groups, this resident is celebrating a prolonged period of abstinence from alcohol and is, so far, neither coming to the notice of police or other agencies. We celebrate warrants, we celebrate protecting the community by successfully prosecuting offenders, but there is nothing more fulfilling in my mind than taking someone others have given up on and showing that their lives can be different. It takes a special type of character and Dan is that. I hope to be able to say this fantastic progress continues.

Nailsea – ASB Issues

We are very aware of the ongoing issues surrounding a small group of young people in Nailsea Town Centre. We have identified the young people and are working with our Youth Offending Service and other professionals, along with the families of those involved, to try to stop this behaviour continuing. Whilst we don't want to be criminalising young people, we have reached the stage with some of these where they are being interviewed for criminal offences and will be positively dealt with within the criminal justice system. Whilst I like to be as transparent as I can the details of young people going through our system is not something I can disclose so I can only provide generic updates. I can however talk to any groups affected about support and our progress so please get in contact if you wish for me to do so.

Congresbury – ASB Issues

We have recently been informed of significant public concern about ASB and crime issues in Congresbury and will be requesting support from colleagues to increase policing presence. Any information relating to crime should be passed to us either directly or via CrimeStoppers. [update - a community meeting was held where we have agreed to provide a specific Newsletter with more detail for Congresbury Parish Council]

Road Safety across our area

Our team are being trained on a portable calibrated speed gun. This will enable our team, and proactive Special Constables supporting us, to provide short and sporadic speed enforcement sessions in areas highlighted as significant issues for us. This flexibility will make our ability to tackle road safety issues much greater. We will also be targeting local licensed premises identified as drink driving hotspots.

Events by Nailsea NPT

Nailsea NPT are hosting a number of events over the next couple of months. If you are interested please get in touch:

- **NHW Coordinators Masterclass – July 23rd 2022 (time TBC), CASTLEWOOD, CLEVEDON. This is a 'CPD event' for NHW coordinators, to develop their knowledge, skills and links with policing through networking and inputs. I am sure any coordinator or contact for NHW will find this beneficial across North Somerset.**

Email for more details/interest: lee.kerslake@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Services

We can offer services that you may find useful for your group or area:

- Crime Prevention
- Person Centred Problem Solving
- Neighbourhood Policing
- Intelligence and Policing
- Policing North Somerset
- Introduction to your local policing team

Just let us know if any are of interest, or we can discuss anything that may be of use

lee.kerslake@avonandsomerset.police.uk