

CSI:



COMMUNITY SAFETY INFORMATION Issue 17

Operation Falcon Success story as Drug Dealer is sent to prison

A dealer caught during a routine drugs dog search as part of Operation Falcon in local pubs in December, received a three year prison sentence at Aylesbury Crown Court on Thursday (9/9). Tony Griffiths, aged 24, from Cardigan Close, Slough, was arrested at The Maypole Pub in Taplow, after the drugs dog had alerted his officer that Griffiths may have drugs on him. Officers found Griffiths to be in possession of a large amount of cocaine and he was arrested. Thames Valley Police then searched his home and found drug paraphernalia and even more drugs, with a street value of roughly £2,000. Griffiths was subsequently charged with possession of a class A drug with intent to supply. Griffiths appeared at Aylesbury Crown Court and was sentenced to three years in prison.

Detective Constable Emma Pendry, who investigated the case, said: "We have been carrying out surprise visits to local pubs with our drugs dogs for many years and will continue to do so. Our message is clear: If you have drugs on you when you are having a night out, you risk arrest. "Local pub landlords are hugely supportive of these operations, as they want their pubs to be drug free and this is a good example of the police and local businesses working together to fight crime."

Gerrards Cross Burglary Reduction

Crime figures show that in the months of May and June this year, incidents of burglary in Gerrards Cross have been further reduced following several crime prevention and enforcement activities operations.

In May and June this year, there were 3 burglaries in Gerrards Cross compared to the same period last year (2008/2009) when there were 21 burglaries. Meaning, 18 fewer burglary victims. The figures for May and June are also the lowest they have been since August 2008 for the Gerrards Cross area.

Examples of operations that have been carried out by South Bucks District Council, Thames Valley Police and Gerrards Cross Neighbourhood Action Group since January include, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Operations, SelectaDNA property marking in hotspot areas, leaflet and letter drops by community officers to vulnerable properties, promotion of Neighbourhood Watch and an awareness banner in the High Street.

Alcohol Awareness Week

Officers from Thames Valley Police and South Bucks District Council Community Safety Team will be undertaking a week of action with licensees, young people and those buying alcohol

**Alcohol Awareness Week is
October 18th—22nd**

Look out for Alcohol Awareness events at Revolutions in Beaconsfield and a handy 'Buying Alcohol leaflet' that will be available at off licences and other locations in the District.

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
DRUG AND
ALCOHOL
ACTION
TEAM**

We want your views

The Community Safety Team would like to have your views on CSI.

You can contact the community safety team on:

Tel: 01895 837200

Email: communitysafety@southbucks.gov.uk

Mobile CCTV reduces ASB across the District

Mobile CCTV cameras are up and running in anti-social behaviour hot spot as the crackdown on troublemakers steps up a gear.

Currently two cameras are installed in Eastfield Road and Maypole Road, Burnham after calls from the public for police to clamp down on problem youths in the area.

The cameras are secured to lampposts and provide clear images all the way along both streets, which will allow police to identify offenders.

Police can also use laptops to view the images when they are out on patrol.

PC Stuart Cook of the neighbourhood policing team hopes it will act as a deterrent. "We've already seen a drop and hopefully the cameras will have a long-term effect on the area," he said.

The mobile units will remain in place for at least the next three months, after which police will review whether or not they have been effective.

Community Safety Website

Residents view a wide range of community safety related pages on South Bucks District Council Websites to help answer any questions they may have.

Can You Make a Difference?

The South Bucks and Chilterns Disability Access Group have been in existence for approximately ten years. The group works to highlight issues that arise for people with disabilities, including the hard of hearing, blind or partially sighted as well as those with limited mobility who live in either South Bucks or Chilterns Districts. The main emphasis of the group is to raise the profile of issues relating to safe and easy access to buildings, facilities, goods, services and the general environment. They have enjoyed many successes to date.

The group are seeking to recruit new members to join them and help with the work they do, especially as some of its established members are becoming less able to commit the time and energy required to continue to make a difference.

If you would like to find out more about the group or are interested in joining or helping them on a voluntary basis please contact the Partnerships Officer at South Bucks District Council on 01895 837379. Any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated by the group.



Lock it, light it

As the nights get darker and autumn draws in, South Bucks District Council Community Safety Team and the local Neighbourhood Policing teams are reminding residents to make sure that they lock their doors and leave lights on to deter burglars.

Annually, the period from October to December sees a peak in domestic burglaries in the South Bucks District and the UK. In this period last year, there were 155 dwelling burglaries in South Bucks.

This year, officers will be offering crime prevention advice to residents at supermarkets, train stations and at winter period. Several police operations disrupt criminals. Hotspot areas for important crime prevention information.



prevention advice to residents at 'Have Your Say' meetings throughout the will be taking place during this period to burglary will shortly receive leaflets with

South Bucks District Councillor Shorne Tilbey, Portfolio Holder for Community, says: "Burglars like the dark and if the inside of a house is in darkness it can indicate to the burglar that nobody may be at home and it then offers protection to them once they are inside the property. Good lighting can deter a thief. Timer switches can be bought from most supermarkets and DIY stores."

Chief Inspector Paul Cook, Commander for South Bucks Local Police Area, says: "When break-ins occur at this time of the year, they tend to take place in the afternoon and early evening. A home in darkness between 4pm and 9pm is a sign to intruders that nobody is at home. My message to you is Lock it, light it!"

