

Hello and welcome to April's Beat Report for the New Forest Heart area. I am PCSO 14495 Richard Williams, one of the Beat Officers for this area, and I am based at Lyndhurst Police Station with my colleague PC 20127 Steven Norris and we are responsible for Lyndhurst and the North of the Forest.

PC 2901 Jason Eastwood and PCSO 14215 Vicki Pressey take care of the Forest south of Lyndhurst.

Let's hope that the roadmap out of lockdown continues to go to plan and that this time next month I'm letting you know about when and where our Beat Surgeries will be. Until then of course we all need to keep following the guidelines to make sure that our recovery stays on track, so please continue to read the latest on all the COVID-19 regulations on the Government website (www.gov.uk).

We will be holding three more of our SAFE AT HOME EVENTS in May so again if you, or someone you know, needs our help and it is easier to visit us in person we will be

outside the COMMUITY CENTRE in LYDHURST at 10am on Saturday 8th May 2021

outside the CO OP in ASHURST at 10am on Wednesday 19th May 2021

and outside the BARTLEY POST OFFICE at 2pm on Friday 28th May 2021

This month there has been an increase in the theft of catalytic converters from Hondas and Toyotas, this is because their converters are cleaner and therefore the valuable metals contained within them are less likely to corrode. They are also easier to access on hybrid vehicles. Four catalytic converters have been stolen in April, three of them from Honda Jazz cars parked in Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst and the other was taken from a Toyota parked in Cadnam. If you see someone acting suspiciously under a vehicle, report it. Obtain as much information as possible, including any vehicle registrations and in the event your converter is stolen, please report it online via our website following this link, and include any markings so that we can identify your converter if it is recovered.

https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/

Hot off the press is the news that yesterday a man was arrested in connection with a series of catalytic converter thefts across the Forest. As I write this report he is still in custody being interviewed about the thefts.

Cars and vans were also broken into this month in Bramshaw, Brockenhurst, Winsor, Minstead, Beaulieu and Janesmoor Pond car park.

There have been burglaries to eight outbuildings in April. Two sheds on Gosport Lane in Lyndhurst were targeted as was a bike store in the main car park and an electric bike stolen. A machine store and barn were broken into in Brockenhurst and an attempt was also made to use a crow bar to get into a garage in Bramshaw but that attempt failed. Entry was also gained into two stables in the same yard on the same night on Woodlands Road

Two electric bikes have been stolen from the bike railings opposite Lyndhurst fire station, four mountain bikes were stolen from Brockenhurst over the same weekend and another bicycle was taken from outside the Happy Cheese pub at Ashurst. That one was recovered after the thief was seen walking it away from the area by the owner. Other thefts this month include lead from a roof in Brockenhurst and metal cabling from Brockenhurst train station.

Investigations are still on going into the fire at the pony sales at Beaulieu Road where a car was driven into the site and set alight. Since that incident there have been three other fires that appear to have been started deliberately. They were at the nature reserve at Butts Ash, on Beaulieu Road at Brockenhurst and the Marchwood inclosure. If you see anyone starting a fire call 999 immediately. Also this month we have received lots of reports of people having BBQs in the Forest, especially at Blackwater car park, on the Ornamental Drive and at Boltons Bench. You are not allowed to have BBQs or start a fire anywhere in the New Forest.

In other incidents this month, four cars on the same road in Lyndhurst had their wing mirrors damaged on the same night, while two other cars in the village were scratched and had a rear window smashed. A fence has been cut leading to a farm in Brockenhurst, more criminal damage has been caused to the East Boldre village hall and another car, this time at Stoney Cross, had its tyres slashed.

Don't forget you can contact any of us on the New Forest Heart Police team on the details below **but please use 999, 101 or the on line reporting page on the Hampshire Police website to record crimes or incidents of anti-social behaviour**

> For Lyndhurst and the north of the Forest its steven.norris@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07554 775477 richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07554 775469

> And for the Forest south of Lyndhurst its jason.eastwood@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07979 707939 vicki.pressey@hampshire.pnn.police.uk 07785 500952

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