

# Adur NHW Newsletter



## Shoreham & Southwick Issue

April 2023

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### Your Committee Members:

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## Shoreham & Southwick Burglaries & Vehicle Crimes

Reference No.	Date Time	Location	Details
1282 05/03/2023	At approximately 21:30 Hrs 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Manor Hall Road Southwick	The back door lock on a property was broken and removed. No entry was gained and nothing stolen.
0282 18/03/2023	Between 8 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> March	The Green Southwick	An electric bike was stolen from a garage.
0413 17/03/2023	At approximately 20:50 Hrs 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Croft Avenue Southwick	A Range Rover was stolen from a driveway.
1603 17/03/2023	At approximately 12:15 Hrs 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Holmbush Centre Car Park Upper Shoreham Road Shoreham-by Sea	A purse containing cash and other items was stolen from a Ford Fiesta when the female victim was distracted by a man.
0143 19/03/2023	Between 17 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> March	West Street Shoreham-by-Sea	A Ford Focus had its window broken and a wing mirror was damaged. Nothing was stolen from the vehicle.



## Partnership Engagement - Southwick Library

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April - 10:00 Hrs to 11:30 Hrs



If you would like to talk to someone about your safety at home and in the community, as well as any concerns you may have about anti-social behaviour and crime in Adur & Worthing, the Safer Communities Partnership will be hosting a pop up at Southwick library.



West Sussex residents are being warned not to throw batteries and electrical items away in their household bins as they could unintentionally start a fire.

Since August 2022, there have been 24 fires across the County Council's recycling and waste plants; evidence points to batteries being the leading cause.

Batteries contain hazardous metals and chemicals that harm the environment if they aren't responsibly recycled. They can become damaged from crushing during the collection and sorting process, causing paper, plastics, and other materials to catch alight.

Many items, such as e-cigarettes or vapes, contain 'hidden' batteries which people might not realise are there so it's important to dispose of them correctly to reduce the risk of them starting a fire once in the bin.

Deborah Urquhart, West Sussex County Council's Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, said: "These recent incidents highlight just how important it is to dispose of batteries and electrical items safely, and there are a number of ways you can do this.

"You can take old or broken electrical items to any of our recycling centres in West Sussex, or if your item is in good condition, you could consider donating it instead. Electricals contain valuable components such as metals, plastic and glass which can be recycled into new products."

You can also check to see whether your [district or borough council](#) offers a kerbside collection service for batteries or small electricals.

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service's Deputy Chief Fire Officer Mark Andrews, who is also the National Fire Chief's Council National Lead on Waste and Recycling Management, said:

"Batteries pose a serious risk when thrown away in general waste or recycling bins and it only takes one to start a fire.

"What may start as a small fire can quickly spread and become much larger inside a collection vehicle or at a waste transfer site. This puts staff at risk, disrupts services and can result in significant damage. It also puts pressure on our ability to attend other emergencies where lives could be at risk.

If you have old batteries to get rid of, please take them to your local recycling centre, or to a dedicated collection point which you can find in many shops and supermarkets that sell batteries.

## MDMA

Because MDMA cannot be obtained legally, the black market “manufactures” the drug with unknown quality controls and expertise. Sometimes dangerous variants of MDMA (such as the synthetic drug PMA) have been sold as MDMA. Because PMA's hallucinogenic effects take longer to appear, users may consume too much of the drug, which can result in overdose death.

On the 12th November 2020, MDMA claimed the life of Billy Mullin, who had settled in a career as a carer for adults with complex learning difficulties, and in which he felt fulfilled. Three days earlier, being Billy's 24th birthday, he had decided early the following morning, after a few drinks, to take MDMA. which led to a fatal heart attack.

Billy's mother Nicci Parish has since set up a charity Billy and Beyond (<https://billyandbeyond.co.uk>) which is also registered on Facebook and is aimed at supporting and enhance children and young people's mental wellbeing, increasing drug safety, awareness and providing a non-judgemental community for those who wish to share their experiences.

The charity has funding for local schools if they want to book drug education workshops and also has a parents' online workshop on Tuesday 25th April at 6.30pm which any parent/carers of a young person can book free of charge. It has a registration link on its Facebook page and is put on by the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation.

The Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation is a drug and alcohol education charity that aims to support young people to make safe choices about drugs and alcohol and reduce harm, which it does through increasing understanding of the effects and risks, and helping to develop life skills and resilience. It was set up in January 2014 by Tim and Fiona Spargo-Mabbs who - like Nicci - lost their 16-year-old son Daniel to a heart attack as a result of taking ecstasy.

