



On the beat in Oswestry Central, Oswestry Rural North, Oswestry Rural South and Ellesmere and Rural

Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

July
2025

Oswestry Town

Team email: Oswestryc.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Officer: PC Wilkey **Mobile:** 07967303889

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Neeves **Mobile:** 07870166291

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Iremonger **Mobile:** 07870166222

TCT PC Watling Mobile: 07977180889

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Community priorities: Drugs, Violence against women and girls, Speeding and traffic offences, Antisocial behaviour

In July, Oswestry's Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) coordinated high-impact policing activity to address core public safety challenges. Emphasis was placed on road enforcement, retail crime, community engagement, and offender apprehension. The launch of **Operation Spotlight** and **Safer Streets Summer** contributed to a proactive and visible police presence across priority zones.

Road Safety & Traffic Enforcement

Dangerous Driving – Vehicle Seizure (2 July)

Officers intercepted a driver on Beatrice Street who was racing illegally. The individual held only a provisional driving licence and lacked insurance.

This Vehicle was seized; and driver prosecution is currently pending.

Patrols continue nightly to deter high-risk driving in urban areas, If you're not legal to drive, don't drive. It's that simple.



Operation Spotlight (Launched 3 July)

West Mercia Police supported this national campaign to spotlight road safety operations which focus on the 'fatal four' - speeding, mobile phone use, impaired driving, and seatbelt non-compliance. This focused enforcement across Oswestry aimed to highlight the work that the police do in working towards reducing incidents and raising public awareness.

PC Mike Hogg along with occasional assistance of officers from the other Oswestry SNT and Ellesmere teams, conducted a significant amount of speed enforcement throughout all four areas in relation to Operation spotlight. Oswestry locations included Whittington Road, Mount Road and Maesbury Road. A Trucam was utilised at a majority of these locations and any offenders caught will receive penalties through the post in due course, these could be in the form of points, fines, an awareness course or even a summons to court.



RTC Response – Sainsbury's Car Park (9 July)

Officers from Oswestry SNT, armed response unit and response responded swiftly to a low-speed collision after a vehicle collided with a pedestrian resulting in serious injuries. Various emergency services including land and air ambulance attended, and the casualty was taken to hospital for treatment.



Anti-Social Driving Enforcement (11 July)

High-visibility patrols have been conducted within Oswestry targeting modified vehicles and nuisance driving. Traffic offence reports were issued and educational engagement conducted with motorists

- Offences included tyres below legal tread depth and excessively loud exhausts



Anti-social driving (20th July)

The owner of this red Honda Civic was driving their car along Leg Street when they decided to rev their engine causing lots of loud pops and bangs to the very clear annoyance of everyone around. They then drove at speed along Whittington Road. Unfortunately for them they didn't see the SNT sergeant in an unmarked police car three cars back. A s59 warning has been issued and if further offence are committed the car will be seized.

Please don't drive in the town in an anti-social manner, it's really not worth it.



PCSO Iremonger has been conducting speed checks at various locations throughout July.

Some of these checks were done on Willow Street 20mph and Whittington Road 30mph, Oswestry after concerns were raised by local residents.

Most road users were abiding to the limits but unfortunately that wasn't the case for all, the owners of these vehicles will be reminded about their speed and the mph zones.



These proactive patrols aim to enhance safety and respond to community concerns. Thank you for continuing to support local policing efforts!

Crime Prevention and Policing Initiatives

Safer Streets Summer (Commenced 30 July)

A multi-agency initiative launched to target high-risk zones that experience higher levels of ASB, retail crime and potential public disorder during the busy summer period. Core objectives include high visibility patrols from officers and PCSO's to aid in the reduction of theft from stores, anti-social behaviour (ASB), and serious public disorder. These measures include Community Protection Notices, strategic collaboration with Oswestry Street Rangers and Civil Enforcement Officers, and deployment of the Mobile Police Engagement Van



Hotspot Patrols: Dedicated patrol resources were assigned to **Willow Street** and **Bailey Street**, areas identified through intelligence as high-frequency locations for ASB, shoplifting, and urban disturbances. Additional officers have been allocated throughout the summer months to enhance presence, improve community confidence, and respond swiftly to issues and will be providing patrols both foot-based and vehicle-supported, integrating real-time data and community feedback.

