

Here is the latest Wallingford Sector neighbourhood update from PCSO Sue Harris. As I am writing this article it is very icy and cold outside. Hopefully this is the worst of the weather we get this winter. However, can we please remind people to make sure their vehicle is de-iced before driving and please drive carefully. This weather is also a timely reminder to check on elderly or vulnerable neighbours to ensure they are keeping warm and have enough food in the house.

Anti-social behaviour

We have been made aware of young people behaving anti-socially in both Benson and Cholsey. Parents do you know where your children are? Please ensure that they are not out ruining other people's evenings.

You said we did

Before Christmas we had reports of purse thefts in the town centre. Due to this we have acquired some more purse bells which we will leave at customer services in Waitrose. We have a very limited supply so could I please ask that you leave them for elderly and vulnerable people. You can buy individual purse bells over the internet. Also never carry large amounts of cash in your purse. You may find that your home insurance does not cover a large loss of cash.

Vamoose burglaries

We have had a few vamoose burglaries in Didcot. A 'Vamoose' burglary is a name used by Thames Valley Police for a burglary that takes place specifically to steal the keys to a high value or new vehicle.

Vamoose burglaries usually happen overnight when the occupants of a property are in bed asleep or whilst the home owners are away on holiday. Thames Valley Police would like to raise awareness as there has been a spate of recent offences across our Local Policing Area (LPA).

Recent offences have involved the offenders forcing entry to properties via the front door or a rear patio door. The ground floor of the property is then searched for the car keys. Typically, vehicle owners leave their car keys near to the front door or within a bag or coat pocket. The offenders will take the keys along with other nearby valuables such as phones/wallets, they then leave in your car! We are keen to prevent further offences and would like to offer you the following crime prevention advice:

- Hide your car keys away from windows and doors or take them up to bed with you
- If you are planning on going on holiday or will be leaving your property unoccupied for a period of time, consider leaving your car keys with a trusted neighbour or relative and where possible block your vehicles on driveways
- Ensure your doors and windows are locked, if you have a chain on the inside of your door, use it. Please see the home security leaflets enclosed for further useful advice

If you would like further advice on your home security, call 101. Ask for a member of your local Neighbourhood Policing Team to visit you.

Offenders brought to justice

There was some karma in Waitrose this month. A male stole some gin and as he ran out of the store dropped a bottle which smashed and he slipped on the liquid. The CCTV footage is most amusing!

What the neighbourhood team have been doing

We have visited the Cranford House Nursery School. PCSO 9825 Sue Harris and PCSO 9904 Sarah Jones needed to take a missing person report from the children. Unfortunately, Elmer the cuddly elephant had gone missing. However, the children were able to give a very good description of the patchwork elephant and he was found by local police officers and returned safely! The children all now know what to do if you get lost.

County Lines

You may have read and seen about the recent intensification week to target county lines drug dealing. Across Thames Valley Police more than 100 arrests and £133,000 was seized as part of this operation. Importantly 43 children and 69 vulnerable adults were safe guarded. Neighbourhood Policing is essential in obtaining results like this. You are best placed to know where your vulnerable neighbours are and when there are unusual comings and goings at their addresses. As a team we delivered well over 1,000 leaflets to specific roads in the Didcot and Wallingford area and developed significant intelligence to assist in future warrants and safeguarding opportunities.

TVPSouth Oxon & VOWH @tvpsoouthandvale · Jan 23
Police officers from our local neighbourhood teams supported by colleagues from the joint operations unit executed a misuse of drugs act warrant this morning in Didcot. We have arrested a male for drugs offences and he remains in custody. #TVPstronghold #problemsolving



TVPSouth Oxon & VOWH @tvpsoouthandvale · Jan 22
#Didcot and #Wallingford neighbourhood teams have been delivering leaflets around areas where drug dealing has happened or may do in the future.
Please look out for your vulnerable neighbours and tell us of your suspicions.

PsMaris
#TVPstronghold #CountyLines



TVPSouth Oxon & VOWH @tvpsoouthandvale · Jan 14
#Didcot and #Wallingford neighbourhood teams have been signing residents up to Thames Valley Alert.