Tim Drew

## Low-level crimes

In last month's *Worthing Journal*, Sentinel took Sussex Police to task for no longer bothering to inform the Press and public about low-level crimes, while mentioning that a whole series of such crimes had been listed in a Neighbourhood Watch leaflet that he had picked up at the library. (Presumably, he was referring to the monthly Worthing Neighbourhood Watch newsletter)

He does not appear to have asked whence Neighbourhood Watch had obtained that information.

Had he been a Neighbourhood Watch member and registered as such on the national Neighbourhood Watch database, he could have been receiving messages via email from Sussex Alert featuring crime reports for Adur and Worthing from Sussex Police on a weekly basis, in addition to the monthly Worthing Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter.

Sussex Alert is part of the Neighbourhood Alert network, which is a free messaging service providing recipients with alerts specific to their interests, and local area, from reliable sources since 2008. It is part of the National Neighbourhood Alert system, which is a secure online messaging system that allows authorised administrators - such as Sussex Police, Neighbourhood Watch and community groups - to send messages to those registered.

Data held on the Neighbourhood Watch Register is controlled by the Neighbourhood Watch Network – the umbrella organisation for England and Wales - and processed on its behalf by VISAV Ltd., which is a web design company based in Nottingham.

Through this network, Neighbourhood Watch and the Police can message over 100,000 people in Sussex, and many of those will forward messages on to social media. Neighbourhood Watch also sends selected key community messages on behalf of not-for-profit partner organisations such as the Office of Police & Crime Commissioner, County Councils, the NHS, Trading Standards and the Community Resilience team, to boost their own distribution networks where this is in the public interest.

A long overdue vote of thanks is due to David Hansford, who compiles and produces our Newsletter.

Tim Drew

# Unseen deadly danger

A safety warning has been issued after a person suffered a serious electric shock from the metal casing of a device bought on Amazon.

The device, a PoE (Power over Ethernet) switch, was supplied with a standard three-pin cable, commonly referred to as a 'kettle lead'. A sample lead was found to have the earth wire connected to the live pin, meaning the metal casing of the PoE device became live when plugged in.

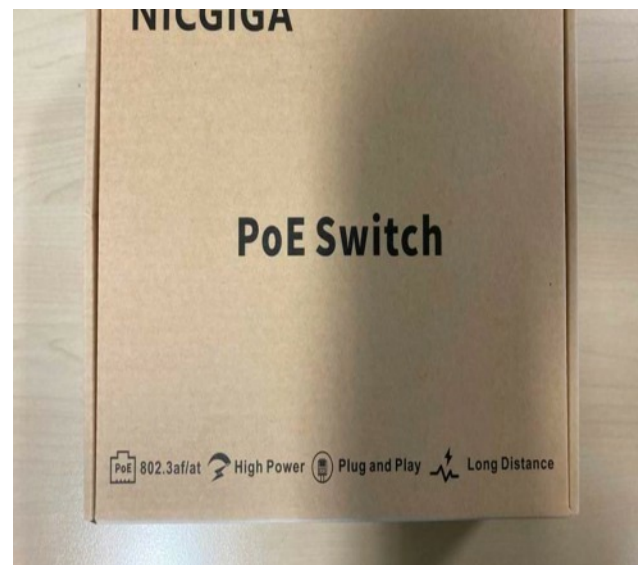
"The danger of this power lead was hidden inside a moulded plug, and it was inevitable the user would receive an electric shock," said Peter Aston, Trading Standards Team Manager. "It's only as a result of luck the reported accident didn't result in a fatality; although the resident is suffering long term nerve pain and remains under medical investigation."

The power lead was also fitted with an unsafe fuse which could have resulted in injury or fire. Trading Standards Officers took immediate steps to ensure these items were removed from sale and a product recall was undertaken. Details of that recall can be found [here](#).

Investigations found that the seller was based in China. "Our advice for anyone purchasing electrical products or power leads is to buy them from a reputable business in the UK", said Peter Aston. "Exercise care when buying something online that appears to be a particular bargain."

Duncan Crow, West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said: "The dangerous nature of this product is thankfully not something our Trading Standards Officers come across often, but the unseen deadly risk it posed is of great concern."

