

From: Gill Parratt  
Subject: Fw: East Hants NW Bulletin - 10th December 2016  
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**Dear All**

**Good news...!**

Hampshire Police Officers have seized a haul of cocaine with an estimated street value of £100,000 in Petersfield.

A man has been charged with possession with intent to supply cocaine.

Please see our website for further details: <http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/news-and-appeals/2016/december/091216-cocaine-seized-Petersfield-44160461158>

**Reminder regarding PC scams**

Please be aware that a local resident recently received a telephone call from "Microsoft" stating that there was a problem with her personal computer. The caller was very insistent that the problem was urgent and apparently became quite rude when the information was questioned.

A follow-up call to her own broadband supplier (Talk Talk) gave assurance that no problem had been detected and that the phone call was most probably a scam. Please be careful when answering these calls (purported to be from many different organisations/companies). **Do not give out any personal details/passwords/pin numbers, etc. Any reputable company will not ask you for this information on the telephone. Do not let any caller have remote access to your computer even if they sound genuine. When in doubt, end the call and make your own enquiries.**

**Beat the Scams this Christmas;**

With Christmas approaching, fraudsters are taking advantage of every opportunity to scam unsuspecting internet users. Throughout December, Action Fraud is opening up the doors on its 'Badvent' calendar to raise awareness of different types of scams and how you can take precautions to protect yourself against them. For more information check the Action Fraud website at [www.actionfraud.police.uk/](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/)

**Phishing** – don't be tempted by unsolicited emails, text messages or WhatsApp messages claiming to be from high street retailers. Fraudulent messages often contain links to fake websites or malware that can hold your computer to ransom. Delete the

email.

**Counterfeits** – scammers will use email and social media to advertise cheap deals on branded products. These often turn out to be non-genuine items; don't be tempted to buy cheap replicas of official brands for Christmas gifts this year. Only deal with reputable sellers and sites you know and trust. You can find a directory of brands, including their official website addresses, at [www.brand-i.org](http://www.brand-i.org)

**Marketplaces** – if you are using online marketplaces to buy products this Christmas always make purchases using the official channels recognised by the marketplace; it leaves an auditable trail of information. If a seller cancels your order and asks for payment elsewhere (such as via a money transfer service) be prepared to walk away from the deal.

To keep up to date with the latest scams and advice on staying safe online visit the Hampshire Police website <http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/advice-and-information/crime-prevention/business-crime/cyber-crime>

\*Following on from this advice, please be aware of scam phone calls from people claiming to be from utility companies. They are stating that direct debits have been cancelled and a new one needs to be set up. We have had one report of this in Alton specifically, however there have been further reports across the county. If anyone asks for your details we suggest ending the call, and directly contacting your utility companies to confirm the call is legitimate. If the call is genuine they will have no problem with this. Where possible, if you do opt to call back, we recommend doing it from another phone, as it is possible for someone to hold the line at their end, and you will reach the same person. Please report any suspicious calls to Hampshire Police via 101 or the website, or to Action Fraud via their website.\*

### **Burglary – Horndean**

A burglary has been reported in Rowlands Castle Rd, Horndean. It took place sometime between the 01<sup>st</sup> the 07th of December 2016.

Let us know if you saw anything suspicious around this time by calling 101 and referencing crime number 44160461096.

Please remember to keep windows secure and lock all doors.

Advice:

Use timer switches (available from most D.I.Y stores) to switch on lights, radios while you are away from the home to make it look and sound occupied. Ensure you shut and lock windows and doors when you return home and settle down for the evening.

Ensure you have used padlocks on the side gates to deny access to the rear of the property.

Ensure your outside lighting is in working order (consider low level ambient light on a dusk to dawn sensor) this will activate even when you are not at home.

After the summer, secure your garden tools and garden equipment in a locked and alarmed shed or garage for the winter so that they cannot be used to gain entry to your home.

Property mark belongings with your house number and postcode, keep a list of any makes, models and serial numbers. Take photos of jewellery. Register your items for free at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com). Using this service will assist the police in returning property to the rightful owner should it be stolen.

This is a good time to address your security, fit extra door and window locks. If you are feeling vulnerable or are elderly, ask for a free home safety and security survey by the Bobby Trust (see link) or call 0300 777 0157 for an appointment. Thank you.

### **Rogue Traders**

Please be aware of reports in our area of people calling at addresses and telling homeowners there is a problem with their roofs. If you do have any building work that needs to be done please go through a recommendation from a friend or a building company in your area.

They are knocking on doors and handing-out leaflets. On this particular occasion they were in the Catherington Lane area of Horndean, but we are asking all East Hampshire residents to be vigilant and also look out for elderly or vulnerable neighbours who may be easily persuaded by these individuals.

