

INSIDE...



Cracking Down on ASB



Mission Impossible? Mission Accomplished!



Award-Winning Officers

POLICE News

ISSUE 4 2013

SUPPORTING YOU TO BE SAFE AND FEEL SAFE

WORKING TOGETHER TO BEAT CRIME

Meth' lab found in town

Five men have been charged after a Methamphetamine laboratory was found in the town in October.

We executed warrants under the Misuse of Drugs Act at four addresses and evidence of meth' production was found at two of the properties.

We seized large quantities of chemicals for the production of Meth as well as lab' equipment. The men, aged 38, 34, 40, 37 and 45, were all charged with suspicion of conspiracy to supply a Class A drug.

We were alerted to a laboratory via a local intelligence network, which sees the police working in partnership with health authorities. These were set up following the Shipman Inquiry to ensure the safe management of controlled drugs. Pharmacies and health trusts can refer any unusual purchases or activity to the police.



Meth' is one of the most dangerous and addictive Class A drugs. It is known to have a devastating impact not only on those that take it but on associated crime in the areas it is sold. For these reasons it was made a Class A drug in 2007.

The Constabulary's Drug Strategy Manager, Paul Bunt, said: "We have always treated this drug extremely seriously. Not only is it hugely addictive but the production of it is a highly dangerous process, it's extremely flammable.

"We have seen the devastating impact this drug has had in America, Australia and South Africa and must do everything in our power to prevent it becoming common-place in the UK.

"It is very rare to come across the production of meth' in this country let alone in our force area. I am also pleased to say that due to the successful relationship we have with the health authorities we were able to act swiftly so it did not reach our streets here in the West Country."

Weston-super-Mare



YOU SAID, WE DID

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

We were granted an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) against a prolific street drinker in the town.

The application, granted at North Somerset Magistrates' Court, was made against 50-year-old Jonathon Eden after almost daily incidents of ASB, harassment and alcohol-related violence.

The ASBO, which will be enforced for two years, means that Eden is prohibited from:

- Consuming alcohol in a public place other than licensed premises;
- Going into retail premises in the town where he has been specifically excluded by the owner, staff or other lawful authority;
- Entering the area specified on the map.

Inspector Sharon Bennett said: "His behaviour has had a negative effect on the residents and retailers. We hope this will have a positive outcome not only for the public but for Mr Eden himself - to break his cycle of offending. I urge anyone who sees him breaching the order to report it to the police so we can intervene before any further offences are committed."

We have also been granted a Crack House Closure Order at 16 Camden Terrace in the centre of Weston after repeated issues with drug crime and associated ASB at the property.

A man was charged with drugs offences after we carried out a search of the property in August. He was found to be possession of a number of wraps of cocaine and heroin and £135.00 in cash.

The surrounding residents were having to endure daily incidents of ASB at all times of the day and night due to the number of visitors to the property. This meant they were regularly woken up, subjected to people shouting, litter, visitors urinating in the street and drugs related graffiti.

Kate Blackburn, Anti-Social Behaviour Support Officer, said: "Residents were left feeling intimidated and not wanting to leave their property. This is a good result. The tenant has been evicted and the property has been closed for three months. I hope this will give local residents both peace and peace of mind."



Jonathon Eden

"We hope this will have a positive outcome not only for the public but for Mr Eden himself, to break his cycle of offending."

YOUR VOICE IN POLICING , COMMISSIONER SUE MOUNTSTEVENS

Update from PCC

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

It has been a nonstop 365 days for Sue Mountstevens who marked her one year anniversary in office this November.

As well as addressing her priorities in the area, North Somerset has seen Sue launch its own tailored Police and Crime Plan, issued total funding of £100,000 to tackle crime and disorder and support local community groups and visit local people on out and about days.

Sue Mountstevens said: "The year has gone so fast, it's unreal. It's a hectic job, 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 divide myself into more people 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!"

Have you ever been a victim of crime? Sue wants to hear about your experiences to help shape the future support for victims.

You can have your say online at www.consultation.avonandsomerset.police.uk.

Consultation closes on Friday January 10, 2014.

To see what Sue is up to or where she will be please visit the website.



Dates & Information

February 21 – PCC Pride Awards where Sue will welcome the 'silent stars' of our community to Police Headquarters, Portishead for an awards ceremony.

Contact the PCC via the website www.avonandsomersetpcc.gov.uk
Email the PCC at pcc@avonandsomerset.police.uk
Call 01275 816 377

JUSTICE SEEN, JUSTICE DONE

Prolific burglars banged up and banned!

Two burglars were jailed in September after pleading guilty to a series of burglaries in North Somerset.

A 28-year-old man was sentenced to three and a half years for six burglaries, between January and March, in Weston, Clevedon and Highbridge. Property worth more than £50k was stolen, including a car, jewellery, computer equipment and televisions. He asked for a further 22 burglaries in North Somerset and West Somerset to be taken into consideration.

A 29-year-old man was sentenced to three years for burglaries in Weston, Hutton and Clevedon. He asked for a further six burglaries to be taken into consideration.