Arrests and Offender Management

Registered Sex Offender – Proactive Policing and Arrest (11 July)

Acting on intelligence, Sergeant Tim Lever identified a registered sex offender from North Wales present in Oswestry. Proactive policing and patience led to arrest on Bailey Street shortly after midday and the individual was transported to North Wales, where he was processed for custodial return



Retail and Custody Arrests (15 July)

Two suspects were arrested during daytime operations in the Oswestry town centre:

- **Suspect 1:** Apprehended by the Town Centre Team following identification as wanted for recall to prison. Officers executed a coordinated plan ensuring a controlled arrest with minimal disruption
- **Suspect 2:** Intercepted by patrol officers after attempting to evade capture during a brief foot chase. The suspect was restrained and taken into custody
- Both arrests underscore successful intelligence-led targeting and rapid field response



Shoplifter arrest (20th July)

PCSO Hughes from Oswestry Rural North SNT was carrying out proactive patrols of Morrisons, Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry, as a number of shopliftings had been reported by the store recently and the team have been carrying out these patrols to deter thieves, identify offenders and support staff there.

Whilst in attendance PCSO Hughes was informed that a shoplifter had just fled the store. He pursued the offender and found him hiding in bushes by Macdonalds. Oswestry response officers were quick to the scene to support PCSO Hughes and arrested the male for a number of shoplifting offences.

The male was taken custody and charged with a number of theft offences.

This highlights the importance and value of our PCSO colleagues. The list of things they do to contribute to the policing of Oswestry is too long to repeat on here but on this occasion PCSO Hughes' actions led to the arrest of this offender and to him being charged with a number of theft offences.



Stalking arrest (22 July)

Within the first hour of their shift, officers from the Oswestry Town Centre Team successfully located and arrested a suspected stalker. Thanks to their fast response, everyone involved had been safeguarded, and the suspect taken into custody and formally interviewed about the matter.

Wanted male arrest (25th July)

The Oswestry Town Centre Team (TCT) were playing hide and seek with a person wanted for failing to appear in court. They thought skipping their date with justice would go unnoticed. Well, it didn't.

Thanks to some textbook teamwork, TCT officers located and apprehended the individual, who was wanted for their vanishing act in relation to theft offences.

This arrest is a testament to how seriously the TCT takes accountability. If you know you are wanted, hand yourself in, Simple.



Drug Enforcement and Intelligence

Suspected Drug Activity – Vehicle Stop (15 July)

Officers responded to a tip-off regarding suspected drug activity where a vehicle was subsequently stopped on Willow Street and subjected to Section 23 stop and search under the Misuse of Drugs Act. There was no contraband found on this occasion, but occupants' details were recorded and additional intelligence submitted.

This incident reflects how impactful community involvement and responsive policing can be.



Events / Engagement / Other

School visit (6th July)

PCs Naylor and Lawn of Oswestry response took some time out of their busy 'day jobs' to attend the Meadows Primary School. They spoke with some of the children from year 5 there as part of their 'Personal, Social, Health and Economic education' lesson. The children have recently been learning about the role of a police officer and the justice system. The officers conducted a question and answers session with the children about the topics they had recently covered. They then went on to do a 'kit tour' and 'vehicle tour', which all the children loved.



Cae Glass Park damage

Officers have been informed that a small group has been causing damage by running through the flower beds. This behaviour is unacceptable. The park is a valued space, maintained with care and pride by a dedicated team. It's a place for everyone to enjoy – and it deserves to be treated with respect.

We urge all visitors to act responsibly and help keep Cae Glas Park a place we can all be proud of.



There were recently concerns raised regarding a situation at Bryn Hafod park, officers were fully aware of the situation and not publicised any details due to the sensitivities and complexities of processes, policy and legislation involved, and it would not have been appropriate to comment on the actions taken. However, after a lot of behind-the-scenes collaborative working with all those involved the site was cleared and the lock to the gate had been replaced.