If you live in West Sussex and have bought an unsafe electrical product, you can let Trading Standards know by calling Citizens' Advice Consumer Service on 03454 040506 or by going online to [www.westsussex.gov.uk/tsreport](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/tsreport).



## Avast UK works in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch

and researches and develops computer security software. It has made three major predictions for 2023 relating to cyber crime.

The first of these is that ransomware will become an increasingly serious problem as cybercriminals use phishing attacks and other social engineering techniques to access the systems of both public and private organisations, with perhaps the most high-profile case yet involving the Lockbit ransomware attack on Royal Mail's international services in January.

The second is that scams will continue to be a favourite method for cyber criminals. The 2022 "Scamdemic" saw a variety of scams proliferating as cybercriminals pursued individuals worldwide. This may be partly due to software solutions that thwart cybercrimes becoming more sophisticated, making people easier targets than devices.

The third is that cybercrime as a business will become ever more sophisticated. Last year saw increased professionalisation including a ransomware group offering a bug bounty program. Perhaps even more worrying is the intrusion of cybercriminal recruiting into spaces which young people frequent.

But, while these trends might seem alarming, there are easy ways to protect yourselves, your families and your businesses. Avast has provided the following tips to avoid being scammed or becoming a ransomware victim: Research companies and websites before buying. No matter how urgent the offer may seem, or how badly you want the item or service, do your research first.

Pay with a credit card or trusted payment processor. Compared to debit cards and bank transfers, credit cards are far more secure.

Avoid unknown links and downloads. Scammers can use attachments and websites to infect your computer with malware.

Keep personal information to yourself. Many websites ask you to answer a series of security questions in case you need to recover your password. Remember which information you've set as security measures, and never share it.

Secure yourself online. If a website offers two-factor authentication, use it. Use strong, unique passwords on the websites you frequent, and store them more securely with a dependable password manager.



# Recycling Centres extend opening hours



Recycling Centres will soon be switching to extended summer opening hours – giving residents extra opportunities to recycle their household waste.

As many of us set to work tidying our gardens or clearing out our homes, recycling facilities are often very busy over the summer period. Extending the hours will help us cope with the extra demand.

From 1 April the Recycling Centre will be open for longer on the following days and times:

Shoreham-by-Sea: 9am to 6pm - Wednesday to Sunday

These hours will remain in place until 31 September and will not be affected by the bank holidays. Please remember that you will need to book a slot to attend the Recycling Centre.

Same-day appointments are available through the County Council Book to Recycle system, with some appointments available 14 days in advance if needed. There are a limited number of appointments per day and they are booked on a first come, first served basis. You can book a slot at

[www.westsussex.gov.uk/booktorecycle](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/booktorecycle)

Deborah Urquhart, County Council Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change said: “By extending our opening hours during the warmer weather even more residents will be able to visit their local recycling centre.

“Our Book to Recycle system significantly reduces waiting times; it takes less than a minute to book your slot and same-day bookings are available. Recycling all you can reduces waste, saves energy, helps tackle climate change, and is an important part of our environmental commitments in Our Council Plan. I would encourage everyone to recycle as much of their waste as possible.”

You can recycle almost anything at Recycling Centres, from plant pots to vacuum cleaners. For a handy A-Z and more information on how to book an appointment, go to: [www.westsussex.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/recycling)

## Newsletter

If you received this Newsletter by email it means you are registered correctly on the Alert System, but please let us know if you change your address or phone numbers.

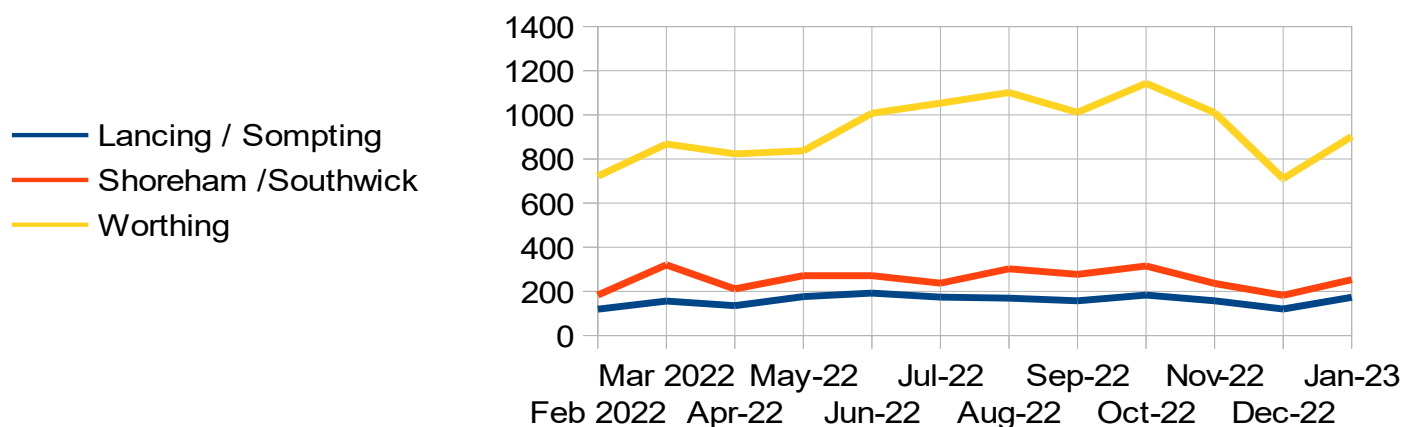
If you did not receive the Newsletter by email you need to register at :