If you are feeling vulnerable or have been a victim of crime, you can contact the charity Anchor Staying Put on Tel: 01628 526 367

stayingput.wycombe@anchor.org.uk



together we can together we can



Anti-Social Behaviour: Halloween.



Halloween can be a unnerving and worrying time for residents in the community. This year, officers from South Bucks District Council and Thames Valley Police Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Team will be visiting identified victims primarily in the Iver and Burnham areas. These are victims who suffered damage during this period last year. This is to offer reassurance and advice. ASB perpetrators, identified last year, will also receive a pre-season visit from ASB Officer PC Andy McDonnell to give fair warning to them and to reinforce the message that they will be dealt with robustly should they be involved in ASB. Andy will be out on patrol with the Neighbourhood Policing Teams over this period to support the teams in an enforcement and intelligence gathering role, something he is looking forward to.



*Sergeant Dave Bryan says, "Thames Valley Police are working together with SBDC to ensure the residents of South Bucks have an enjoyable and safe Halloween and Bonfire night. Leading up to and across these dates, The local community will be provided with additional police resources at key times, these patrols will deal with issues of anti social behaviour, should any incidents occur please report these at the time they are occurring to **Thames Valley Police on 0845 8 505 505"***



Licensing officers from TVP and South Bucks DC will be carrying out pre operation visits to licensed premises where it has been suggested there has been evidence of under age sales. This will be in cooperation with Trading Standards at Bucks CC who will arrange test purchasing where appropriate.



Denham Residents must report tipplers!

After several incidents of fly-tipping in Denham residents are being asked to report any suspicious behaviour and acts of dumping. South Bucks District Council is responsible for clearing fly-tipped waste on highway verges, lay bys and partially blocked footpaths/pavements. To report fly-tipped waste which is completely blocking a road or footpath please call the Highways Authority on 0845 2302882 or e-mail hoc@buckscc.gov.uk [feedback form](#) or call The District council on 01895 837362.

Fly-tipping on private land is the responsibility of the land owner to remove. Fly-tipping is a criminal offence. We will prosecute in all cases where sufficient evidence exists. If you witness anyone fly-tipping, please call 01895 837362.

If you see a vehicle acting suspiciously, you can also call the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number on 0845 8 505 505



What if...my handbag gets stolen?

Have you ever thought of the consequences should your handbag be stolen?

On average, every time a handbag goes missing, women are faced with a £228 bill to replace the bag and its contents. These include home and car keys, wallets, make-up and even medication.

Dealing with a lost or stolen handbag also takes considerable time. Research by insurance companies shows that a woman will spend six working days sorting it out – getting new keys cut, contacting banks and mobile phone operators and shopping for new contents.

In addition, monetary losses could go further than the bag. Each handbag contains three credit or cash cards and the research shows that one in ten women (12%) has had money taken from their bank account after their bag disappeared.

The most common places to have your bag stolen are:

- A bar or pub
- At work
- On holiday
- From the car

Make sure your bag is safe at all times.

Christmas crime prevention activity

Officers from the District Council Community Safety Team and Thames Valley Police will be undertaking several crime prevention awareness activities from October and into the New Year :

- Awareness Banners will be erected on high streets and main roads
- Awareness events will take place for commuters Gerrards Cross and Beaconsfield Train Stations
- Vulnerable residents and victims of crime will be offered the charity service of Anchor Staying Put who fit crime prevention devices and other measures free of charge for those who need it.

Christmas Crime Menu

Starter

Car thief's classic: car left unlocked, with windows open - Always lock doors and shut windows and use a steering lock.

Santa's surprise: presents on passenger seats - Keep presents out of sight. If they can be seen, they can be stolen.

Hot wired saloon: parked in dark car park - Leave your vehicle in a well-lit location or your car could make someone else's Christmas.

Chef's treasure chest: served with valuables - Thieves look in glove compartments first for mobile phones and other valuables – take them with you.

Main Course

House hotpot: doors and windows insecure - Make sure all windows and doors are locked.

Santa's parcels: presents displayed under the Christmas tree - Keep presents out of sight.

Tasty takeaways: car keys and handbags left in handy places - Hall tables are the first places thieves look for valuables.

Holiday haven for thieves: it's obvious no-one's home - Going on holiday? Leave lights and a radio on timer switches; ask a neighbour to go in and collect mail.

Open sesame: opening your door to strangers - Use a door chain and viewer, only open the door to visitors when you are happy with their identity.

Dessert

Pedal power: bicycles not secure and marked - Lock bikes and get them marked with your postcode and house number.

Shed surprise: valuable tools for the discerning thief - Secure your shed with a bolt and padlock and consider fitting an alarm.

Devil's drink: don't leave your drink unattended - Leave your drink alone and it could get spiked.

Coffee and mints

Surprisingly sour: cheap goods passed on could be stolen - If you are offered a quality product for a bargain, ensure the source is genuine.

The Gallery



The Partnership gazebos at the Burnham Picnic in the Park Event.



SBDC Reception, libraries and surgeries are displaying spot the difference burglary boards to raise awareness of how to better protect your home.



Officers enjoying their break at Burnham Picnic in the Park in August.