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Severnside, Stokes & Villages

Covering the areas of: Almondsbury, Bradley Stoke, Easter Compton, Frenchay, Hambrook, Little Stoke, Piling, Severn Beach, Stoke Gifford and Winterbourne.

Relentless bringing offenders to justice

Police working on Operation Relentless arrested 17 people across South Gloucestershire during a day of action in March.

In Winterbourne police seized suspected cocaine, a significant quantity of cash and an Audi car after searching a house under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

A 21-year-old man and a 47-year-old woman were arrested and later released on police bail pending further enquiries including forensic tests.

Avon and Somerset Volunteer Police Cadets from Bradley Stoke, Bridgegate, Charfield, Downend, Emersons Green, Filton, Kingswood, Longwell Green, Wick and Yate took part in the operation.

The cadets, all aged between 14 and 17, patrolled with PCSOs between 6 and 9pm, delivering crime prevention advice in Yate and Patchway.

In Winterbourne PCSOs delivered postcards with information about the police activity to people living in the immediate area of the police operations.

During the past seven years Operation Relentless has been responsible for the arrest of more than 2,100 criminals.

Forcewide, police arrested 188 people on the day with 46 people arrested in the build-up and intelligence-gathering phase.

The operation – the biggest in the seven-year history of Operation Relentless – resulted in the seizure of thousands of pounds, two cars, a motorcycle, two Rolex watches and more than 130 cannabis plants.

Operation Relentless had two main aims – to directly target criminals, reducing crime and disorder and to provide public reassurance through very visible high impact policing.

Have your say

Visit www.avonandsomerset.police.uk to see the issues local people have told us matter most, propose new priorities, find out when your next community meeting is and contact your neighbourhood team. Alternatively contact them by calling 101 or e-mailing ssnfilton@avonandsomerset.police.uk.

Stoke Gifford

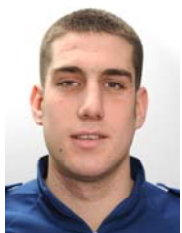
To contact your Neighbourhood Team (below) call 101 or e-mail ssnfilton@avonandsomerset.police.uk



PC Mark Graham



PCSO Malcolm Ross



PCSO Dean Sobey

Changing faces

New PCSO Malcolm Ross (pictured above) has joined the Little Stoke and Stoke Gifford team after former recruit PCSO Dean Bigden decided the role was not for him and left the police service.

Malcolm has previously worked in the role with British Transport Police but wanted to join a neighbourhood team and get to know and work with a local community.

He said: "I've always worked with people, rather than in a desk job. I want to try to help people to deal with anti-social behaviour. I'm looking forward to getting to know local people and local issues."

Most recently Malcolm has worked in a brain injury rehabilitation unit.

Married, with two sons aged 18 and nine and a six-year-old daughter, he enjoys helping out at his younger children's school with cricket, golf and rugby clubs and on school trips.

Fly-grazing

Neighbourhood police are aware of ongoing issues with fly-grazing on private land at Severn Beach and horses from this land getting onto the highway.

Officers have facilitated discussions with the landowners, local councillors, horse charities and other interested parties to find a local solution to a problem which is happening across the UK.

Neighbourhood Inspector Bob Evely said: "When we have reports of loose horses on the highway posing a risk to road users, we attend and get them returned to their field or cared for by a local horse charity.

"We are working with HorseWorld, which is tagging horses so their ownership can be traced as part of a longer-term solution. Recently we have seen a reduction in the number of horses on the site and the number of reports of horses in the road.

"The landowner is now arranging for notice to be served that if the horses are not removed by their owners they will be seized and disposed of by bailiffs."

Fly-grazing is not a criminal offence and is most commonly dealt with under the Animals Act 1971, which enables landowners to impound livestock on their land and recover their costs from the owner.

Arson arrests

Police have issued final warnings to three teenagers after a number of deliberate fires were set in Mead Park, Little Stoke and surrounding streets.

Around 10 incidents were reported including wheelie bins being set alight in November and December 2011.

A 17-year-old girl and a 15-year-old boy were referred to the Youth Offending Team and given final warnings in March. If they commit any other criminal offences they will be dealt with by the courts. Another boy, aged 16, was reprimanded.

