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# POLICE News

ISSUE 04 2013

SUPPORTING YOU TO BE SAFE AND FEEL SAFE

REPORT A BREACH OF ASBO BY CALLING 101

## ASBOs tackle horse problems

**South Gloucestershire Council, police and other agencies have secured two Anti-Social Behaviour Orders to tackle problems with fly-grazing.**

Magistrates served the five-year orders on two men from Winterbourne in October. The orders are intended to prevent the horses being left to graze on land without permission, straying onto the road or railway and improve their welfare.

During the 18 months prior to July 2013, we had more than 2,000 calls about the problem. We worked with Avon Fire & Rescue Service, Network Rail and charities like HorseWorld and the RSPCA to support

South Gloucestershire Council's ASBO application.

Fences and gates were damaged to get the horses onto land, they often broke free, posing a danger to road and rail users, and some horses were neglected.

Neighbourhood Inspector Bob Evely said: "We have also been talking to the owners themselves to make clear the issues caused by their behaviour and have already started to see an improvement in the situation."

Breaching an Anti-Social Behaviour Order is a criminal offence which could result in a fine or custodial sentence of up to five years.



## The Stokes & villages



## PRECIOUS METALS IN CATALYTIC CONVERTERS ARE A TARGET FOR THIEVES

### Suspected stolen car parts seized after car crashes

A car which was crashed and abandoned in Station Road, Pilning, in the early hours one day in October was found to contain catalytic converters believed to have been stolen from Mercedes vans.

A man has since been charged with theft and driving offences and his case continues in court.

The incident came soon after we issued a warning that thieves had been targeting catalytic converters. Thieves steal 'cats' because of the current high prices of the metals used inside them.

Neighbourhood Inspector Bob Evely said: "Criminals have been targeting vehicles with high ground clearance like vans, pick-ups and SUVs. It only takes a few minutes to cut or unbolt the catalytic converter.

Lately they've been taking them from Peugeot and Citroen cars, even jacking them up to get at the part.

"It's really important to call 999 immediately if you see someone acting suspiciously near a car or van. It's also important to tell us about any theft of catalytic converters – or if you find them abandoned. You can report online through our website or by calling 101."

Most of these thefts happen while the vehicle is parked overnight, so try to park in a garage or where people could see someone tampering with your car.

You can deter thieves by marking your catalytic converter with a commercially-available etching kit or fitting a 'cat' clamp or alarm – search online for 'secured by design' to find out more. Check our website for more advice.



Try to park in a garage if you can, or leave your vehicle somewhere people would be able to see anyone trying to break in or tampering with it.

## YOUR VOICE IN POLICING: COMMISSIONER SUE MOUNTSTEVENS

### Loving the job after one year in office – bring on 2014

**It has been a non-stop 365 days for Sue Mountstevens who marked her first year in office in November.**

She said: "I love the job. It's been an extremely challenging year, but it's a worthwhile job and one that I thoroughly enjoy."

In South Gloucestershire Sue has launched a tailored Police and Crime Plan and issued £88,000 to tackle crime and disorder and support local community groups.

She has visited local people including returning to last year's election count venue, at the University of the West of England, to tell students and local residents about life as Commissioner.

She said: "The year has gone so fast, it's unreal. It's hectic, but you hear the expression 'if you love what you're doing it's not your job anymore' and that's what it's become really.

"I would love to be able to attend all the phenomenal things that I get invited to, but sadly there's only one of me, although for some people that would probably be enough!"

#### **Been a victim of crime?**

Sue wants to hear about your experiences to help shape the future support for victims.

Go online by January 10 2014 to have your say at [www.consultation.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.consultation.avonandsomerset.police.uk)



#### **Dates and Information**

To see what Sue is up to or when and where she will be in South Gloucestershire please visit her website.

**Contact** the PCC via the website [www.avonandsomersetpcc.gov.uk](http://www.avonandsomersetpcc.gov.uk)

**Email** the PCC on [pcc@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:pcc@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

**Call** 01275 816 377

## GET TO KNOW YOUR NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICERS

# Changing faces in the neighbourhood

### Our neighbourhood teams have changed.

There are new faces on the Stoke Gifford and Little Stoke beat since Neighbourhood PC Mark Graham left to take over the role of beat manager in Midsomer Norton.

He is replaced by PC Steve Palmer (top left) who has many years' experience working as the neighbourhood PC for Bradley Stoke.

He is joined by PCSO Kirsty McKillop, who has worked with him on the Bradley Stoke beat for the past five years. They team up again with another former Bradley Stoke PCSO, Jason Green, who moved to the Stoke Gifford beat last year.

PC Palmer and PCSO McKillop have been replaced on the Bradley Stoke beat by PC Jamie Shiels and PCSO Chris Baker, who have joined the team of PC Claire Fletcher and PCSOs Ben Sheward and Lucy Sparks.



PC Shiels (bottom left) and PCSO Baker previously worked together on the Severn-side beat, which has been transferred to the neighbourhood team based at Thornbury.