Legislative Awareness – Ninja Sword Ban

Home Office Surrender Campaign (Launched 3 July)

In advance of legislation effective 1 August 2025 banning ninja swords, West Mercia Police promoted a month-long surrender and compensation scheme where citizens in possession of such items were asked to hand them into designated stations to comply with the ban on manufacture, possession, sale, or import



Oswestry Rural South

Team email: oswestryrs.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Carrol **Mobile:** 07970544372

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Mabe **Mobile:** 07870219669

Safer neighbourhood Officer: PC Mark Wright **22038 Mobile:** 07977957689

Community priorities:

Kinnerley: Speeding, Drugs, Thefts from outbuildings

Knockin: Speeding, ASB, Theft from Farms,

Melverley: Speeding

Pant + Llanymynech: ASB, Speeding, Litter/Dog Fouling

West Felton: Traffic offences, Drugs

Rural South: Speeding ASB, Drugs

Llanyblodwel: Drugs, Theft from Farm, Speeding

Ryton XI Towns: Speeding, Drugs, Theft

Antisocial behaviour:

Following reports of ASB we are increasing our patrols in the area of Kinnerley village hall. We spoke to several local residents, and users of the village hall as we repeated our patrols.

We are pleased to say that the reports of ASB have now stopped 😊



Speeding / Traffic offences:

community speed watch.

We have recently been helping set up a new community speed watch scheme in Morda.

The details of 9 people have been sent onto the vetting unit here at West Mercia police. After vetting has been done and those who are willing to give up their time for the safety of others in the area, they will be instructed in the usage and lawful use of the equipment

So, if you are around Morda, beware, you may be caught on the camera!!

**COMMUNITY
SPEED WATCH**
ROAD SAFETY INITIATIVE



One of our colleagues has also been out in the area for us.

During July PC Hogg from Oswestry Rural North along with occasional assistance from other areas, kindly attended the highlighted problematic locations on Rural south and conducted speed enforcement and surveys. These were undertaken as part of op spotlight, a national campaign to highlight and bring awareness to the 'fatal four' – speeding, mobile phone use, non-use of a seat belt and impaired driving



The outcome of this campaign is as follows:

Morda – 17/7/25

- 85 vehicles, 25.23 average mph, 1 speeding

Knockin – 26/7/25

- Towards Oswestry, 100 vehicles, average 28.47 mph, 3 speeding
- Away from Oswestry, 68 vehicles, average 27.85 mph, 3 speeding

Maesbury Road – 26/07/2025

- Towards Oswestry, 100 vehicles, average 30.8 mph, 15 speeding
- Away from Oswestry, 95 vehicles, average 27.46, 3 speeding

25 drivers will be in receipt of a penalty letter through their door because they can't keep within the speed limit.



If there are any further concerns regarding vehicles within the area, please contact your local officers and let them know. Vehicle enforcement and surveys are only conducted within areas that have been known to be a concern, and officers can only act on information they receive.

Drugs / Thefts / Litter:

Officers continue to provide a visible presence within the area and will respond to issues when they are reported or the team are informed. The local team are aware of any highlighted areas of concern and actively attend those locations as and when available to do so.

Events / Other:

I attended Kinnerley village fete, but unfortunately had to cut short my time there as called to a suspicious vehicle over in Coed Y Go area of our patch. After an area search the car couldn't be found. I did reattend, just in time for end!!



Many local residents were spoken to regarding various subjects including keeping themselves and property safe, crime prevention advice and general conversation about the area. Many thanked me for my attendance and were happy to see a police presence where they could engage openly.

The team look forward to attending many more events and community engagements during the remainder of the summer.

Oswestry Rural North

Team email: oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Officer: PC Hogg **Mobile:** 07870156668

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Roberts **Mobile:** 07870219019

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Hughes **Mobile:** 07870219190

Community priorities:

Gobowen and Sellatyn: Anti-social behaviour, Speeding, Criminal Damage

Weston Rhyn: Anti-social behaviour, Speeding, Vandalism

Whittington: Anti-social behaviour, Theft, Speeding

St Martins: Speeding, Drugs, Other Traffic Offences

A New Challenge.

The Team is saddened to report that long serving Rural North PCSO Pete Roberts has left the Rural North Team and West Mercia Police altogether to start a new challenge and career. We wish Pete all the best in his new chapter in life and we hope our paths will cross again with his new role having the potential to conduct some partner agency working.



Visits to Victims of Crime

Visits to victims of crime continue to take place where duties and other shift commitments allow. Due to heavy demands at times on the team it might be that not all victims of crime are visited and that the more serious ones are visited only.

