# **Reigate and Banstead Police** Newsletter



#### Issue 20 February 2025

#### New Sergeant joins the Reigate and Banstead Team.

We are delighted that Sergeant Andy Prowse has joined the Reigate and Banstead Police Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Sergeant Prowse will be focusing on the North of the Borough and he will join Sergeant Chris Madeley -Central and Sergeant Sarah Kiely – South area. Inspector Jon Vale is the Borough Commander. Our Safer Neighbourhood team is formed of Police Constables (PCs), Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), an Office Manager and Volunteers. In our forthcoming Newsletters we will be introducing the team to you.

#### Safer Neighbourhood Teams

Neighbourhood policing within Surrey Police is delivered by Safer Neighbourhood Teams in each of the 11 districts and boroughs of the County. Each neighbourhood within the districts and boroughs is served by a dedicated team of officers and staff.

Neighbourhood Teams provide community engagement, targeted foot patrols and collaborative problem solving to tackle the issues that cause the greatest harm in our communities. Teams are made of Sergeants, Police Officers and PCSOs, led by the Borough Commander, with further support provided by other team members - with specialisms in youth engagement, licensing and crime prevention.



#### Making the Railways Safer

You may have seen a lot of police activity at Redhill train station on Friday and Saturday night during the weekend of 31<sup>st</sup> January – 1<sup>st</sup> February.

Surrey officers were working alongside British Transport Police and the Metropolitan Police to target anyone who might be using the rail network for criminality.

The operation resulted in multiple drugs seizures, recovery of stolen goods, and four arrests for offences including theft, assault, sexual assault and breach of a court order.

We'll keep doing this kind of pro-active work to keep our communities safe and deny criminals easy use of our railways to carry out their activities. #SaferRedhill

In this Months Newsletter	Feedback Your feedback on the Newsletter is important to us.	
Page 2. Local Updates Page 3 Valentines Day – Romance Fraud Awareness Page 4. Firearms amnesty – Details	Please contact me at <u>Simon.Morris@surrey.police.uk</u> Simon Morris 20789	
	Community Engagement Volunteer Reigate and Banstead Police SNT	



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# Charged

# Redhill

A 17-year-old boy from New Addington has been charged with possession of a bladed article after a stop and search in Redhill on Friday, 24 January.

He has been bailed to appear at Guildford Youth Court on Wednesday, 2 April.

As part of improving safety in Redhill, police, partners and the community are coming together to tackle anti-social behaviour and serious and organised crime through the Safer Redhill project. Find out more information: <u>https://orlo.uk/6VRoA</u>

# Horley

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Officers have been out and about in the areas surrounding Albert Road Car Park, Horley, after ongoing reports of anti-social behaviour using vehicles and motorcycles. Please report anti-social behaviour (ASB). Don't assume that someone else will report it. If you have any concerns of antisocial behaviour in your community, please report it to us via our online system or 101 and 999 in emergencies.

You can receive regular Updates on line as well as the 'In the Know' Weekly Police Update

Follow us: Our Facebook is Reigate and Banstead Beat (Surrey Police) and our @ReigateBeat.



## Be In the Know!

You can sign up to <u>In the Know</u> to find out what is happening in your area: witness appeals, crime updates, crime prevention advice and news. This also includes the weekly Crime Update from Reigate and Banstead, Safer Neighbourhood Team

#### 'In the Know' in January 2025

Apart from our Weekly Police Update and Monthly Newsletter, these are the Surrey Police reports posted on 'In the Know' during January 2025. If you missed any of the reports, shown below, then please go to the the Surrey Police Website. See page 4 for contact details.

24/01/2025 How to spot a cannabis factory. – Surrey Police
24/01/2025 Fraud Newsletter. - Surrey Police
17/01/2025 Four forces come together, for a second weekend, to tackle rural crime - Surrey Police
13/01/2025 140 arrested for drug driving in Surrey in December 24 – Surrey Police.

