

# Mendip East Newsletter – September 2021.



**Welcome to this month's newsletter, for September which is sent out from the team at the start of each month to keep you updated about what your local neighbourhood policing teams have been up to and anything we have planned for the future – If you no longer wish to receive this please let us know. We are still facing challenges with the amount of demand that the police are receiving over the summer months.**

**August has been another busy month for the Teams.**

## **Frome Town –**

August has been another exciting month for the town team, we continue our excellent partnership with our colleagues for the Community Speed watch (CSW), with a number of schemes currently in operation across the town, and we often visit and assist each of our schemes. CSW is a partnership between the Community, the Police and Local Authorities. It gives local people the ability to actively get involved in Road Safety. The aim of Community Speed Watch is to make motorists who speed through residential neighbourhoods aware of the impact their actions have on local residents, or the danger they pose to other road users and pedestrians. This is something we are working with communities to address. More information on CSW can be found here: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/apply/community-speedwatch/>

It has also been great to see an array of events in the town, we have been able to support the Town Councils play day in the park as well as the Lions Club summer fete. We have also been able to offer our bike registration service to users of Victoria Park. We often hold events where you can make use of these services or even just come and speak with us, all our events our advertised on our social media channels and also on our website which can be found here: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/frome-town/>

We also continue to receive sporadic reports of Crimes and ASB being caused in both Victoria Park and Mary Bailey playing fields. Because of these calls, numerous people have been identified and have been issued an ASB warning letter. Because of these reports, we also continue to utilise s.35 of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Police Act 2014 which allows officers and PCSO's to disperse persons identified as causing ASB. We work closely with Frome Town Council to ensure that the parks remain safe for all to use. If you do experience any ASB, or cause for concern, in and around our parks, we urge you to report it as it is happening on 999, 101 or via the force website as appropriate.

## **Frome and Shepton Rural-**

During this month, a burglary occurred in a residential property in Ditchat. High value jewellery was stolen leaving the owner understandably upset. Within a short period, Police recovered the jewellery with a suspect found & arrested.

There have been a recent fire set on the old factory site at Evercreech. In addition, a bench was damaged by fire on the recreation ground off Queens's Road. The Rural Neighbourhood Team have directed patrols to this area to deter further incidents.

Rural officers have been out to visit farms recently due to being the victim of fuel thefts. Intelligence has been gathered which we hope to use to target criminals who steal fuel. Alarms and padlocks have been provided to victims to help boost their security of sheds and fuel containers.



### Shepton Mallet Town –

The Shepton Neighbourhood Team were invited to attend an event at Pullen Court. It was a good time for engagement with the local community as there had been a few reports of incidents in the general area. The team continue to carry out regular patrols in this part of town to offer reassurance.

Also during this time local PCSO Amanda Ware in company with the trading standards loan shark team conducted a week of action in Shepton Mallet Town Area due to information received that loansharks were targeting our area. We wanted to get information out about the illegal practices of loan sharks. We conducted a social media campaign and conducted some drop in surgeries outside Tesco's and Aldi to hand out leaflets. Our goal as always is to safeguard as many members of our community as we can.

We want to thank the local community for the support we received. There are multiple ways you can report a loan shark either by phone 0300 555 2222 or Text 07860022116 email: [reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk](mailto:reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk) or you report online at [stoploansharks.co.uk](http://stoploansharks.co.uk)

### A big hello from the Fraud Protect team!



We are a brand new team within Avon and Somerset Constabulary, focused on supporting vulnerable victims of fraud. We are committed to providing our communities with all of the materials and knowledge they need to identify a scam, and protect themselves from fraud.

Fraud is the UK's biggest recorded crime and it was recognised by our force that we need to do better with supporting victims of this cruel crime. As with anything new, things take time. However, we are well and truly up and running! Since March of this year we have delivered enhanced interventions to over 60 victims of fraud that were either in denial or considered to be extremely vulnerable. In addition to that, we have reached hundreds more by reaching out to parish councils, universities and various clubs/organisations providing them with fantastic resources.

Some of the things we can do are:

- ✓ Install call blockers to prevent those nasty cold calls
- ✓ Home visits when a victim does not recognise they are being defrauded
- ✓ Deliver fraud safety speeches to community groups
- ✓ Educate the public on different types of fraud and how to identify it
- ✓ Safeguard victims from being repeatedly targeted
- ✓ Spread awareness on the threat of fraud and the impact it has

The most common scams we see are romance fraud, courier fraud, transfer into a safe account fraud, and advance fee fraud. We have a great book detailing all of these that includes tips on how to spot a scam. If you would like a copy sent out to you in the post or the online version emailed to you, please contact us.

Similarly, if you have an audience that you feel would benefit from a fraud safety speech (this could be anything from community groups to care home residents) we would love to hear from you too!

Reach out to us anytime using [fraudprotect@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:fraudprotect@avonandsomerset.police.uk) If you think you have been a victim of fraud, please report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via their website at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)

**We have now seen our local Facebook pages change these can now be found under: Frome Neighbourhood Policing and Mendip Neighbourhood Policing.**

Mendip Neighbourhood Supervisor contact details:

Sergeant Rachel Clark  
Email: [Rachel.clark@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:Rachel.clark@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

PCSO Supervisor Stephen Reading  
Email: [Stephen.reading@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:Stephen.reading@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

**We continue to ask that members of the public who are witnessing any incidents to report them to us as they are happening, via 999, 101 or the Force Website.**

