

## Sussex Alerts- Brighton & Hove Police

**Saturday August 31st 2024**

*I'd like to start this monthly bulletin by thanking you, members of our community, for taking the time to read our divisional newsletter. We try to include the main highlights of work which have taken place across the month however if there is something else you would like to hear about or to be included, then please do send a reply back to us via Sussex Alerts and we will do our best to accommodate any requests.*

*August has been a particularly busy month for us and the team here in Brighton and Hove has worked tirelessly in some challenging circumstances.*

*Earlier in the month the whole country were rocked by the tragic events that occurred in Southport that resulted in 3 young girls losing their lives. The criminal disorder which ensued understandably created unease and concern across our communities. Protests took place across the country and here in Brighton our officers were mobilised in response to potential criminal disorder on Wednesday 07 August. Around 2000 members of the public gathered on Queens Road and a largely peaceful protest took place.*

*Echoing Assistant Chief Constable Paul Courts words, I would also like to thank communities here in Brighton and Hove for their support and engagement in the lead up, during and after the event.*

### Hotspot Policing

*In February 2024, the Home Office announced a one-year funding boost for police forces to crack down on anti-social behaviour, building on the hotspot approaches tested in 10 pilot areas in the previous year.*

*As a result of this funding, earlier this year Sussex Police introduced our Hotspot Policing Team – A unit dedicated to tackling anti-social behaviour and serious violence in areas with relatively high concentrations of crime.*

*Hotspot policing enables us to deploy additional police patrols to where they are needed most and so we are working closely with partners to address the issues that matter to our local communities.*

*By increasing visible uniformed patrols, we are not just deterring unwanted behaviour but providing a reassuring presence in areas where the public feel most vulnerable. We will reclaim our town centres and make them more resilient to ASB so that our communities can thrive.*

*Hotspot policing patrols are already under way in the city and making a difference.*

*Please keep an eye on our website, social media channels and on Sussex Alerts for updates on hotspot policing here in Brighton and Hove.*

### Pride

*Of course, August in Brighton is the month of Pride and this year the event did not disappoint, even the weather fell in our favour!*

*Pride is an opportunity for everyone to show their support for the LGBT+ and other marginalised communities. Our support is steadfast and whilst Pride only takes place once a year, we are here to support 365 days a year. It is always an honour and privilege to be part of the colourful and vibrant celebration of diversity and inclusion and want to thank the organisers for welcoming us each year.*

### School visit round up

*August sees all schools closed for the summer and the students and teachers having a well-deserved rest! Over the school summer term, our Youth Officers visited every Year 6 class in the city of Brighton and Hove. That's 49 schools and just over 2,500 students.*

*The visits are tailored towards transition as the year 6 students prepare to embark upon their secondary school journey. At each school they presented information to help prepare the young people for their move and to put a spotlight on some of the important issues relevant to young people in our city - online safety, hate crime, antisocial behaviour, violence prevention and exploitation to name a few.*

*The team loved meeting all the students and, as they have come to expect, they presented the officers with some interesting questions to answer.*

*I hope the students have had an amazing summer and we look forward to meeting them again in their secondary school during our planned visits.*

### Sussex Alerts

*We are aiming to grow and develop our communications with our communities and we are increasing our use of Sussex Alerts to share important messages. Crime prevention advice, scam alerts, witness appeals, news, area updates...just some of the information we are beginning to send out and would like to provide more of to keep people informed about our work.*

*In order to make this effective and useful we want to increase the number of people signed up to the Sussex Alerts system.*

*Can you help us? Please share the link with your families and friends locally and help us to reach everyone in the community with the information that matters to them - <https://sussexalerts.co.uk/>. Thank you.*

**Simon Marchant**

**Chief Inspector**

### News

**Hove kidnapping: Further appeal for information**



Detectives investigating the kidnapping of a woman in Hove are appealing for witnesses who may have been approached by the occupant of the vehicle used in the offence to come forward. An investigation was launched after a woman was kidnapped after she was asked for directions by a man at the junction of Selborne Road and Church Road at 2am on Monday 5 August. The victim escaped from the vehicle a short distance later in First Avenue and managed to call for help.

If you have any information which could assist the investigation, [report online](#), or by calling 101 quoting Operation Grangeway. Alternatively, you can also contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or [report online](#) or use the [Major Incident Public Reporting Portal \(MIPP\)](#)

#### **Man arrested after indecent exposure in Brighton**

Police responded to a report on July 26 at around 1am, that a man had followed and exposed himself to two women and a man in the Gloucester Place area in Brighton.

On attending, officers detained a 42-year-old man from Brighton on suspicion of indecent exposure and for attempted assault of an emergency worker.

You can read more here -

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/news/man-arrested-after-indecent-exposure-in-brighton/>

#### **Taking zombie-style knives and machetes off our streets**

Sussex Police is supporting a nationwide scheme to allow owners of 'zombie' style knives and machetes to surrender them as part of the force's ongoing efforts to tackle knife crime and serious violence.

