

INSIDE...



Keeping children safe on our roads



Filton team is best on the beat



Keeping your home as safe as houses

POLICE News

ISSUE 04 2013

SUPPORTING YOU TO BE SAFE AND FEEL SAFE

999 CALLERS PRAISED FOR PLAYING THEIR PART

Neighbours' calls lead to arrest

We're grateful to people living in Filton for looking out for their neighbours after calls from local people led to the arrest of a man for burglary.

We were called one lunchtime in September by witnesses reporting seeing people trying to break into a house.

Patrolling officers were at the house in five minutes and arrested a man. Officers also recovered foreign currency thought to have been stolen in the burglary.

Neighbourhood Sergeant Steve Ives said: "I'd like to thank the people who called in to report their suspicions – those calls led directly to this arrest.

"This is a low crime area and we're really pleased to have seen the number of burglaries come down even more this year.

"I have to say that it's still really important for us all to play our part in keeping crime down by securing our homes, locking our valuable cash or jewellery away, marking and registering our property on www.immobilise.com and joining Neighbourhood Watch."

There's lots of advice on our website, or you can call 101 for crime prevention advice from your neighbourhood team.

An 18-year-old Patchway man has been charged with burglary and the court case continues.



Filton & Patchway



CAR SEAT AND ROAD SAFETY OUTSIDE SCHOOLS

Keeping children safe on our roads

We teamed up with South Gloucestershire Council's road safety team to carry out child car seat safety checks at BAWA, Filton, in October.

All children under the height of 135cm must use a booster seat.

During the day we found fifty vehicles where children were travelling in the wrong sort of booster seat or one which was incorrectly fitted.

Road safety officer Pamela Williams said: "The car seat safety checks provide a great opportunity to find out from experts the right way to fit in-car child safety seats.

"The majority of drivers we stop are happy with the checks and grateful for the advice given.

"We are not trying to catch people out, but

provide reassurance to parents that their young ones are safe and secure when travelling out on the district's roads."

Safe outside school

The neighbourhood team has been patrolling outside primary schools in Stoke Lodge after local people and parents complained about parking problems.

PC Steve Bird said: "Cars are being parked on the 'school keep clear' markings and on the pavement outside the school. The restrictions are there to ensure the safety of the children, and parking on the pavement forces children to walk in the road.

"We have now issued half a dozen fines to drivers and will continue to work with South Gloucestershire Council, schools and local residents to tackle this problem."



Parking on the yellow zigzags or on the pavement outside a school could lead to a fine of up to £50.

YOUR VOICE IN POLICING: COMMISSIONER SUE MOUNTSTEVENS

Loving the job after one year in office – bring on 2014

It has been a non-stop 365 days for Sue Mountstevens who marked her first year in office in November.

She said: "I love the job. It's been an extremely challenging year, but it's a worthwhile job and one that I thoroughly enjoy."

In South Gloucestershire Sue has launched a tailored Police and Crime Plan and issued £88,000 to tackle crime and disorder and support local community groups.

She has visited local people including returning to last year's election count venue, at the University of the West of England, to tell students and local residents about life as Commissioner.

She said: "The year has gone so fast, it's unreal. It's hectic, but you hear the expression 'if you love what you're doing it's not your job anymore' and that's what it's become really.

"I would love to be able to attend all the phenomenal things that I get invited to, but sadly there's only one of me, although for some people that would probably be enough!"

Been a victim of crime?

Sue wants to hear about your experiences to help shape the future support for victims.

Go online by January 10 2014 to have your say at www.consultation.avonandsomerset.police.uk



Dates and Information

To see what Sue is up to or when and where she will be in South Gloucestershire please visit her website.

Contact the PCC via the website www.avonandsomersetpcc.gov.uk

Email the PCC on pcc@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Call 01275 816 377

BURGLARY LEVELS ARE FALLING: LET'S KEEP CRIME DOWN

Make sure your home is as safe as houses

Winter is definitely here – let's make sure we leave burglars and thieves out in the cold.