A variety of Crime Prevention advice can be located on the West Mercia Police website [Crime prevention advice | West Mercia Police](#).

Community Engagement

The team are always happy to attend meets, clubs and groups to engage with the communities in which they cover. The team see this type of activity with the community really valuable, allowing them to discuss issues, concerns or just have general chitchat with those in attendance. Tea, coffee and table games are also a bonus with members of the team skilled in the arts of dominos, scrabble and other activities 😊.

This also counts for any events being arranged in which the team would be welcomed to attend either as an engaging attraction or walkabout capacity.

If you have any events in the future you think might be suitable for the team to attend please drop us an email with details (oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.police.uk) and we will see what we can do.

Gobowen Primary School Summer Fete

On Friday 4th July, Pc Mike Hogg from the Rural North Team attended the Gobowen Primary School Summer Fete which was organised by the Friends of Gobowen School group.

Pc Mike engaged with children and parents at the fete allowing the children to check out the Police vehicle and have a photograph behind the wheel.

The fete was well attended, with Pc Mike finding a new member to add to the team, Gizmo the white-faced owl.

Thank you for the invitation Gobowen Primary school and to Battlefield Bird of Prey Centre for the picture with Gizmo.



Gobowen Family Fun Day



On Saturday 12th July Pc Mike from the Rural North Team and PCSOs Kerry and Tracey from the Ellesmere Town Team attended the Gobowen Family Fun Day at the Pavilion and Sports Field. Although a very hot and sunny day, the event appeared to be a good success with a large number of people making an appearance.

After having a walk around the stalls and watching some of the entertainment on display, the team welcomed visitors to the Police vehicles and encouraged them to have a look inside and also try on bits of uniform.

Whilst at the Fun Day the team made good use of their time there engaging with those in attendance and engaged in discussions about local and / or personal issues, providing advice and reassurance. The team would like to thank the Gobowen Fun Day organisers for the invitation and to the members of the public who attended and engaged with us and the vehicles.

It can be misconstrued that attendance at events like this stops officers from catching criminals, however whilst the Neighbourhood Policing Teams attend events, meetings and deal with community priorities our Response Teams are still out there responding to calls for service and catching those criminals.



Community Impact

RSPCA joint visit.

On the 3rd July Pc Wilkey from the Oswestry Team joined the RSPCA at a property in Whittington following concerns raised about animals on site.

What they found was a lovely little surprise and a shining example of community spirit. It was discovered that a neighbour had already taken in a cat and her kittens, caring for them with love and dedication which the felines had been missing.

The cat and kittens were now with the RSPCA, getting the care they need — but it's thanks to that neighbour's kindness that they were safe and sound.



Arrests Made!

On the evening of Tuesday 15th July Pc Mike Hogg from the Rural North Team assisted colleagues from Oswestry Response Team E attended a report of a disturbance at an address on Hammonds Place, Gobowen.

Upon arrival at the address the situation appeared calm with the officers engaging with those involved.

The officers armed with local knowledge were able to quickly identify those involved, and with being up to date with current information and intelligence of local offenders identified that two males they were dealing with were in fact wanted for individual offences.

As a result, one male was arrested for a Recall to Prison and the second arrested for Breaching Crown Court Bail conditions.



Speeding Activities and Enforcement



During the month of July West Mercia Police supported the National campaign Operation Spotlight, which is a National and Local focus to make and keep our roads safe.

The Operation focuses on “The Fatal Four” factors that can cause our roads to become unsafe, causing road traffic collisions and potentially serious or fatal harm to those involved some of whom might be innocent parties.

Those four factors are;

- Speeding or Inappropriate Speed.
- Mobile phone use.
- Drink or Drug driving.
- Seatbelts not being worn.

Our activities carried out.

During the month Pc Mike Hogg from the Rural North Safer Neighbourhood Team and assisted at times by colleagues from the other Safer Neighbourhood Teams supported this Operation by conducting a number of Speed Enforcement Operations across the Oswestry and Ellesmere areas, including those in the Rural North area.

On 9 separate days across July a total of 26 enforcement activities were carried and a total of 160 speeding offences recorded. The penalties for these offences depending on the speed recorded varies from a Speed Awareness Course, £100 Fine and 3 Penalty Points and if excessive enough, a Summons to Court. The majority of the recorded speeds were in the lower excess speed range however there was 1 offender recorded nearly double the 30mph speed limit and will be summoned to court to explain their actions to a Magistrate.

