

## **Sussex Alerts- Brighton & Hove Police**

*Thursday 30th November 2023*

### **Neighbourhood Policing Team**

November got off to a very damp start and the weather has not been kind to any of us. Despite the storms and inclement weather we have had a very busy few weeks and have seen various weeks of action taking place across the month.

#### **Op Sceptre**

Op Sceptre is a national campaign tackling knife crime through a period of intensified action including education, engagement, and enforcement work. Alongside our enforcement work across the week, our teams were out engaging with members of the local community, visiting the university, speaking with students, visiting schools, visiting taxi ranks, conducting knife sweeps, carrying out test purchasing, holding street briefings and visiting local retailers.

It was once again a hugely successful week (results will be published on our website in due course) and whilst the week of action has come to a close, I want to reassure you that our work in this area continues.

#### **Op Calibre**

Operation Calibre is a week-long national campaign to tackle personal robbery, which is a significant contributor to violent crime across the country.

Last year the operation saw 385 arrests made by forces, with 427 schools and 126 local community events talking about the dangers of personal robbery taking place.

During this week of action our teams have been out carrying out enforcement and prevention work including taking intelligence led action against robbery offenders, carrying out educational input and conducting hot spot patrolling.

Further advice about personal safety can be found on dedicated pages of our website [here](#)

#### **Adult Safeguarding Week**

We supported the Ann Craft Trust Safeguarding Adults week and shared important messaging throughout the week through our social media channels to help spread the messages far and wide.

The aim of the week was “to highlight key safeguarding issues, start conversations and raise awareness of safeguarding best practice”.

Our Neighbourhood Policing Team focussed on fraud and were out speaking to adults about everything fraud and scam related. They had a full diary for the week and visited Jubilee Library, Marks & Spencer, King Alfred Leisure Centre, Barclays Bank and CAMEO Bishop Hannington Church to name just a few!! We hope that the information they shared was useful and if you are part of a

community group or business who feel you would benefit from some advice in this area, please get in touch and we can arrange a PCSO visit.

Our most recent Surrey & Sussex Police Fraud newsletter is attached to this bulletin for your information.

It is hard to believe that December is tomorrow and the Christmas countdown is starting. We always very much look forward to seeing the city light up and to seeing all the festive activities unfold across the month. I would just like to use this opportunity to remind everyone that we do often see an increase in theft and burglary at this time of year so just stay vigilant. Keep personal belongings safe if you are out shopping, stick to well-lit areas, lock doors and windows at home and be mindful if you are receiving deliveries and ensure they are not left where they may be vulnerable to theft. More advice can be found on our website and keep your eye on our social media channels where we publish advice and tips regularly.

### **Click-Call-Connect**





We simply cannot stress enough the importance of reporting but your decision about how to report can be the difference between saving a life or not. It is vital phone lines are kept clear for people who need to contact police during a genuine emergency and need assistance urgently.

Our Click Call Connect campaign is designed to help you decide how best to report a non-emergency.

All reports made online are assessed by one of our skilled Contact Officers – the very same people who you would normally speak to if you called 101. 101 does receive a high level of calls and so by reporting online you do not have to spend your time queuing to speak with us, it also leaves the lines clear for anyone who does not have access to the internet.

 Click report online at <https://www.sussex.police.uk/reportcrime>

 Call 101 when you don't require an urgent response. In an emergency always call 999.

 Connect with us face-to-face at your nearest police station or contact point. Contact your local policing team for community matters.

**Karen Osborn**

**Chief Inspector**

## **News**

### **Man sentenced for rape of young girl in Brighton**



A man has been sentenced for multiple incidents of rape on a vulnerable girl under the age of 13 in Brighton.

Niall O'Sullivan groomed the girl, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, by sending messages with her on a mobile phone app. Read more here: [Man sentenced for rape of young girl in Brighton | Sussex Police](#)

### **Brighton fast food worker jailed for rape**



A fast-food restaurant worker who raped a woman in Brighton has been jailed.

Bogdan Cioropa, 28, of Staplefield Drive in Brighton, raped his victim – a woman who was 17 years old at the time – at a property in Brighton on Friday, 9 April, 2021. Full report [here](#).

### **Brighton man convicted of sexual offences against a child**



A Brighton man charged with sexual offences against a child has been convicted at court.

Callum Thewlis, 24, of Moulsecoomb Way, was charged with two counts of the rape of a girl aged 13-15 and two counts of engaging in penetrative sexual activity with a girl aged 13-15. Full details [here](#).

### **Man jailed after Brighton and Hove crime spree**



A man has been sentenced to two years and three months in prison after committing a series of crimes across Brighton and Hove.

Reece Faria, 28, from Brighton appeared at Hove Crown Court last Thursday (November 16) after pleading guilty on October 6 to five burglaries, two thefts, two counts of fraud and one count of handling stolen goods. Read more here: [Man jailed after Brighton and Hove crime spree | Sussex Police](#)

## **Appeals**

### **Appeal for witnesses after Jewish Refugee memorial is damaged in Brighton**



Police are appealing for witnesses and information following damage caused to a memorial tree in Preston Park, Brighton.