Forces across England and Wales will be holding the surrender and compensation scheme ahead of changes in legislation which are due to come into force from September 24.

It will become illegal to possess, sell, manufacture, and transport these dangerous weapons, marking a major step forward in making our communities safer.

You can read more about this scheme here -

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/news/taking-zombie-style-knives-and-machetes-off-our-streets/>

#### **Man charged with kidnapping woman in Hove**



A man has been charged with kidnapping after a woman was forced into a car in Hove in the early hours of 5 August.

Read more here - <https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/news/man-charged-with-kidnapping-woman-in-hove/>

## **Information & Advice**

### **Water Safety**



During the summer months it is often tempting to take a dip in the sea or possibly a river or lake if further inland.

However, it is easy to find yourself in deep unpredictable waters and RNLI have provided this life saving advice.

If you found yourself struggling in the water unexpectedly, your instinct would tell you to swim hard. But cold water shock could make you gasp uncontrollably. Then you could breathe in water and drown. Instead, you should Float to Live.

The best way to float is to tilt your head back with your ears submerged. Try to relax and breathe normally. You can gently move your hands to help you stay afloat if you need to. Spread your arms and legs out to improve stability – and it's OK if your legs sink, we all float differently. Once your breathing is under control, call for help or swim to safety.

[#FloatToLive](#)

## Crimestoppers



**Loss of security in their own homes**

40% of burglary victims are afraid to be alone in their property weeks following the incident.

If you have any information on burglaries in your neighbourhood, speak to our charity.

**Crimestoppers.**  
**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

[crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org)

Robbery, theft, and burglary harm communities and have a long-lasting impact on their victims.

Individuals not only suffer from the loss of their possessions, the invasion of privacy and violation of personal space, but some may experience emotional distress or be left with physical injuries.

If you have witnessed an incident of robbery, theft, or burglary, or have information about a crime tell Crimestoppers, and remain 100% anonymous. Always.

Speak up here: [spkl.io/2966](https://spkl.io/2966)

## Community Speedwatch Survey

👏 Can you help to reduce death and injury on our roads? 👏

Community Speedwatch is looking for volunteers in your area!

This is a vital role in helping to reduce anti-social driving and helping to prevent death and injury on our roads and full training will be given by Sussex Police.

✓ Sign up to a local scheme here ➡ [spkl.io/2148](https://spkl.io/2148) or contact Steve O'Connell, via email [CSW@sussex.police.uk](mailto:CSW@sussex.police.uk) or phone 07773486265 for more information.

[#Fatal5](#) [#SlowDown](#)

## Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Ever considered becoming a member of Neighbourhood Watch? No time like the present...

👏 There are membership opportunities to suit everyone at Neighbourhood Watch, and they're all free!

Whether you want accessible crime prevention advice, or want to volunteer and lead change in your community, you can do it all.

Find out why Neighbourhood Watch is for you: [spkl.io/1111](https://spkl.io/1111)

## Home Security

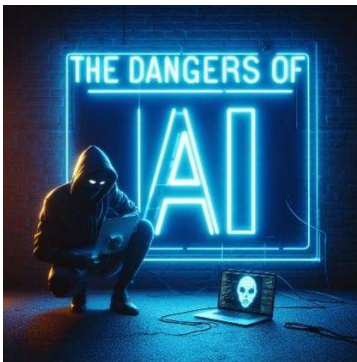
Autumn is on its way but while the warm weather is still here, make sure to keep your home safe by ensuring that gardens and outbuildings are secure.



- ✓ Ensure doors and windows are locked
- ✓ Put tools and ladders away
- ✓ Use a good quality lock or padlock on sheds and outbuildings
- ✓ Always keep side gates locked
- ✓ Consider covering windows with mesh
- ✓ Keep valuables hidden out of sight

Additionally, give consideration to whether you would hear someone entering your property if you are in the garden - it is advisable to keep those doors and windows closed and locked even though you are just outside!


[#OpMagpie](#)

### **Online Safety**



 You can see and register for upcoming webinars here. [Online Safety and Cyber Security Webinars | Eventbrite](#) 

Our Cyber Crime Team delivers free online presentations each week on a variety of topics.

Please sign up here via our Eventbrite page (Link is in the comment section) 

Our artificial Intelligence and Deepfake session is 1 hour of engaging, accessible and not needlessly technical content designed to help you stay safe against AI facilitated fraud and disinformation. We'll show you how to use AI safely and spot AI generated voices, videos and images. There is a Q and A too!

### **Sussex Safer Roads Partnership**

Are you thinking of getting away while the weather is still warm?



Remember #TRIP to ensure you get to your destination on time, and safely.

You will need to Top-up, Rest, Inspect and Prepare.

🔋 Top-up

🛏️ Rest

👁️ Inspect

📖 Prepare

#SSRP | #SaferRoads | #RoadSafety | #Sussex

Details of free mental health services in Sussex for anyone who needs help or support. Remember, you are not alone. Please reach out if you need to speak to someone.



**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 