6 of these enforcement activities took place in the Rural North area with 18 offences recorded and prosecuted.

Excessive or Inappropriate speed has no place on our roads and enforcement activities will continue to take place to address the issue. Such activity is supported by our communities and Parish Councils with speeding being a priority for most of the Parishes in the Oswestry and Ellesmere areas.

Activities and patrols also take place to address the other 3 fatal factors mentioned above with the Policing of our roads being a 24 / 7 and 365 days a year priority in which a number of units / teams take part in addressing.

Please help us keep our roads safe by abiding by the laws of the road. Thank you.



Untaxed Vehicles

Members of the Safer Neighbourhood Team have powers from the DVLA to seize vehicles without tax should certain conditions be met. Should you wish to report vehicles for no tax you can at the DVLA website <https://orlo.uk/6BttO> or if the vehicles are of a concern you can email your local safer Neighbourhood Team on the below emails;

OswestryRN.snt@westmercia.police.uk

(encompassing Gobowen, St Martins, Weston Rhyn and Whittington etc)

OswestryRS.snt@westmercia.police.uk

(encompassing Llanymynech, Pant, Kinnerley, Trefonen, West Felton and Ruyton XI Towns etc)

Oswestryc.snt@westmercia.police.uk (Oswestry)

Ellesmeretr.snt@westmercia.police.uk

(encompassing Ellesmere, Baschurch etc)

Let us work together to ensure the safety of our roads and that all vehicles keep to the rule and requirements in place.

Thank you for your cooperation

Ellesmere SNT

Team email: ellesmeretr.snt@westmercia.police.uk

Safer Neighbourhood Officer: PC Evans **Mobile:** 07870166416

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Walker **Mobile:** 07870218656

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO Hogg **Mobile:** 07870219593

Community priorities:

Ellesmere Town: Anti-social behaviour, drugs, Speeding

Welshampton: Theft from farms, Speeding, Vehicle ASB

Ellesmere rural: Speeding, Theft from farms, Drugs

Baschurch: Speeding, Rural Crime, Anti-social behaviour

Cockshutt: Drugs, speeding, Antisocial behaviour

Speeding / Road Safety:

The month of July saw Operation Spotlight, a national campaign where road safety operations are used to raise awareness of the 'fatal four' - speeding, mobile phone use, impaired driving, and seatbelt non-compliance. This also highlights all the good work undertaken by officers in working towards reducing incidents and raising public awareness.



Ellesmere SNT assisted PC Mike Hogg in conducting a significant amount of speed enforcement throughout all four areas in relation to Operation spotlight. Multiple locations throughout the Ellesmere area were enforced and the outcomes are below:

Grange road:

- 7th July enforcement – 8 vehicles in excess
- 16th July survey and enforcement - 94 vehicles checked, average speed 26.11, 3 in excess.
- 17th July survey and enforcement – 100 vehicles checked, average speed 26.56, 1 in excess

Welshampton:

- 7th July enforcement – 9 vehicles in excess
- 16th July survey and enforcement – 100 vehicles checked, average speed 26.23, 1 in excess
- 26th July survey and enforcement - 87 vehicles checked, average speed 26.58, 4 in excess

Welsh Frankton :

- 16th July survey and enforcement – 48 vehicles checked, average speed 30.75, 9 in excess
- 25th July survey and enforcement – 75 Vehicles checked, average speed 26.98, 1 in excess

Baschurch:

- 13th July enforcement – no vehicles in excess
- 24th July enforcement – 1 vehicle in excess

Cockshutt:

- 13th July enforcement – no vehicles in excess

Elson Road:

- 25th July – survey and enforcement – 48 vehicles checked, average speed 26.62, 1 in excess



A Trucam was utilised at a majority of these locations and any offenders caught will receive penalties through the post in due course, these could be in the form of points, fines, an awareness course or even a summons to court. 2 tickets were issued at the time to drivers on Elson Roads, Ellesmere and Welsh Frankton.

16th July PC Mike Hogg from Oswestry rural south assisted the team in the removal of a vehicle parked in the car park of Welsh Frankton village hall. This car had been reported to officers for being abandoned there; after checking the details the vehicle appeared to have no tax and the registered keeper details were in correct.