<http://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk> - it's free .

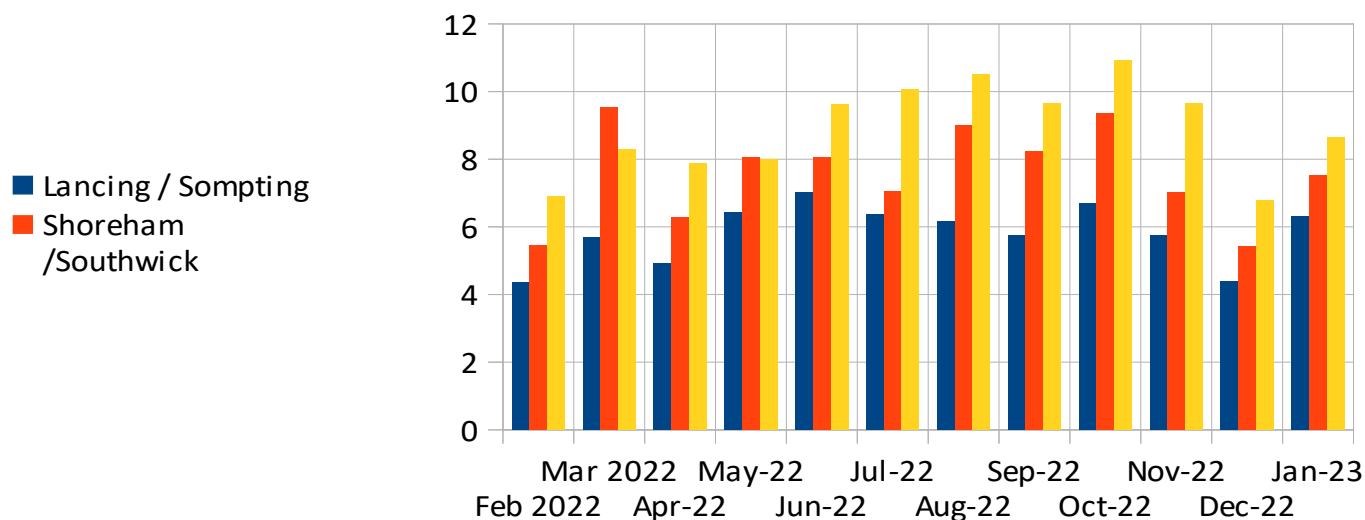
## Crime Statistics January 2023

January 2023	Buckingham	Eastbrook	Hillside	Marine 1	Southlands	Southwick	St Mary's	St Mary's	St	Sub Total
						Green	North	South	Nicholas	
Antisocial Behaviour	1	4	0	2	3	2	4	5	0	21
Bike Theft	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	6
Burglary	0	1	1	0	0	5	1	2	0	10
Criminal Damage	0	2	1	3	2	5	3	7	1	24
Drugs	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	3
Other Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Theft	2	2	2	3	4	3	2	3	0	21
Weapons	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Public Order	0	2	2	1	2	2	6	0	3	18
Robbery	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Theft Shop	0	0	1	0	0	7	2	35	0	45
Theft Person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicle Crime	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	7
Violence & Sex Offences	3	16	17	6	12	12	8	12	8	94
Totals	6	32	25	17	23	41	27	69	13	253

### Crimes February 2022 to January 2023



### Crimes per 1000 of Population



See the latest Alerts at : [https:// worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/](https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/)