

Please follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale and Twitter @tvpsouthandvale for regular updates from the South and Vale neighbourhood teams.

Priorities

Rural Crime – With the harvest well under way certain rural crimes such as hunting and hare coursing have started to increase again. We work closely with our landowners, farmers and gamekeepers and soon will be working with them on various operations trying to combat these offences.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) – Reports of ASB remains low at this time across the area. On average we receive 25–30 calls per month on our area about ASB. During July we received 19. Patrols in hot spot areas continue on a daily basis and also with dedicated foot patrols where the whole neighbourhood team are out together targeting areas will be continuing to help keep ASB reports low.

You said we did

Lack of police visibility – at the end of June and also at the beginning of August the whole Wantage and Grove Neighbourhood team put aside two days each month for high visibility foot patrols. During June we all spent two days on foot patrol in Wantage town centre, visiting shops and speaking to members of the public. On the 1st and 2nd August we spent one day patrolling Wantage town centre on foot and then the other day patrolling around Grove. Feedback from people we spoke to were really supportive and generally understanding of the pressures we face with available time for patrols and happy to see us out and about on foot. We will be continuing to set aside two days a month for dedicated high visibility patrols on the area.

In July the Neighbourhood team attended The Fire Services open day, Millbrook School Fete, Childrey Fest and What the Fest which were all well attended and gives us great opportunities to meet and speak to the public. During these events we get many people coming up to us to say hi, ask us advice and also increases or visibility in the community.

Offenders brought to justice

- Natalie Alicia James, 46, of Larkhill, Wantage, admitted stealing goods worth £413.40 from Waitrose in Abingdon, and driving without due care and attention on Abbey Close, Abingdon, on 20th April. Fined £300, must pay £75 compensation, a £30 victim surcharge and £150 court costs. Five penalty points.
- Liam Hissey, 18, of Mably Grove, Wantage, admitted to taking a vehicle without consent of the owner and causing damage of less than £5,000, driving without insurance and driving without a suitable licence in Grove on New Year's Day. 120 hours of unpaid work. Victim surcharge £85 and costs £85.
- Alex Moore, 18, of Orchard Way, Wantage, was convicted of racially aggravated abuse directed at a woman on 2nd and 5th July. Banned from entering Market Place, Wantage, for eight weeks. Restraining order made. Compensation £150.
- Matthew Orpin-Hipperson, 19, of The Causeway, Steventon, admitted drink-driving in High Street, Steventon on May 29. Had 53mcg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, exceeding the limit of 35mcg. Fined £275, must pay a victim surcharge of £30 and court costs of £85. Disqualified from driving for 14 months.

Crime prevention advice

With the summer holidays here, individuals are often more exposed to travel booking frauds when looking for last minute package deals / cheap flights. Whether paying upfront for a family holiday or simply booking a flight, payments are transferred only to discover that the holiday / airline ticket does not exist and was sold to you by a bogus travel company. Fraudsters will often lure in potential customers with low prices and 'one time only' offers that are simply too good to pass up, requesting payment by the preferred method of direct bank transfer.

Protect Yourself

Avoid responding to unsolicited calls, texts or emails offering holidays at incredibly low prices. Whenever possible, pay for your holiday by credit card as it offers increased protection. Always remember to look for the 'https' and **locked padlock icon** in the address bar before entering your payment details. Never feel pressured to make a booking for fear that you will miss out on this 'low price' opportunity. If you have never used the company before, take your time to do some online research to ensure they are reputable. Should you make a flight or hotel booking through a travel company, feel free to separately check with the hotel / airline that your booking does indeed exist.

Future events/meetings/active communities

PCSO Chris Ratcliff will be at Wantage Sainsbury's Café between 6pm - 7pm on Friday 31st August 2018 where he will be available to speak to the public about any local concerns.



PCSO recruitment

PCSOs are the face of the Police providing a highly visible presence on the streets of our communities. TVP are currently recruiting PCSOs. Please visit www.thamesvalley.police.uk/joinus for more information about the role and how to apply!

TVP force open day

Every summer, Thames Valley Police opens its doors to the public for its force Open Day. Our force Open Day helps to promote greater understanding of the work of our various departments and specialist teams here at Thames Valley Police. This annual event is hosted at our Training Centre at Sulhamstead House, in Sulhamstead, near Reading (postcode RG7 4DX). **The date for our next force Open Day is Saturday 18 August, 10am – 4pm.** Come and see the police horses, helicopters, the museum and much more!

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 WantageandGroveNHPT@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.