Thanks to the public response to request for information in relation to a loud motorbike being ridden in an antisocial manner in the Baschurch area.

A motorcycle was stopped by PC Wright from Oswestry Rural North and the rider was issued with a ticket for a prohibited silencer. The rider was warned about riding in an anti-social manner and that further action could be taken against them including seizure of the bike if they continue.



PCSO Tracey Walker with the help from PCSO Mabe of Oswestry Rural South SNT were made aware of a vehicle causing an obstruction on Birch Road, Ellesmere. After conducting some checks, it appeared that the vehicle had no tax, subsequently this vehicle was removed and the owner notified.



29th July PCSO's Tracey Walker and Kerry Hogg responded to complaints of a vehicle parked at a location in Ellesmere, after checking the vehicle details it emerged that that tax had expired, due to this the vehicle was removed.



Anti-social Behaviour:

A call was received regarding issues within a group of youths at the Mere, Ellesmere. This was an isolated incident among a group of friends, PC Ant Evans and PCSO Tracey Walker spoke with the youths involved and the parents, no offences were disclosed, and advice was given regarding behaviour.

There have been no further ASB reports throughout July, the local officers have been attending highlighted locations such as the Mere, Tesco, Criftings parish hall and primary school, Cockshutt millennium Hall and Baschurch parish hall on a regular basis and engaging with anyone at the location. They have also been making appearances at organised events and clubs and will continue to do so over the summer.

Thefts / Rural Thefts / Rural Crime:

After receiving reports relating to shed thefts which occurred at Baschurch Allotments on station road, Baschurch in June 2025, PCSO's Kerry Hogg and Tracey Walker have since attended the Allotments and spoken with members of the allotment society, have provided them with further crime prevention advice, the contact details of the local team and have been providing a visible presence as and when available.

The thefts appear to have been targeted and occurred overnight. 26th/27th June 2025 and a large quantity of gardening equipment such as mowers and strimmer's were taken as well as damage caused to the growing crops.

If you have information this please let us know using the online 'Tell Us About' form on our website <https://orlo.uk/ejrFk>, quoting incident reference 00186_I_27062025

If you aren't comfortable contacting us directly, you can pass on information anonymously to the independent charity, Crimestoppers, by calling 0800 555 111 or by visiting their website: <https://orlo.uk/zSrtg>



Drugs:

As per previous month, there have been no other reports of drug related incidents although intelligence continues to be received and has been submitted been disseminated to relevant departments and teams.

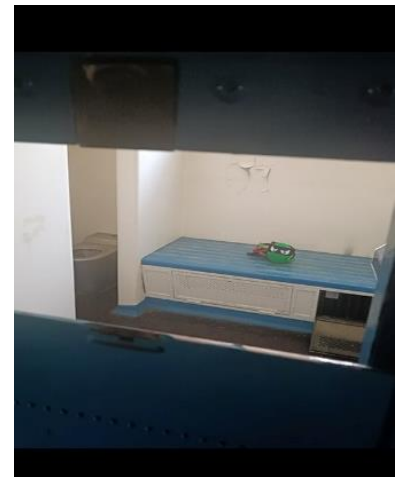
Concerns continue regarding certain individuals, premises and vehicles, this information has been noted and is being further developed. These concerns are being voiced verbally to officers when they are seen, no reports are being made via 101 or online submissions, if you are aware or have concerns, please report them officially and assist us in tackling the situation

Events / Other:

Local Arrest:

PCSO's Tracey Walker and Kerry Hogg from the Ellesmere Safer Neighbourhood Team had the distinct privilege of apprehending the notorious character known as Evil Pea.

Evil Pea had been causing considerable disruption at Ellesmere Primary School, engaging in mischievous behaviour that included creating a mess, damaging vegetables, and exhibiting generally unruly conduct in the reception classroom. Fortunately, Mrs. Bond took decisive action by detaining him and securing him in a designated area before contacting the police for assistance.



PCSO's Walker and Hogg responded promptly and, with the support of the reception class students, successfully transported Mr. Evil Pea to the police vehicle, where he was then taken into custody. We would like to thank the staff and students for their quick thinking and initiative in helping to bring Mr Evil Pea to justice.