Here are some tips to help you be safe and feel safe:

- A timer light switch could make thieves think twice by making it seem like someone is at home
- Shut out the chill – close and lock doors and windows and draw the curtains as it gets dark
- Mark your property with your postcode and register it for free at www.immobilise.com
- Make life harder for thieves by downloading tracking software on laptops, phones and tablet devices
- Lock jewellery and valuables away in a 'Sold Secure' quality tested safe. Keep photographs of anything really precious
- Use a door chain to check who's calling



before opening the door. Ask for identification and if you're in any doubt, keep them out

- Join or set up a Neighbourhood Watch
- Call us straight away on 999 if you see a crime happening

There's much more information on our website, or call 101 for advice from your neighbourhood team.

FINDING EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE WAYS TO HELP YOU

Changing how we work to respond to your needs

We're trialling a change in the way we manage our neighbourhood policing teams in South Gloucestershire.

From January officers from the neighbourhood teams will work much more closely with the officers who respond to emergency calls. The idea is to help us make sure we're there for you when you need us most.

Neighbourhood PCs and PCSOs will still be patrolling your area, working to tackle local policing priorities and answering to a neighbourhood sergeant. The main change will be that the five 24/7 patrol inspectors will become responsible for day-to-day neighbourhood policing, while experienced Neighbourhood Inspector Bob Evely and a deputy co-ordinate our work with other agencies to tackle on-going issues.



Man barred for racist outburst

A man has been barred from pubs and clubs for six months after a racist outburst at a Filton pub. A group of drinkers were asked to leave the pub by the licensee and police were called. As they left the pub the man shouted racist abuse at the landlord and was arrested. He was charged with a racially-aggravated public order offence and in October was barred from licensed premises for six months.

Call helps convict thieves

A call about suspicious activity at a building site at Charlton Hayes led to the arrest of two men within minutes.

PC Steve Bird was patrolling the area and saw a van similar to one the witness described. He stopped it and found scaffolding stolen from the site in the back.

Two men later admitted receiving stolen goods.

One was given a 12-month community order with 100 hours of unpaid work and the other a month-long overnight curfew, while both had to pay costs.

“Have your say”

GET INVOLVED

Regular Safer Stronger Community Group (SSCG) meetings discuss local issues and community projects. Everyone is welcome: visit <https://groups.southglos.gov.uk> to find out more.

DIARY DATES

The next meetings are:
Filton SSCG – Tuesday 4 February 2014 at 7pm at BAWA, Southmead Road.
Patchway SSCG – Wednesday 5 February 2014 at St Chad’s Church, Rodway Road.

YOU SAID; WE DID

You told us about problems in Scott Park, Patchway, with groups of young people causing nuisance with mopeds, littering and being noisy.

We patrolled and spoke to young people and the situation improved over the summer.

NUISANCE CARS

We’re tackling the drivers who are causing problems in ASDA’s car park at night.

We’ve issued three warning notices to drivers and can now seize their cars if they continue to use them anti-socially.



AWARDS RECOGNISE LOCAL TEAM’S WORK FOR COMMUNITY

Filton team is best on the beat

Filton Neighbourhood Team was named Beat Team of the Year for the South Gloucestershire and Bath and North East Somerset policing area in the Neighbourhood Policing Awards.

PCs Claire Reeves and Sian Harris and PCSOs Dan Cornish, Sheryl Drewitt, Natalie Negravi and Soandro were described as: “Visible, contactable and robust in dealing with local offenders while supporting victims.”

The beat has seen a 3.3 per cent reduction in crime overall, with significant reductions in burglary and thefts of cars.

The nomination also gave examples of their work including:

- Supporting victims of anti-social behaviour by making arrests, collating evidence and working with the council’s Anti-Social Behaviour Team to get a case to court
- Introducing gating orders – putting locking gates on the lanes behind people’s homes to deter thieves as only residents have the key

PCC Sue Mountstevens said: “It was an absolute honour to be in a room with so many inspirational, selfless and dedicated individuals.”

Chief Constable Nick Gargan said: “These awards celebrate what’s best about British policing. People like you make our service special.”

How can you set your community priorities, shape local policing and have your say?

Log on to our website to find out when we are holding your nearest beat surgery or “Have Your Say” meeting. You can also register your priorities online. Log on to the “In Your Area” section of our website for more news and details on local meetings.