The incident happened overnight between Saturday, November 4 and Sunday, November 5. Read the full appeal here: [Appeal for witnesses after Jewish Refugee memorial is damaged in Brighton | Sussex Police](#)

## Appeal following bike and scooter thefts in Brighton



Police are appealing for information following two incidents in Edward Street, Brighton.

Two electric scooters were reported stolen from an underground garage between 13 September and 7 October and an electric bike was reported stolen from the same garage between 4 October and 7 October.

If you have any information, or saw anything suspicious, contact police online or call 101 quoting serial 1044 of 7/10.

## Road Safety Week 2023

Every day, six children are killed or seriously injured on UK roads. Remember, 20's plenty on roads near schools.

When it comes to road safety, speed matters. [www.brake.org.uk/road-safety-week](http://www.brake.org.uk/road-safety-week)

**The faster a vehicle is travelling,  
the longer it takes to stop.**



**Slowing down gives you more  
time to avoid a crash.**



## Violence Against Women and Girls

'16 Days of Activism' is a global initiative, seeking to galvanize action to end violence against women and girls around the world.

The 16 Days run from 25th November to the 10th December.

West Sussex County Council and East Sussex County Council are hosting a webinar in support of this initiative and invite you to attend. Book online [here](#)



We want to reach as many women in Sussex as possible so that, in turn, we can help build a strong picture in our efforts to continue to protect women and girls and #ChangeTheStory.

To further understand the public's perceptions-and to continue our efforts, we're running a survey to find out women and girls' lived experience of VAWG.

The link for the survey is here: <https://www.sussex.police.uk/police-forces/sussex-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/violence-against-women-and-girls/>

### Op Sceptre



Are you familiar with the law on carrying a knife?

In England, it is illegal to:

- Sell a knife to anyone under 18, unless it is a knife with a folding blade that is three inches long or less.
- Carry a knife in public without good reason, unless it is a knife with a folding blade that is three inches long or less.
- Carry, buy or sell any banned knife. • Use any knife (even if it is a legal one) in a threatening way.

The police can stop and search anyone they suspect of carrying a knife.

The maximum penalty for carrying a knife is four years in prison and an unlimited fine.

If someone you are with uses a knife while you are with them, you could get the same sentence.

An automatic prison sentence is handed to anyone convicted twice of carrying a knife.

Please share this information with your family, children and friends to increase awareness around the consequences of carrying a knife – It's not worth it!

### **Beat The Burglar**



Now the darker nights are well and truly drawing in, don't let the burglars win. Prevention is the best defence against burglary. 🔒 Keep ladders inside locked sheds and out of sight 📱 Don't advertise you're away on social media 🗝️ Don't leave keys under plant pots or doormats 🏠 Keep valuables away from windows.

Find out more about how to protect your home [here](#):

### **Night Time Economy**

We continue to be aware of reports of people having their mobile phones stolen when out on a night out.

A group of 2-3 men are approaching members of the public and offering to sell them Nitrous Oxide/NOS balloons. Once an exchange has taken place, they then offer to add their contact details into the victim's phone. When these males have the phone, they then run, leaving them with access to the unlocked phone including banking details.

Use of nitrous oxide can be dangerous and it is now a criminal offence to be in possession of this Class C drug.

We urge you to stay vigilant and think SMART!

🔒 SECURITY – Ensure your security features (PIN, tracking etc) are enabled on your phone

💬 MINDFUL – Keep your phone on you at all times - use a security strap, keep it in a zipped pocket and keep it out of sight in busy places

👁️ AWARE – Be aware of your surroundings and only use your phone when safe to do so

❌ REFUSE - Don't hand your phone over to strangers under any circumstances

💛 TRUST – Trust your instincts, if something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't.

Call 999 if you feel in danger, or if you see our officers please talk to them!

### **Counter Terrorism Policing**

We're working with @terrorismpolice to keep Brighton & Hove safe. Your safety is our priority. If you see something that doesn't feel right, tell staff, security or report online at [gov.uk/ACT](https://gov.uk/ACT)

Your safety is our priority. When you're out stay alert for:

- Anyone filming exits, entrances or CCTV
- Unattended bags
- Anything that doesn't feel right

If you see something that doesn't feel right, tell security. In an emergency call 999.







For non-emergency incidents or crime prevention advice, click [www.sussex.police.uk](http://www.sussex.police.uk), (If you report a crime online, we will assess it in the same way as a 101 call).

Call 101 when you don't require an urgent response. In an emergency when life is threatened or there is immediate danger always call 999.

Connect with us face-to-face at a police station or contact the local policing team at [www.sussex.police.uk/area/your-area](http://www.sussex.police.uk/area/your-area).

If you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, you can contact us using TypeTalk on 18000 or by sending a text to 65999.

Follow your local Police team on social media, find us on  and 