On the beat in Oswestry and Ellesmere

Ellesmere Classic car show was held on 13th July, it was a lovely event, well attended and no issues.



6th July Ellesmere SNT PC Ant Evans and PCSO Kerry Hogg were not only on duty during the Ellesmere regatta they also had the distinct pleasure of participating alongside Ellesmere PCSO Tracey Walker, PC Wilkey from Oswestry SNT and PC Hogg from Oswestry rural north SNT. As usual it was a fantastic event and thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance. It was an honour for the team to finally be able to get involved with the activities even if they really showed the fact they were amateurs.



PCSO's Kerry Hogg and Tracey Walker were kindly invited to come along to the Cellar church summer Bible club. There were laughs galore and the adults appeared to be having more fun than the children. Phil and Rob were once again top performers.

There were loads of singing, dancing, games activities, we even made some veg from plasticine.



If you would like the team to attend any meetings, engagements or community events please make contact with them, they are always more than happy to come along.

The team would like to remind people that they do not 'POLICE FACEBOOK'. They are being approached by members of the public on a regular basis, mentioning things that have been posted on Facebook and asking what is being done about it. Creating Facebook posts relating to issues or concerns is not the same as reporting it to the police, the team and other departments can only act on what is reported to them.

Keeping Safe

We have been made aware of concerns about pick pockets operating in Oswestry.

This is not something that we see a lot of in the town.

However it's important to stay vigilant and keep yourself safe following a few simple tips.

Handbags and purses should be securely fastened.

Keep your purse in an inside coat pocket if possible.

Never leave bags unattended.

Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.

Don't keep PIN numbers with your bank cards and never give your PIN number to anyone.

As always please report any suspicious behaviour or crimes to us so we can react accordingly.



Self service ...

Make sure you're not a victim.

We are working to reduce theft in shopping areas.

Don't give thieves a helping hand.

Home security.

During the warmer weather people understandably like to have their windows and doors open, however this can make a home more vulnerable to intruders. Here's some advice to keep in mind during warmer weather:

- Ensure all windows and doors are locked when you leave the house – even if you're only popping out for a few minutes!
- Keep all doors closed and locked when you are elsewhere in the house or the garden. Intruders only need a few seconds.
- Trimming hedges and trees at the front of your property removes opportunities for burglars to hide out of sight - but make sure you are not disturbing any nesting birds past 1st March.
- Installing a dusk to dawn security light (at head height by front and back doors) – this increases levels of surveillance and will deter offenders.
- Intruder alarm systems and CCTV will improve security – not to be replaced of basic security methods!
- Place some signage in and around your property, such as 'CCTV' or 'Beware of the dog' - you don't actually have to have either of these - the burglars won't know!
- Secure side gates and any sheds or outbuildings, keeping them well maintained with padlocks on or locked at all times.
- Keep valuables out of sight and away from windows and doors.
- Finally, don't make it easy for them, make sure wheelie bins, recycling boxes, ladders or other such items are not available for an intruder to use and climb into your property.

Visit the West Mercia Police website for further crime prevention advice: <https://orlo.uk/0v1J2>

Any suspicious activity can be reported to West Mercia Police and might be a vital part in an incident or investigation. If it doesn't seem right, it probably isn't, report it!

West Mercia Police – 101 or 999 in emergencies, or online at West Mercia Police [Home | West Mercia Police](#) Or at Crimestoppers - [Independent UK charity taking crime information anonymously | Crimestoppers.](#)

Travel safely.



Going on a day out?

Make sure your vehicle is ready for the T.R.I.P.



T – Top up fluids. Make sure your oil, screen-wash and fuel levels are sufficient.

R – Rest every 2 hours. If you're on a long drive, make sure you rest and refresh. Have a soft drink and some food.

I – Inspect your vehicle. Check your tyres and other important parts of the vehicle like, mirrors, lights, wipers and dashboard (are there any warnings / service reports).

P – Prepare for the weather. Make sure you are equipped to travel for the forecasted weather. Put a coat or blanket in the boot just in case.

Fancy a dip?



Going for a swim or tempted just to jump in to cool off? Check out the below safety tips before you do.

- Get to know where you are swimming and check the condition before going in.
- Make sure you are properly equipped.
- Beware of the cold.
- Make sure someone knows where you have gone and why, and that you have the means to call for help, especially in remote locations. Young persons should not go swimming alone / unsupervised.
- Take note of local safety advice and respect the countryside, landowners and other users.