Neighbourhood PC Mark Graham said: "The Mead Park area continues to be a priority for us but the situation has improved recently with far fewer reported problems. Anyone who does have information about ASB in the area can contact us on 101."

Is your shed safe?

Thieves are increasingly targeting sheds, garages and other outbuildings to steal or get tools to break into your home.

To deter them:

- Ensure fences, gates and outbuildings are sturdy
- Put prickly plants alongside fences and under windows and drainpipes
- Fit low-energy security lighting
- Use 'Sold Secure' standard locks on gates and outbuildings
- Use coach bolts to fit quality hinges
- Fit a 'Sold Secure' standard ground anchor inside your outbuildings and use a good quality chain to secure bikes and other valuables to it
- Fit an inexpensive alarm – available from most DIY stores
- Mark property with your postcode
- Lock ladders securely away
- Fewer than 15 per cent of cyclists can give police enough details to identify their bike and prove it has been stolen, should it be recovered. Record serial numbers of bikes and other valuables like power tools on the free national database, www.immobilise.com. Police across the country use this to check if items have been stolen

For more security advice contact your neighbourhood team on 101 or visit www.avonandsomerset.police.uk.



You can also visit us on Facebook, You Tube, Twitter, through your mobile or TV service or via our Police Kiosks



Anti-social behaviour – who can help?

Neighbourhood police: call 101, visit our website www.avonandsomerset.police.uk or e-mail ssnfilton@avonandsomerset.police.uk.

South Gloucestershire Council's Anti-social behaviour (ASB) team: call 01454 868582 or e-mail asbreporting@southglos.gov.uk.



Tackling hate crime

South Gloucestershire police are committed to tackling hate crime – any crime motivated by prejudice or hate. Incidents can be motivated by prejudice about race, colour, ethnic origin or nationality; religion and faith; gender identity; sexual orientation and/or disability.

Hate crime can be reported directly to the police by calling 101, in person at a police station or online through the police website, where you can also find information about local agencies offering support. The council can also help – find out more at www.southglos.gov.uk.

The national website True Vision, www.report-it.org.uk, also offers support, information and the online reporting.

A court has found a 15-year-old Bradley Stoke man's words and behaviour caused racially aggravated harassment, alarm or distress to staff at a takeaway in the town. He must pay compensation and comply with a six month youth rehabilitation order.

Keeping the roads safe

Four dangerous vehicles were banned from the road in an operation to improve road safety and crack down on anti-social vehicle use in March.

The neighbourhood team were joined by specialist road policing officers and staff from the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA) in the day of action.

Neighbourhood and road policing officers patrolled the whole of the Filton neighbourhood policing area and brought 17 mopeds and small motorbikes and a car back to the station for VOSA examination.

As well as the four vehicles found to have dangerous defects, officers seized a motorbike which had been de-restricted to go faster than legally allowed.

One rider was referred to the 'Kick Start' education scheme while a provisional licence holder was given three points and fined £60 after riding with a pillion passenger and no L plates.

Two riders without insurance and tax were fined. The car driver was fined for not wearing a seat belt.

Four people were given verbal warnings for offences including changing the colour of the vehicle without notifying DVLA; faulty vehicle parts; faulty brake light and for riding without fastening the chin strap of the safety helmet.

Neighbourhood Inspector Bob Evely said: "The riders of this sort of moped or motorbike are often young adults and this operation aimed to drive home some important road safety messages to keep them and other road users safe.

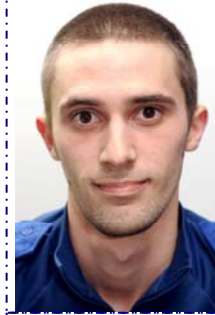
"We also took the opportunity to talk to them about the local community's concerns about anti-social vehicle use – such as riding on local parks and commons and noisy engines – and make clear the consequences, which could include having their vehicle seized and even crushed."

