

Here is the latest Wantage and Grove Neighbourhood Policing update from PCSO Keith Jennings.

May has seen Thames Valley Police provide security for the Royal wedding and several neighbourhood officers and PCSOs were called upon to assist. The month also saw the Thames Valley police awards. Recognition in these is highly coveted and PC Darren James won in the 'Neighbourhood Officer of the Year' category. He says that he felt "very humbled" by the award and asked that I do not mention it; so I won't.

### Parking

Wantage PCSOs are raising their profile with increased foot patrols in Wantage town centre and will take more attention to illegal parking so please be more thoughtful where you choose to leave your car.

### Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Please continue to report all ASB to us. The action of increasing high-visibility foot patrols is a direct result of your requests. A group of young people has been identified as being involved in this behaviour in Wantage and we are working to disrupt the group and deter offences.

### Offenders brought to justice

A man in his 20s is being investigated for a criminal damage in Wantage town centre recently. Thank you to a young female who helped provide a positive identification and allowed officers to corroborate other evidence to the offence.

### Scams Awareness Month

Scams Awareness Month 2018 is taking place through June. We want to help you to identify scams and take action by reporting any suspicious activity! Some of the various Scams are listed below:

- Fraudsters pretending to be from the police cold calling members of the public and telling them that their bank account has been compromised by criminals. The fraudster suggests that the person should transfer their bank balance into a 'safe' police bank account.
- Fraudsters pretending to be from the police attending people's addresses and retrieving the person's card and PIN.
- Members of the public receiving letters on bank headed paper informing them that their account has been the subject of a fraud. The letter advises them to transfer their funds to a 'safe' account and that an official will be in contact to provide them with a new card and PIN.
- Fraudsters contacting members of the public requesting them to cut their cards in half because their account has been compromised. They are then asked to post the cut card to an address where fraudsters simply tape the card together again and can use the details to commit fraud.
- Police advice is that if you receive such a call, end it immediately. If you have elderly or vulnerable family members, friends, or neighbours, let them know about the scam.

Please be aware that:

- Your bank will never attend your home
- Your bank and/or the police will never collect your bank card
- Your bank and/or the police will never ask for your PIN

If you receive this type of call, report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040, or via their website. In an emergency, dial 999 or 101 non-emergency number.

### New South and Vale Facebook site

To complement our other channels of communication we have launched the South and Vale Facebook page. If you are on Facebook please visit [www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale](http://www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale) and like/follow us.

### What the neighbourhood team have been doing

- On the weekend of 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May the Scott Marathon bike event took place at Wantage Football Club ground and featured a mass trial of 600+ cyclists tackling the Ridgeway. PCSOs Walcott-Smith and Jennings helped manage the start and finish and were very impressed by the determination of riders as young as 10 and as old as 60.
- The neighbourhood team provided officers and PCSOs to police 'The Wedding'
- A police team raised by Sgt Hickman played a 'not so' friendly match against the 'Sweat Box' youth club.

### Have your say meeting

PCSO Keith Jennings will be in the library on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> at 2pm please come and have a chat.

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk). Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) today. Please also follow us on Twitter @TVPSouthandVale.