There is also a new PC for the University of the West of England. PC Mark Brain replaces PC Matt Holloway on the Frenchay campus.

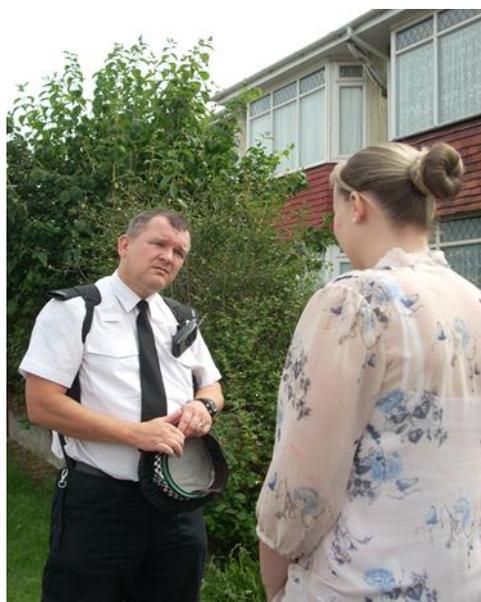
## FINDING EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE WAYS TO HELP YOU

# Changing how we work to respond to your needs

### We're trialling a change in the way we manage our neighbourhood policing teams in South Gloucestershire.

From January officers from the neighbourhood teams will work much more closely with the officers who respond to emergency calls. The idea is to help us make sure we're there for you when you need us most.

Neighbourhood PCs and PCSOs will still be patrolling your area, working to tackle local policing priorities and answering to a neighbourhood sergeant. The main change will be that the five 24/7 patrol inspectors will become responsible for day-to-day neighbourhood policing, while experienced Neighbourhood Inspector Bob Evely and a deputy co-ordinate our work with other agencies to tackle on-going issues.



## ROBBERY SUSPECT IN COURT

A man has been charged after a security guard was robbed outside Tesco Express in Ratcliffe Drive, Stoke Gifford, in October.

The robbery happened at lunchtime, when the guard was assaulted and a cash box taken.

A 23-year-old man was charged with robbery and making threats with a knife and appeared in court in November. The case continues.

## JAIL FOR BURGLARS

Two men have been jailed for burglaries they committed over the summer in South Gloucestershire and Bristol.

The men admitted nine burglaries of homes and pubs, including break-ins at properties in Winterbourne and Frenchay.

In October one was jailed for four and a half years while the other was imprisoned for three years.



**GET INVOLVED**

Regular Safer Stronger Community Group (SSCG) meetings discuss local issues and community projects. Everyone is welcome: visit <https://groups.southglos.gov.uk> to find out more.

**DIARY DATES**

The next meetings are:  
Bradley Stoke SSCG – Thursday 30 January 2014 at 7pm Baileys Court Activity Centre.

Stoke Gifford & Little Stoke SSCG – Wednesday 5 March 2014 at 1pm at Little Stoke Community Hall.

Winterbourne, Frenchay & Hambrook SSCG – Tuesday January 14 2014 at 7pm at Winterbourne Down Methodist Church.

**YOU SAID; WE DID**

You told us about parking problems in New Road, near Abbeywood School. South Gloucestershire Council's parking services team is attending. We have also patrolled the area and given parents advice about their parking.

**IF YOU SEE A CRIME HAPPENING CALL 999 STRAIGHT AWAY**

**Graffiti 'tagging' arrests after calls from witnesses**

**We arrested two men after being called to reports of graffiti being painted in Bradley Stoke.**

We had two calls one Friday night in November from witnesses reporting suspicious activity in the Woodlands Lane area.

Patrolling officers responded and found that graffiti 'tags' had been painted on a bus stop, bin, wall and post box as well as at nearby businesses in Woodlands Lane and Great Park Road.

Officers searched the area and arrested two young men nearby just before midnight.

Two 18-year-old men were bailed pending further enquiries.

Neighbourhood Sergeant Adrian Fallows said: "We're really grateful to the callers who rang to report this damage as it was happening. Help from the community is so important in tackling this sort of anti-social behaviour and in this case led to two arrests."

**FIND SECURITY TIPS ON OUR WEBSITE**

**Man jailed for theft from cars**

**A man has been jailed after workers at a leisure centre in Little Stoke spotted him acting suspiciously around cars and called us.**

We found that two cars had been broken into and a satnav taken from each one. The suspect was caught on CCTV and recognised by local officers.

In August a 32-year-old Patchway man admitted the thefts and was jailed for four months by Bristol magistrates.



Neighbourhood Sergeant Adrian Fallows said: "Staff did exactly the right thing in calling us when they became suspicious of this man. Please make sure you don't leave anything on view and set the alarm as well as locking up when you leave your vehicle. It's also a good idea to register property like satnavs or stereos on the [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) database."

**How can you set your community priorities, shape local policing and have your say?**

Log on to our website to find out when we are holding your nearest beat surgery or "Have Your Say" meeting. You can also register your priorities online. Log on to the "In Your Area" section of our website for more news and details on local meetings.

