



# YOUR Local police Newsletter

## Wealden District

ISSUE 2

Wealden Resident,

Our last newsletter proved extremely popular and we had some very positive feedback. Please feel free to contact us with any comments so that we can make it even better.

***Your Wealden Neighbourhood Policing Team***

### CRIMES IN WEALDEN

Since the beginning of November there have been 5 burglaries in Wealden. Bearing in mind there are over 64000 homes this is very low. We will work to reduce this figure even further.

A community resolution was set up in Hailsham recently after some children sprayed graffiti on a resident's fence. The children were ordered to repaint the fence. Chief Inspector Dick Coates "this is a great result as the children are under the criminal age of responsibility. The parents said they will make the kids paint the fence as a community resolution"

### HELP US IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME

3 European females have been entering beauty salons and hairdressers across Kent and Sussex. They have been stealing mobile phones and hair accessories whilst distracting workers. Help us catch them by reporting any suspicious activity immediately on 999.

Theft of scrap metal is on the increase. The price of scrap metal is rising. Thieves have recently stolen drain covers in other districts, and stole crash barriers in Wealden. BT wiring is also being pulled from the ground causing issues for residents. If you see any suspicious behaviour anywhere ring us immediately on 999.

### CRIME PREVENTION

#### Vehicle security

There has been an increase in breaks to vehicles. In a number of these, handbags that were left in view were taken. Take precautions now and think...

- Is it parked in a secure place?
- Have you left any property in or on display in the vehicle, i.e. mobile phone, camera, parcels, or is your CD or cassette player on view? Such items are a target for thieves.
- Have you locked your doors and engaged the steering lock or an immobiliser?
- If your car is not fitted with central locking, do you check the rear doors or do you assume they are locked? Check before you leave - it only takes a few seconds.
- Do not leave the engine running and then leave the vehicle to go into a shop or to post a letter etc.
- When you refuel your vehicle do not leave the keys in the ignition. Lock your vehicle when you refuel your vehicle, even if it is on a forecourt and it might be still in eyesight of the kiosk.
- When parking your vehicle at night do not leave the vehicle keys just inside your letterbox. A common method used by thieves involves using poles and fishing rods to hook keys out properties through letterboxes.
- If you must leave property in the car make sure it is out of sight. Put it in the boot, but ensure nobody is watching.
- Do not make your car attractive to the thief. If there are items on show, whether valuable or not, they are likely to be stolen. The thief is not discerning. Everything should be removed.

## Cash machine security

'Skimming' or 'cloning' cards is when the details of your card from the magnetic strip are put onto a blank card, which is then used without your knowledge or permission. There are a number of things you can do to protect your card when withdrawing cash from a cash machine:

- be wary if you see an 'out of order' notice on a cash point directing you to another machine.
- Report any machines that appear to have a card stuck in the slot.
- If you see anyone loitering around a cash point, go elsewhere.
- When entering your PIN number, cover your hand so the details entered cannot be seen.
- Try to use the cash machines inside the bank.

If you suspect the cash machine has been tampered with in any way, report it to the bank immediately.

## WEALDEN NEWS

### Wealden Halloween patrols a resounding success

Wealden Police were out on patrol over the Halloween period with only minor incidents reported to us. Wealden police had 2 operation Blitz vans dealing with antisocial behaviour over the period. The only reported damage was to a garden fence in Hailsham. There were a few reports of rowdy behaviour in Heathfield on Monday evening, but these were dealt with extremely quickly and efficiently by Wealden neighbourhood policing team. There was 1 call made to the blitz van on Sunday evening regarding noise nuisance in South Road car park, all youths were dispersed.

Neighbourhood policing team Inspector Tony Wakefield "Our patrols across Wealden over Halloween ensured that it was enjoyed by everyone. We understand that some members of the community do not enjoy this time of year due to the antisocial behaviour that can occur. However with the work my officers did beforehand as well as our Operation Blitz patrols we were able to keep issues to an absolute minimum".

### Men charged with stealing metal in Hailsham

Three men have been charged with stealing metal in Hailsham after they were stopped by road policing officers out on patrol.

The men were arrested at 11pm on the A22 at Golden Cross on Thursday 10 November after their vehicle was found to contain large metal beams and metal digger buckets.

Billy Cooper, 21, unemployed of North Road, Belvedere, Kent, and Thomas Anderson, 23, unemployed of Jenningtree Way, Bevedere, Kent, have both been charged with two counts of theft - of metal digger buckets and metal beams.

George Stevens, 23, a gardener, of Cambourne Avenue, Romford, Kent, has also been charged with two counts of theft of metal digger buckets and metal beams and driving a motor vehicle in a dangerous condition.

They have all been bailed to appear at Eastbourne Magistrates' Court on 25 November.

## CONTACT US

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