

October 2011

Freckleton Neighbourhood Watch Update



PC Paul Edson

Awaiting Photo

PCSO Carly Smith

Your Top Priorities

You've told us your top problems for us to tackle are:

- Continue reassurance around the Lowe Lane area
- Speeding issues along Kirkham Road

Last month you told us of speeding traffic along Kirkham Road... Speed awareness has been completed in the area and the speed monitoring van has been placed on Kirkham Road at various times. This has seen a reduction in speeding this month

Continuing reassurance around the lower lane area following recent issues of criminal damage...

Patrols have increased in the area. Arrests have been made for breach of ASBO. This has seen a reduction in problems. van was placed on Kirkham Road at various times.

Public consultation — all welcome

Date	Time	Location
2nd November PACT	18.30pm	Freckleton Village Hall

Alcohol seized from teens in anti-social behaviour crack down

POLICE seized nearly 100 bottles and 30 cans of beer and alcopops from children during a summer crack down on booze-fuelled anti-social behaviour.

Police officers and PCSOs from the Kirkham and Wesham neighbourhood police teams carried out extra patrols in local parks over the summer months. This followed complaints from residents that young people were congregating in the evenings to drink, and then becoming a nuisance to those living nearby and in some cases even committing crime.

Anyone who was underage and found to have alcohol with them had it seized. They were given a youth referral notice and their parents were informed.

Sgt Niamh O'Donoghue, neighbourhood policing, said: "A surprisingly large amount of alcohol was seized, which means either the youths were able to buy this from retailers who were not making the appropriate ID checks, or adults have been irresponsible and have given the alcohol to the children or bought it on their behalf.

"Not only can alcohol be damaging to a young person's health, but when drunk they become vulnerable and susceptible to harm. A lot of reports of anti-social behaviour and crime are fuelled by alcohol, which is why we will continue cracking down on those who sell, or give, alcohol to people who are underage."

Test purchase operations will continue in conjunction with Lancashire Trading Standards to target underage sales of alcohol in off licenses and supermarkets.

Sgt O'Donoghue added: "We are keen to keep the momentum going, especially up to and including the Halloween and Bonfire Night period. I would also like to warn youngsters that they could face arrest if they are drunk in a public place and are acting in a disorderly manner."

To report incidents of youths drinking in public places contact 0845 1 25 35 45.



Darker Nights As the dark nights draw in criminals and opportunist thieves think there is less chance of being caught so we are asking residents to be vigilant and look out for one another. By giving a little extra thought to security and adopting simple routines, householders can secure their property and help make life difficult for offenders

Top Tips for beating the burglars:

- Don't give thieves a window of opportunity - Fit and use good quality locks on doors and windows and ensure they are closed, even when you are inside.
- Keep valuables and keys in a safe place, out of sight and at a distance away from windows and doors where they can be snatched. (Opportunist thieves take advantage of unlocked doors and can very quickly step inside and snatch items such as handbags, purses and laptops.)
- Make your home appear occupied when out or away by using timer switches or leaving a light on.
- Consider installing outside security lighting and a burglar alarm.
- Don't open your door to unexpected callers – check their identity first using a door viewer or a door chain. Always check the identity of business callers as identification cards will always be carried and readily offered. If in doubt, keep them out. Genuine callers will always provide a contact number for their head office in order for you to the nature of their work.
- Lock away ladders, garden tools and other items that burglars could use.
- Remember – if you can get into your home without your keys – so could a burglar.
- Remove all property from your vehicle when you leave it unattended. Keep your car in a secure garage or on the driveway of your home. If you park in the street make sure it is locked and in a well lit area.

Court Round Up

A 22 year old st annes male has been sentenced to 8 months imprisonment for theft of a pedal cycle in Lytham and damage to a vehicle in Freckleton whilst already on a suspended sentence for burglary.

A 27 year old male has pleaded guilty to driving above the alcohol limit after being stopped on Marsden Street in Kirkham. He has been disqualified for 18 months with costs of £380.00.

A 40 year old male has been sentenced to 20 months imprisonment following 3 burglaries in the Lytham, Little Plumptton and Esprick areas.

Catalytic converter thefts lead to warning to car owners

CAR owners are being asked to store vehicles away at night where possible following a series of catalytic converter thefts in Lytham and St Annes.

A number of vehicles in the towns have been targeted for the metallic items, with thieves cutting them out from underneath vehicles.

Motorists are now being advised to keep vehicles locked in garages overnight and to consider using other crime prevention devices, such as security lights on their driveways, as added protection against thieves.

PC Kirsty Bargh, neighbourhood policing, said: "Scrap metal prices are high so anything metallic is tempting to thieves. A missing catalytic converter may not be instantly noticeable when you approach your car – but the cost of replacing it will certainly be noticeable, so we'd ask motorists to remain vigilant and take some simple crime prevention measures to keep their vehicles safe."

Anyone with information about the thefts is asked to contact police on 0845 1 25 35 45.

Local Crime Figures

Figures for	September 2010	September 2011	%+ or -
Freckleton Wards			
All criminal damage	2	4	100%
Domestic Burglaries	0	0	No change
Vehicle crime (theft of and from)	0	0	No change
All violent crime	5	2	-60%