It's a great way to stay informed about crime in your area.

Today we were in St Hughes Rise, Didcot.

You can sign up here mymsg.eu/5g/w

#NotOnOurPatch
PsMaris



TVPSouth Oxon & VOWH @tvpsoouthandvale · Jan 23
Do you know what 'Cuckooing' is? Know how to spot the signs!

#CountyLines #TVPstronghold #C3155

Lessons learnt: ensure the vulnerable person is not allowing their home to be used for drug dealing by giving them free drugs or offering to pay for food or utilities.

These criminals are very selective about who they target as "cuckoo" victims and are often entrepreneurial. A lot of the time victims are lonely, isolated, or frequent drug users themselves.

"Cuckooing" means the criminals can operate from an unobtrusive property, making it an attractive option. They can then use the premises to deal and manufacture drugs in an environment that is not known to police, usually staying for just one day at a time. When the dealers use the victim's property for criminal enterprise, the inhabitants become terrified of going to the police for fear of being suspected of involvement in drug dealing or being identified as a member of the group, which would result in their eviction from the property.

The victims of this type of exploitation could easily be your neighbours or other people you know. Just one phone call to the police or CrimeStoppers could give the police and other agencies the ability to change someone's life.

Signs to look out for:

- Often takes place in a multi-occupancy or social housing property.
- An increase in the number of coming and goings from the property.
- Offenders will often have new vehicles outside the property or hire cars.
- Possible increase in anti-social behaviour in and around the property.
- The victim will often disengage from support services.
- New, unfamiliar persons visiting the property.

TVP South Oxon and Vale of White Horse · 10 Jan at 16:28

Patrolling Crowmarsh Gifford today with PC 6598 O'Dell and come across this stolen vehicle. We have now recovered it. PCSO 9825 Harris.



TVP South Oxon and Vale of White Horse · 18 Jan at 16:03

PC 2051 Kaur signing up customers in Waitrose Wallingford to our Thames Valley Alert. This system sends you messages alerting you to incidents in your area. You can join by going onto <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk> and clicking on the link for Thames Valley Alert. It is a really good way of keeping you informed of crimes, incidents and policing events in your community.



TVP South Oxon and Vale of White Horse · 2 Jan at 09:05

WALLINGFORD AREA GARAGE/SHED BREAKS

Over the past few nights garages and a shed have been broken into in Benson, Cholsey and Wallingford. There are a few things you can do to make it more secure. Consider getting a shed alarm, secure valuable items to a ground anchor. You can also get extra locks that help prevent up and over doors being forced open. If you have a house alarm you can link it to your garage. Please email sue.harris@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk if you would like me to attend your address to give you some crime prevention advice.

TVP South Oxon and Vale of White Horse · 30 Jan at 16:55

PCSO's #7258 & #9825 have been giving Drug Awareness and Alcohol talks for staff at Rowse Honey in Wallingford this afternoon. We thank them for having us and for the honey hamper. Good job sugar isn't illegal.

Malcolm Conry and 16 others

TVPSouth Oxon & VOWH Retweeted
Cranford House EYFS @CHSEarlyYears · Jan 29
Huge thanks to @tvpsoouthandvale for visiting the Nursery children this morning. A fantastic time was had by all!



Community Resilience Forum

Thanks to a fantastic response from the Wallingford community we are pleased to announce that plans are already well advanced with the Wallingford Community Resilience Forum with a number of kind volunteers to the membership and a chair in place. We hope to be able to announce the first meeting soon which will help shape the future priorities of your neighbourhood policing team.

Future events/meetings/active communities

- If you have a bicycle you would like marking then please bring your bicycle and email address to the Orchard Centre outside Sainsbury's in Didcot between 10am – 1pm on Saturday 16th February where PSCO Jason Martin will mark your bike free of charge.
- We will also be available to talk to in the Market Place, Wallingford on Friday 15th February between 10.30am – 11.30am. If the weather is very inclement we will move to the inside of Waitrose.

Get in touch:

E-mail: WallingfordNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

