



Avon and Somerset Police
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

SGTS UPDATE

NEWS IN YOUR AREA

August 2022



YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Your Policing Team

Police Officers:
PS 2781 Lee KERSLAKE (a)
(07889 656025)

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

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

CSW Coordinator – Jon Hunter

(a) Currently away/abstracted/non-operational

Introduction

Our team challenges to the right are not helped by me being on leave over the next 2 weeks selfishly making things worse. But this does mean the far superior Paul Lewis is taking the helm and will be available to manage any local problems you may wish to discuss.

Having had at times me and one/two other members of staff in the office over the last two weeks it has been a significant challenge to keep on top of things, but we have been focused on managing some local issues. We have been meeting with Social Care and others to discuss people with complex needs who are causing issues in Nailsea and Long Ashton and who we have been managing daily; we have been trying to make headway on the car damages in Felton; we have been spending any time we can in Congresbury to respond to the Anti Social Behaviour calls we have been receiving; we have been back and forth to custody and courts as we picked up wanted offenders and suspects for crimes and have interviewed a number of people at Nailsea for ongoing investigations.

I spoke to the Chief Constable this week, as part of a session she holds for staff, about the challenges of policing Nailsea and she responded in a genuinely interested and committed way. I hope that we will see improvements in the policing numbers for the area as time moves forwards. Until then, as I write at 0030hrs on Wednesday, I stare at 720 emails that I will try to work through before I go after Thursday... but the reason they build up is because helping people is our priority so please be assured if you need us we will do everything we can to be there.

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

Court Result – Keeping Roads Safe

You may recall an item a few months back on a drink driver we caught in Backwell. Well, this individual was one of the worst I had seen in a while and the court appeared to agree, sentencing him to a 32 month driving ban and community service.

This was a great bit of teamwork between information received by the community, our PCSOs spotting the vehicle and the Special Constables who caught the male.

This was a repeat drink driver – the community told us about it and we acted. If you have information on people causing a risk in your community, be it drink driving, drug dealing, any form of criminal activity, tell us and we will do what we can to keep our communities safe

Protecting the Vulnerable

A situation in Long Ashton required our intervention due to the domestic abuse being reported and the significant impact it was also having on local residents surrounding the property.

Having spoken to everyone involved Paul and I arrested the male involved and took statements from local residents. We have secured a Domestic Violence Protection Order on the male and have secured some vital space between the parties which has enabled us to manage the complex needs of the female at the location, including support around addiction, finances and care needs amongst other things. We are working with Social Care to try to secure the long term support she needs. It's a long road but we are here for her and her neighbours.

This is only possible from the information we receive from the community around her. We will do all we can to keep people safe, if you let us know.

Want to join the team?

Whilst Police Officer and PCSO recruitment is currently closed (that often changes quickly) did you know how many opportunities there are to join the Constabulary in a staff role? Everything from HR Advisors to Data Analysts, Managers to Call Handlers

Every one of the team helps keep us safe - Have a look on our website, or click the link here:

[Police staff vacancies | Avon and Somerset Police](#)

NHW Masterclass

On Saturday 23rd July we held the inaugural NHW Coordinators Masterclass. NHW Coordinators from all over North Somerset attended and was greeted by not only our smiling faces but also Chief Superintendent Liz Hughes, head of Neighbourhood Policing.

The event was a fantastic, positive event looking at how we improve the way our local policing teams work with Neighbourhood Watch and what is possible together.

With some fantastic resources demonstrated by NHW's own national support network, www.ourwatch.org.uk, and a superb presentation and discussion led by Frank Simonds, NHW Coordinator for the Whitecross Village NHW in Weston, the feedback was hugely positive about the shared learning and offer for those involved in NHW.

We hope to be able to hold more events in future and provide even more for our local communities as the team grows.

Blue Paint and Facebook

So – we were supposed to have put a release out on social media following incidents in Nailsea relating to damage being discussed on Facebook, but our Facebook guru is on leave... so here it is...

We are aware there has been some discussion on social media in recent days relating to paint being taken from a preschool in Nailsea and used to damage the area. There have since been concerns shared with Nailsea Neighbourhood Policing Team regarding these crimes, who's responsible and whether there would be further risk in the area.

The individuals responsible have been identified within the days that followed and we are working with the preschool to establish a suitable way to make the situation good. The people involved were children who made a bad decision, afterwards admitted to their families and have stated an absolute intention to do what they can to show they are sorry. This is an isolated incident and we have been assured will not be repeated. Being children we are unable to share their identities but we foresee there is no further risk to the community relating to this incident.

PS Lee Kerslake, Sergeant Nailsea NPT, said:

“This is an incident that we understand caused a great deal of community concern. Our Nailsea PCSO Chea Scandrett has good links within his local community and these links have established the identities of those responsible. I hope people can be reassured this is not an ongoing issue and that we will work closely with all parties to ensure a suitable way to manage what is a silly decision by children that has had an impact on the community they did not foresee. We understand the tensions around this and will work with the families who have already expressed a clear desire to make this situation right. Finally, we'd like to thank the preschool for their assistance and understanding with this matter while we investigated and it has been heartening to see the positive community response to what happened.”

I absolutely understand the frustration that this caused across the community, but working with the school and the families to best address this is in my opinion the best way forward. There is no ongoing risk to the community.

Nailsea Hunted

On Wednesday August 10th Nailsea Policing Team will be helping local young people catch some unassuming criminals in Nailsea's own version of the popular Hunted series you may have seen on your.

A community led event, you will hopefully see the social media activity in the run up to the day as we seek groups of people on the run across the town.

Feel free to get involved and help the groups of young detectives as we scour Nailsea to find our fugitives.

You can track the event through:

@nailseahunted on Instagram, or #nailseahunted

