

Here is the latest Faringdon neighbourhood update from PC 6862 Robert Maris.

Priorities

Hare coursing: This continues to be a priority for the Faringdon Neighbourhood Team and we have done significant work with stakeholders in the rural community to improve early reporting and target hardening. This has seen significant ditches installed in Pusey Estate and Gates around the Buckland area. On 3rd October 2017 four men were arrested suspected of coursing in the Pusey area. Where arrests are not possible we will also make use of anti-social driving legislation allowing us to mark the driver and vehicle as having driven anti-socially and/or off road. If they or the vehicle were to do it again then the vehicle can be seized.

Vehicle crime: We unfortunately report that there has been another theft from motor vehicle at Ashdown House this month. After a number of months of no beauty spot thefts we will be working hard to pursue any lines of enquiry and identify trends to ensure we do not see another series of these.

Appeal for witnesses:

- For the second time in three months someone has scrawled racist graffiti on the Welcome to Shrivenham sign in Longcot Road. We would appreciate anyone with any information about this crime reporting it to us.
- The team have obtained a court warrant to seize an Alsatian dog believed to have bitten a person causing injury on the Ridgeway. We would encourage anyone else who may have been affected by this dog to come forward as we look to ensure it cannot do any more harm to our vulnerable communities.
- There was a suspected arson to a hay stack near Winter Lane, West Hanney. The incident occurred around 5pm on 7th October 2017 and two young males were seen leaving the area of the hay stacks around that time.

If you have any information about any of the above please call 101 and report it.

Offenders brought to justice

Emma Jackson aged 40 of Bromsgrove has been charged with one count of murder after a five year old Tyler Warmington was found dead at the address. We are still very grateful for the support of the community during this investigation. Jackson will be attending Oxford Crown Court on 13/10/2017.

Gary Curtis, Edward Checkley and Nathan Ingram were all sentenced to significant prison sentences after burglaries involving Shotguns at Bampton and Radcot. Ingram and Checkley were sentenced to 8 ½ year whilst Curtis received 7 1/2. These offences were very distressing for the victims and we welcome significant sentences.

Theft of lead

We have recently seen an increase in thefts of lead from roofs in South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse. Offenders take the lead because of the rising value of scrap metal. Recently the primary school in Hanney was a target. Please consider the following if you have a lead roof (mainly schools and churches):

- Security marking – marking the lead will make the crime less attractive and make it harder for the offenders to sell on. If you use a DNA marking solution i.e. Smart Water it can be traced back to the owner if recovered.
- Keep gates locked and restrict vehicle access.
- Maximise surveillance levels i.e. cutting back tall trees.
- Encourage members of the local community to keep an eye on the building and report anything suspicious.
- Remove things that might help thieves get access to the roof, like water butts, bins and tall trees.
- Conduct regular checks of the roof so the theft is detected at the earliest possible time.
- Apply anti-climb paint to drain pipes and roof guttering to restrict access to roofing (warning signs must be displayed when using the paint and below a height of 2m)
- Install CCTV.

Halloween

Police will be carrying out patrols on Halloween to make sure that people who are trick-or-treating are doing so in a friendly manner and not causing a nuisance. For some people, this time of the year can be a bother as your evenings are interrupted with people knocking on your doors for treats. Most of these children or teenagers are just getting involved in the Halloween celebrations and will be friendly. If you feel unsafe:

- Don't open your door if you're unsure who is there. Use your spyhole, look out of a window and use your door chain if you do decide to open your door.
- Have a contact number of a close relative or good neighbour to hand by your telephone, just in case you need to phone them.
- If you are part of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, let your coordinator know that you will be on your own at Halloween. If you are a coordinator, please identify people in your scheme that may be vulnerable and offer them reassurance, you could also help by downloading the poster.
- You can download a 'no trick or treat' poster from our website using the following link (right hand side of the page): <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/protecting-yourself-and-others/seasonal-advice/>

Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email FaringdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today. This allows anyone who signs up to choose what updates they receive and how they would like to receive it. The Thames Valley Police Twitter account is kept up to date with what we are up to; please follow us @TVPSouthandVale 