As well as prison sentences, both men were also given ASBOs banning them from returning to North Somerset for five years. In addition to the excellent investigation carried out by the Priority Crime Team, based at



Weston, the Judge highlighted the vigilance of the security staff at Proper Job DIY Store, who reported seeing the two men buying what he described as a "burglary kit."

Chief Inspector Alex Cohen said: "These men were responsible for causing 28 families distress. We're now able to go back to each victim and tell them we've caught the men responsible."

NOT ON OUR STREETS

Prison for drug dealers

Two men and one woman were sentenced to prison after pleading guilty to Conspiracy to Supply Class A drugs in Weston.

A 28-year-old man was sentenced to four-and-a-half years for the conspiracy as well as dangerous driving. Officers found 200g of crack cocaine with a street value of £10,000 - £20,000 at his property in Easton.

A 40-year-old man from London also pleaded guilty to the conspiracy and attempting to pervert the course of justice, after he assaulted two police officers while trying to get rid of drugs. Drugs worth over £3.5k were seized from a flat in Royal Crescent, Weston. A 20-year-old woman from London was sentenced to two-and-a-half years for the conspiracy.

PC Leon Brueford said: "Significantly, none of these people were actually from Weston, but they were dealing heroin and crack cocaine on our streets. Very satisfying to see them go to prison!"



Community Update

A 17-year-old man was arrested and charged within 24hrs of the tragic death of Mark Roberts in October. He is currently on remand awaiting trial.

Arrested!

A 15-year-old has been sentenced to two years in a Young Offenders Unit after he broke in to an elderly couple's home and stole jewellery and other items.

Guilty

A man, who was working as a carer, has pleaded guilty to theft after he was caught stealing from his elderly clients. He is waiting to be sentenced.

Award-Winning Cops

Congratulations to PCSO Susan Venn-Adams from Weston Police Station who won PCSO of the Year at the Neighbourhood Policing Awards held at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel in Congresbury. PC Amanda Kay, also from Weston, was the deserved winner of the Public Recognition Award. The recipients are all nominated by members of the public.

“Have your say”

Town Centre Meeting

Come and “Have Your Say” on the 11th December at 6.30pm in the Kenn Room in the Town Hall WSM. The Police and Crime Commissioner, Sue Mountstevens, will also be at this meeting so you can speak to both your local Beat Team and the PCC.

Come and see for yourself....

Come and visit our Force Service Centre at Police HQ. Sit with the call handlers who take both the 999 and 101 calls and the staff who dispatch officers to incidents – see how we work and how we take and prioritise calls. The visits are on 3 April, 12 June, 7 August and the 2 October 2014 at 7pm and will last for 2 hours.

To book your place call Lindsey at the NHW office on 01823-363348.

Alternatively, you could come on a Ride Along with one of our officers, maybe go out on foot patrol with your neighbourhood team, join one of our 999 response units or maybe go out for a shift with one of our Roads Policing Unit. Hundreds of people have taken the chance to have a closer look at the work we do. For more information and to download an application form, visit our website and search “Ride Along”.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

Beat the burglars.....

Two men from Bristol have been arrested and charged with burglaries in North Somerset thanks to an eagle-eyed member of the public. The two men were seen acting suspiciously by a local man who then took the car registration number and called 999. Within 30 minutes the car was found, searched and the men arrested with items from a burglary in their possession.

Chief Inspector Alex Cohen said: “Thanks to this sharp-eyed neighbour, we were able to arrest these prolific thieves and return people’s property. If someone arouses your suspicion, make a note of their registration, what they look like and give us a call. If they are legitimate, it won’t take us long to clear them but you could just help us prevent another crime.”

Top Tips to Beat the Burglars:

- Don’t advertise any new purchases or expensive electrical items by leaving packaging outside your house. Take it to the tip.
- Leave lights on a timer and the radio/TV on when you are out, and shut the curtains after dark.
- Always make sure doors, windows and side gates are locked when you leave the house.
- Fit PIR or “dusk ‘til dawn” lights outside and around your property.
- Property mark your valuables and log everything on www.immobilise.com it helps us return items should they be stolen and can act as a deterrent.
- Join your local Neighbourhood Watch. You are four times less likely to be burgled. Call 01823 363348 for information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Mission Impossible
Mission Accomplished**

14 young people from the Milton Brow were challenged to a day of “Mission Impossible” style activities at the Mendip Snow Sports Centre.

PCSOs Kerry Clark, Nicola Mitchell and Housing Officers from Alliance Homes took the young people, aged between 8 – 15, to the centre with the aim of building relationships between local residents, the local police team, Alliance Homes and the wider community.

PCSO Clark said: “The day went really well and really has helped build bridges and improved relationships between local officers and young people.”



There are lots of ways young people can catch up with what we are doing or talk to their local police. You can visit our Facebook page by searching for Avon and Somerset Police, follow the Weston team on Twitter @ASPWSM and we always put news on our website www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

You can email your local team through the website or call us on 101.

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.

