



## Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter For Wantage Area



## Priorities

**Rural crime:** Rural crime remains a priority. We received several reports of hare coursing in the area last month. Three people were arrested and charged just outside our border and are currently waiting for a court hearing. We will continue to patrol and we will be carrying out a rural operation this month in order to deter/prevent this and increase awareness. If you see anything suspicious please call us immediately on 101 or 999 if it is happening at the time.

## Fraud and identity theft

We continue to receive reports of telephone banking fraud along with other scams. Understanding how to keep your personal details and identity safe is one of the best ways to prevent yourself from falling victim to fraud or identity theft.

Be cautious of anyone asking for your personal or financial details. Your bank, the police and other reputable companies will never ask for this type of information over email or the phone.

### ***To protect yourself:***

- never give personal details to anyone who contacts you unexpectedly
  - don't carry documents or bank cards unless you need them
- always shred unwanted documents such as bills, bank statements and even mail
  - keep personal documents in a secure place
- report lost or stolen bank cards and personal documents immediately
- check bank statements as soon as they arrive and always report any unusual activity
  - always keep your card in sight when paying at a shop or restaurant
  - don't respond to unsolicited phone calls or emails

### ***Online:***

If you shop, bank or use your card online, it's important to take a few simple steps to make sure your details are protected.

To help keep your details secure:

- create a strong password and use different ones for different accounts
- only enter card details on secure websites, look for the padlock icon in the address bar
  - check the address starts with 'https://', the letter 's' means it's secure
- make sure all devices have up-to-date anti-virus software and a firewall installed
- always use the latest version of your web browser and regularly check for updates
  - never respond to suspicious emails asking for personal information

If you would like any further information on the different types of fraud and advice on what to do please visit:

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/online-fraud2>

## Offenders brought to justice

Joe Mackellar has been disqualified from driving for 17 months on the 30/10/19 after providing a positive breath test for drink driving.

## What the neighbourhood team have been doing

The Wantage Neighbourhood Team with Thames Valley Police Cadets attended Dickensian evening in Wantage town centre, which is a themed late night shopping event in December.

The Cadets received a very positive response from everyone they spoke to.

We also carried out an operation to prevent shoplifting and remove beggars in the town over the Christmas period.

Have Your Say meetings

Please come along and speak to a PCSO about any local concerns:

- Sunday 16th February, 3:30pm – 4pm outside the shop in East Hendred.
- Wednesday 5th February, at 10am – 11am at the Vale and Downland Museum in Wantage.

**Please get in touch/follow us using the following:**

E-mail: [WantageandGroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:WantageandGroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)

Twitter: @tvpsouthandvale

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale](http://www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale)

Phone: 101

Always phone 999 in an emergency

***Message Sent By***

Julia Williams (Police, Neighbourhood Policing Admin, South Oxon and Vale)