In addition updates from: Fraud Team, Trading Standards, Neighbourhood Watch and the Crime Commissioner

# Crime Prevention – Fraud





# Valentines Day be Romance Fraud Aware

Romance scams involve people being duped into sending money to criminals who go to great lengths to gain their trust and convince them that they are in a genuine relationship. They use language to manipulate, persuade and exploit so that requests for money do not raise alarm bells. These requests might be highly emotive, such as criminals claiming they need money for emergency medical care, or to pay for transport costs to visit the victim if they are overseas. Scammers will often build a relationship with their victims over time. This practical guide highlights common tactics used in romance fraud.

#### Signs your friend or family member may be involved in a romance scam:

•They may be very secretive about their relationship or provide excuses for why their online partner has not video called or met them in person. They might become hostile or angry, and withdraw from conversation when you ask any questions about their partner.

•They may express very strong emotions and commitment to someone they have only just met.

•They have sent, or are planning to send, money to someone they have not met face-to-face. They may take out loans or withdraw from their pension to send money.

How users can stay safe from romance scams:

•Be suspicious of any requests for money from someone you have never met in person, particularly if you have only recently met online.

•Speak to your family or friends to get advice.

•Profile photos may not be genuine, do your research first. Performing <u>a reverse image search</u> on a search engine can find photos that have been taken from somewhere, or someone, else.

It is important that no matter how long you've been speaking to someone online and how much you think you trust them, if you have not met them in person it's important that you do not:

- Send them any money
- Allow them access to your bank account
- Transfer money on their behalf
- Take a loan out for them
- Provide copies of your personal documents such as passports or driving licenses
- Invest your own money on their behalf or on their advice
- Purchase and send the codes on gift cards from Amazon or iTunes
- Agree to receive and/or send parcels on their behalf (laptops, mobile phones etc.)

#### **National Romance Fraud Support Pack**

You can find more resources and advice on the: national romance fraud support pack.



#### How to report it

If you think you have been a victim of a romance scam, do not feel ashamed or embarrassed - you are not alone. Contact your bank immediately and report it to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or via actionfraud.police.uk. If you are in Scotland, please report to Police Scotland directly by calling 101.



### **Information Corner**



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During the amnesty, those handing in a Turkish-manufactured TVBF will not face prosecution for the illegal possession and will not have to give their details.

However, the history of any live firearms handed

in will be checked for evidence of its use in crime. Other unwanted, unlicensed firearms and ammunition may be surrendered to police at any time following normal firearms surrender processes.

Top-Venting Blank Firers can be handed in at the following police stations across the county:

**Guildford Police Station**, Margaret Road, Guildford, GU14QS (open daily 8am-10pm)

**Staines Police Station**, Kingston Road, Staines, TW18 4LQ (open daily 8am-10pm)

**Caterham Police Station**, Timber Hill Road, Caterham, CR3 6LD (open daily 8am-10pm)

If you have any information around illegal firearms activity you can contact us via:

The 'tell us about something you've seen or heard' form on our website:

https://www.surrey.police.uk/tua/tell-usabout/soh/seen-or-heard/

Calling 101 If you don't want to speak to police, you can call independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Every call to Crimestoppers is anonymous and could be vital in preventing or solving serious crimes.

Removing an illegally held firearm may just save someone's life.

#### <u>Crime statistics –</u> November 2024 to January 2025

Offence	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan -25	
Residential Burglaries	20 (16)	22 (11)	16 (10)	
Keyless Car Theft	7	4	0	
(-) Actual residential burglaries only, not including - Attempted, Garage and Outbuilding Burglaries				

The crime statistics for the last 3 months show a decrease in the number of reported actual residential burglaries. After a recent increase in the level of keyless car thefts, there has been a decrease in the last three months. Although not shown, there were 16 reported incidents of Personal Fraud (Scams) in January 2025 in the Borough.



The Surrey Police Website has lots of information and advice. It is there to support you.

https://www.surrey.police.uk

#### How to report a crime or incident:

Emergency: call 999 Non Emergency: call 101 or report online or via live chat at: <u>www.surrey.police.uk</u>

To contact your local team (not for reporting purposes) email: ReigateandBanstead@surrey.police.uk

You can pass information to us directly via 101, online

via <u>https://www.surrey.police.uk/ro/report/</u> or anonymously via Crimestoppers 0800555111, <u>https://crimestoppers-uk.org/</u>

Follow us:

Our Facebook is Reigate and Banstead Beat (Surrey Police) and our twitter X is @ReigateBeat



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