Sevenside

To contact your Neighbourhood Team (pictured below) call 101 or e-mail ssnfilton@avonandsomerset.police.uk



PC Steve Bird



PCSO
Chris Baker

Winterbourne

To contact your Neighbourhood Team (pictured below) call 101 or e-mail ssnfilton@avonandsomerset.police.uk



PC Claire Reeves



PCSO Jackie
Liminton



PCSO
John Hitchings

Avon and Somerset Police Authority

Soon the Police Authority, the independent body which oversees Avon and Somerset Police, will be replaced by a directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). This change will happen in 41 of the 43 UK forces in England Wales.

This is the single biggest change to UK policing and means that you will go to the polls on Thursday, November 15, to vote for the very first PCC for Avon and Somerset. The Police Authority will continue to carry out its role as usual, holding the police to account and setting the police budget until the election in November.

The Police Authority is committed to a smooth and effective handover to a PCC. To find out more go to www.aspolo.org.uk/pcc

Open windows warning – don't let in more than fresh air!

As we head into hopefully warmer weather, remember to make sure windows and doors are not left open and unattended.

If you are in another room, or your garden, shut and lock your windows and doors. It only takes a moment for an opportunist thief to sneak in and take your cash, wallet, handbag, keys or mobile phone.

Bradley Stoke

To contact your Neighbourhood Team (pictured below) call 101 or e-mail ssnfilton@avonandsomerset.police.uk



PC Claire Fletcher



PC Steve Palmer



PCSO Paul Baxter



PCSO Kirsty McKillop



PCSO Jason Green

Prowler charge

A 30-year-old man from Bradley Stoke has been charged with indecent exposure and burglary in connection with offences in the town in January.

He was released on court bail to live at an address outside South Gloucestershire with conditions including an 18-hour curfew between 6pm and midday pending a trial in May.

Police had had a number of reports of an early morning prowler in the Bradley Stoke and Little Stoke areas.

Officers carried out house-to-house enquiries and patrols in response to the reports and circulated a warning through Neighbourhood Watch.

The court appearance follows the arrest of a man by patrolling officers in Saxon Way, Bradley Stoke, in January.

Robbery arrests

Two men have been arrested over the robbery of a teenage boy in Bradley Stoke.

The 14-year-old had his mobile phone taken from him as he walked to a friend's house in April last year.

Two Filton men aged 18 and 19 were arrested in February 2012 after police recovered the phone during another enquiry. They remain on police bail pending further investigation.

Neighbourhood PS Clive Johnson said: "This arrest goes to show that we never close an investigation and will always follow up any new lines of enquiry in order to bring offenders to justice.

"South Gloucestershire is a safe place, but young people in open spaces can be targeted by older teenagers for their phones, cash, or bikes. Our advice is to stay with friends and keep your phone out of sight.

"Stay aware of your surroundings and don't wear headphones – you might not hear trouble coming and it advertises you have a phone or MP3 player."

Police regularly visit schools and colleges giving personal safety advice to pupils.



Rape awareness

Avon and Somerset Police have launched a campaign to raise awareness among young people around rape and sexual assault – the first of its kind in the West.

'Only Yes means Yes' aims to prevent teenagers from becoming victims or perpetrators of sexual violence and abuse.

A South Gloucestershire school was among those taking part in trial sessions and the campaign is now rolling out to all secondary schools in Avon and Somerset.

Research shows half of all victims of acquaintance rape in Avon and Somerset are aged 17 to 21.

Superintendent Sarah Crew said: "Everyone must understand that when it comes to consent, 'Only Yes means Yes'.

"This package is a valuable tool in tackling these elements. It not only educates young people in a bid to prevent them from becoming victims of such crimes but also signposts them to support services and the help that is available.

"Young people must remember that consent needs to be clear and they should never blame themselves should they become a victim of these crimes."

Avon and Somerset is currently second in the country for bringing offenders to justice, with more than 62 per cent of rapes being convicted.

More help and advice in relation to this subject is available at www.rapeaware.org

If you need this document in another format

Telephone - 101

Textphone – 18001 101

or visit

www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/WebsiteResources/accessibility/



Call the charity
Crimestoppers anonymously on
0800 555 111

www.crimestoppers-uk.org

*We never ask for your name
or trace your call*