

Hello and welcome to the May 2023 Beat Report for the New Forest Heart area. Your team is PC 24901 Mark ROBERTS and PCSO 14495 Richard WILLIAMS.

In June we will be holding the following meetings -

On Thursday 8th June we will again be at the village hall in the main car park in Beaulieu at 10.30am, then an hour later outside STREETS IRONMONGERS on Brookley Road in Brockenhurst from 11.30am and then at the East Boldre Village Hall at 12.30pm. This month's public meeting with our partners at Forestry England, the New Forest National Park Authority, Country Watch and NFDOG is at 8am on Sunday 11th June at the Dibden Inclosure.

In June we will also be joined by the Community Safety Team from New Forest District Council at public meetings at 8am on Thursday 8th June in the Deerleap Inclosure and at 8am on Wednesday 14th June at the Wilverley Inclosure. These meetings are a really good opportunity for you to come and ask us and members of the Council any questions you have about where you live.

The meeting at the Open Door café in Minstead Church is on Thursday 15th June at 2pm and on Tuesday 20th join us at the Post Office in the Happy Cheese in Ashurst at 11am. Finally we will be at Bramshaw Village Stores at 8am on Thursday 22nd and at 9am on the same day we will be outside the Bartley Post Office. If you can't make any of these meetings you can always call or email us on the details below but to report a crime or any anti-social behaviour dial 101 or go the Hampshire and IOW Police website. Of course if it's an emergency always call 999.

This month we are going to start with some good news about OP MOUNTIE, our multi agency operation targeted at reducing speed and animal deaths across the New Forest. On Wednesday 17th May we spent two hours on site at Kings Hat and Pig Bush and stopped only one driver who was given advice from our partners for recording a speed of 46mph. Thanks to everyone who stuck to the speed limit on that day and always throughout the Forest, we do appreciate it.

Only three outbuildings were broken into this month, and they were in Brockenhurst, Bramshaw and Fritham and three, four ton bags of gravel and a lawn mower were stolen. Also this month several of the allotments in Ashurst were targeted and some property was stolen. This all happened on one night and our advice is that if you do have an allotment anywhere in the Forest DON'T leave anything valuable on site because they are easy targets for thieves.

As expected, now that the sun is out and the holiday season has started, we have seen an increase in the number of bicycles stolen in May and also the number of theft from motor vehicles. Three bikes have been taken overnight from Ashurst Campsite and two from Long Meadow Campsite. All of them were locked up but thieves are cutting through locks so please if you are bringing your bikes to the Forest keep them inside or take off a wheel or saddle or both. If you have friends coming to the Forest can you let them know that bike thieves are active as are those who will steal from vehicles parked in the Forest's car parks. If you leave valuables on display or hide them in the boot you are making yourselves a target for thieves so please take everything with you. Car parks targeted this month were in Brook, outside the scout hut in Copythorne where other vehicles were also damaged, at a hotel in Brockenhurst, on Penn Common and in Bramshaw Wood car park.

Other thefts include a tractor from Sethorns Campsite, a car from the roadside in Lyndhurst, a land rover from Minstead which was thankfully later recovered, an outboard motor from a boat in Bucklers Hard and eggs, yes eggs, from outside a farm in Winsor.

We have already had reports of people having BBQs and open fires on the Forest. This is of course extremely dangerous but will also form part of the new Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for the Forest which will be in place very soon. This will mean that fines can be issued for this and for the feeding and petting of the animals on the Forest. You can find out more details about the PSPO on the New Forest District Council website.

Criminal damage has also been caused to a couple of containers on the SSE site at Minstead, a gate at a farm in Netley Marsh and a vehicle left on the site of the Brockenhurst Fire Station.

If you have any questions or queries about issues affecting you and your community please contact us and we will do our best to answer any questions you have.

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