### **Number-plate thefts – Havant**

Havant's Neighbourhood Policing Team has received seventeen reports of number plates being stolen from vehicles in the town since November 4.

Officers are now trying to establish whether any of these incidents, which have taken place across the borough, are linked. The majority of vehicles affected have been cars parked outside houses at night. We have identified that over 50% of the cars targeted had also been left insecure and valuables, which were left on display, were stolen.

Inspector Andy Clinton said: "This is yet another reminder to keep your vehicle safe and secure. Especially in the run-up to Christmas when opportunistic thieves will steal

anything if the vehicle is left insecure.

“This spate of number plate theft is unusual and it can cause ongoing issues for victims if the index plates are used in other criminality afterwards. That’s why I would urge anyone who has been a victim to report a number plate theft to us at the earliest opportunity by calling 101 to ensure that this can be recorded to assist our enquiries. More importantly by doing so you’ll ensure that you don’t need to have any involvement in any subsequent investigations. If someone later uses your number plate to avoid congestion charges or fines, it could also mean that you end up with the bill. By reporting the theft to us, you have a record of when this happened and can evidence that you are not at fault

“Thankfully at the current time none of the number plates have subsequently been used for criminal purposes to the best of our knowledge”.

Vehicle number plates are often stolen to be used in other crimes, such as theft of fuel from forecourts (bilking), avoidance of congestion charges and parking fines, vehicle cloning and even burglary.

If index plate thefts are not reported, you may receive a summons for unpaid parking or a speeding ticket, or you may even be questioned by police in connection with more serious crimes.

**The following advice can assist you in reducing the likelihood of your index plates being stolen:**

- Park your car in a garage at night or park in such a way as to prevent access to either the front or rear number plate.
- Park in a safe public car park.
- If parking on a public road, park in a well-lit spot.
- Use theft-resistant number plates, which are designed to break apart if they are forcibly removed from a vehicle.
- Fit security screws. Simple anti-theft devices can be easily fitted with a screwdriver in place of existing screws, but cannot be removed using standard tools.

If you have been a victim of number plate theft please call 101 or report it online: <http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/contact-us/report-a-crime>. In an emergency, or if a crime is in progress, always dial 999.

**Community Policing Priorities – Alton**

The Neighbourhood Policing Team in the Alton area needs your help in setting their Local Community Policing Priorities for the first three months of 2017. In order to ensure that we are working effectively in the community, we need you to tell us what issues are affecting you the most.

For example the current aims for the Alton team are to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), criminal damage, and night time economy related violence; as well as to make your neighbourhood a safer place to live and work.

We will give you information that indicates where the demand for Police resources is located. All we ask is that you spare 5 minutes to complete this survey to give us a clear understanding of the issues that matter to you. We will use these results, along with Police and partner agency data, to set our priorities for the next three months.

If you lives in the Alton area please visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AltonJan17>

### **Thefts from Vehicles - Petersfield**

Overnight on November 28<sup>th</sup>, there were two incidents where vehicles were broken into and items taken. These occurred in Seborne Close and Tillmore Gardens. Below is some crime prevention advice you can use to safeguard your vehicles.

- When leaving your car, close all windows and lock your car.
- Upon locking your vehicle try your car door to ensure it is actually locked.
- Park your car in an attended car park.
- Look for public car parks approved by the Park Mark scheme.
- When parking at home, use your garage. If you don't have a garage, park in a well-lit area.
- Don't leave anything on display in your vehicle.
- Take all your personal possessions with you.
- Remove sat nav holders and visible sat nav ring marks from windscreens.
- Leave the glove box open to show there's nothing inside.
- Fit an alarm or immobiliser to your car.
- Record the details of your property on the Immobilise website (see right).
- Do not store your car's documents in the car.
- Secure your wheels using locking wheel nuts.

More information about alarms can be found on the Thatcham and Sold Secure websites.

## **RURAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP MEETING INVITATION**

Alton Police, on behalf of Hampshire Constabulary and BASC invite local landowners, farmers, gamekeepers and members of the rural community to attend a rural community partnership meeting to discuss ways in which the Police can better help prevent crime and keep the rural communities safe.

There will be guest speakers and updates from the Local Police and the Firearms Licensing Officer. Coffee, tea and mince pies will be available.

Date           **14th December 2016**  
Time           **6:30pm**  
Venue          **Froyle Park Country Estate, Ryebidge Lane, Alton GU34 4JH**

Please e-mail [jessica.hornsby@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:jessica.hornsby@hampshire.pnn.police.uk) to register your interest or if you would like more details.

(If you have specific questions you would like addressed at the meeting it would be helpful to have them ahead of time by e-mail)

Kind regards,

Gillian

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