Further advice can be found at National Water Safety's website : <https://orlo.uk/8tNfG>

Cool Pets are Happy Pets!

Leaving pets in a vehicle during a heatwave can be extremely dangerous. Even with the windows slightly open, the temperature inside a parked car can rise rapidly, turning it into an oven. For example, when it's 22°C, a car can reach 47°C within an hour. This can cause heatstroke, which is life-threatening for animals.

If you see a pet trapped in a hot car:

- 1) Assess the pet's condition - if they show signs of distress (panting excessively, drooling, lethargic). Call 999 immediately.
- 2) If the situation is critical and the police haven't arrived, you may feel the urge to break into the car. However, this could be considered criminal damage, so it's best to document the situation with photo's and videos and inform the authorities.
- 3) If the pet appears okay but at risk, try to locate the owner by asking nearby businesses to make an announcement.

To prevent heat-related emergencies:

- 1) Never leave pets in parked cars, even for a short time.
- 2) Ensure they have access to fresh water and shade.
- 3) Walk them during cooler parts of the day - early morning or late evening.
- 4) Use cool mats and damp towels to help regulate their temperature.

Heatwaves can be deadly for pets, so spreading awareness and taking action can save lives.

<https://orlo.uk/euv2J>

Other Information

Psssst... [@westmerciapolice](#) are on WhatsApp Channels!



They're bringing you updates, positive stories, behind the scenes moments, and maybe the occasional police dog video (if they can convince them to go on camera) ... straight to your phone.

Visit <https://orlo.uk/ccAj0> and hit the 'follow' button.



Make sure you know the law and consider safety before buying, or allowing your child to ride, an e-scooter or hoverboard. In the West Mercia policing area of Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire there is only one e-scooter trial, based in Redditch. Therefore, unless part of this loan scheme e-scooters and hoverboards can only be ridden on private land with the permission of the landowner.

Electric scooters.

Although e-scooters are available to buy they are currently illegal to use on public roads, pavements, cycle lanes and pedestrian-only areas. E-scooters are currently classed as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs) by the Government and fall under the same laws and regulations that apply to all motor vehicles in terms of requiring insurance, tax, MOT, licence and registration. There is no mechanism in place at the moment to obtain any of these for e-scooters so as this requirement can't be met their use in public areas is illegal.

Anyone found using them in public areas risks having the e-scooter seized by the police and face the possibility to being fined and even issued points. More information can be found at <https://orlo.uk/sKxgl>

Hoverboards.

Hoverboards, also known as self-balancing scooters, are not legal for road use and cannot be ridden on the pavement as this would be an offence under section 72 of the Highways Act 1835.

Safety equipment.

All riders, regardless of experience, should wear correctly worn safety equipment, which includes:

- A motorcycle helmet (E marked or Kite Marked).
- Gloves and elbow/knee pads.

As riding a motorised vehicle of any kind requires a certain level of skill and judgement, we recommend that young riders are supervised at all times when using these vehicles on private land and should not be encouraged or permitted to ride them in public.

Due to an increase of complaints from members of the public about these items being used irresponsibly on our roads and pavements, the Oswestry Safer Neighbourhoods Team will be looking to engage with and educate any users, with any persistent or irresponsible riders dealt with accordingly as per the laws mentioned above.

We do acknowledge that some members of the public will not be aware of the illegal status of these items on our roads, which is why education will be one of our options in dealing with any riders.

Please keep safe and within the law, thank you.



Crime Statistics

For any crime statistics or information we encourage you to attend the West Mercia Police Website by following the below link; [Police.uk](https://www.please.uk).



[Home Page - Neighbourhood Matters](#)

We are still looking for new members to join the Neighbourhood Matters Community.

Neighbourhood Matters allows users to receive advice, community or police incidents or activity updates and alerts. The site also allows members of the public to provide their views or concerns by completing surveys regarding policing and community matters.

Please pass details to our team if know someone who would like to sign up face to face with one of our officers, as they can talk them through the sign-up process or get them to go straight to the website to sign-up by themselves.

CrimeStoppers.
Speak up. Stay safe.

0800 555 111
100% anonymous. Always.