



NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

New Forest Heart Beat Report



Hello and welcome to the January 2026 Beat Report for the New Forest Heart area. Your team is PC 24901 Mark ROBERTS, PC 27901 Stuart READHEAD and PCSO 14495 Richard WILLIAMS.

On Tuesday 24th February we will be at the Bramshaw Village Stores at 8am, outside the Post Office in Bartley at 9am and at 11am you can join us and the Ashurst and Colbury Neighbourhood watch team at the Happy Cheese pub in Ashurst.

The following day on Wednesday 25th we will be at the Lyndhurst Parish Council Offices at the back of the Community Centre at 11am and then in Brockenhurst on Brookley Road from midday, just opposite Tesco.

Finally we will be holding another SCAM BUSTING TALK at the East Boldre Community Café at the back of the village stores at 2.30pm on Thursday 26th February. If you can't make that talk and would like someone to visit your club or society just email richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk and we can arrange a time and place.

Our Beat Surgeries last for 30 minutes, unless demand is high of course, but as we always say if you can't come to any of these meetings you can always call or email us, but to report a crime or any anti-social behaviour dial 101 or go the Hampshire and IOW Police website. Of course if it's an emergency always call 999.

We are also holding another one of our Walking in Partnership events on Sunday 8th February at the MILKHAM car park and Inclosure. The walk starts at 1pm and last for about an hour and a half and the distance is just under three miles. The post code is BH24 3QZ and the W3W are boast.next.snaps. These events are for solo walkers or for people who don't feel comfortable walking on their own in the New Forest and they are led by Forestry England. If you would like to be added to our mailing list so that we can let you know exactly when, where and what time please email richard.williams@hampshire.police.uk

Three vehicles were stolen across the Beat in January, one was a Land Rover taken from an address on Fletchwood lane, one was a pickup truck from outside the pub at Fritham and the other was a quad bike from a property at Longdown. Eight vehicles have also been broken into including five that were parked on a farm site and hotel car park in Ower whilst the other two were at an event in East End where handbags were stolen. Remember please take as many of your valuables with you if you leave your vehicle unattended.

Other thefts this month included a catalytic converter from a car in Nomansland, generator cables from the site of Tatchbury Mount hospital and various items from the five shopliftings reported to us. Three happened at Tesco in Lyndhurst and two at the Co Op in Brockenhurst. Three suspects have been identified for those thefts and one has already been identified, arrested and charged.

Attempts have also been made to break into the Brockenhurst Parish Council offices on Brookley Road and to the SSE site on Castle Malwood Hill at Minstead. Thieves did get into sheds at the Forestry England car park in Lyndhurst, a garage in Minstead, an outbuilding in Longdown and a private property in East Boldre, while on Copythorne Common an outbuilding was broken into but nothing was taken.

Sadly this month a house in Brockenhurst was burgled and items were stolen. The burglary happened between 18.35 and 18.45 on Saturday 17th January. The home owners returned to the house and disturbed the intruders who ran off. Investigation into that burglary are still on going so if you live in the area of The Coppice and have seen anything suspicious lately then please let us know quoting the incident number 44260025770 – thank you

The first Op Mountie session of 2026 took place on the C17 at Emery Down and at Matley campsite and we only stopped two vehicles for breaking the speed limit – one was taken off on the back of a recovery truck because the driver didn't have any insurance and was doing 58mph - remember the speed limit across the Forest is 40mph. Op Mountie is our multi agency approach to reducing speed and animal accidents across the New Forest.

And in support of OP Mountie, officers from Totton C Shift Roads Policing Unit conducted speed enforcement across multiple locations in the New Forest this month. During the enforcement they stopped dozens of drivers who drove in excess of the speed limit with four drivers reported with the top speed being 52mph in a 40mph zone. Many others driving below the prosecution threshold were given a warning and stopped for document checks. During these checks they identified one vehicle was showing as uninsured on the Motor Insurance Database. Further enquiries identified the vehicle was insured however the driver only held a provisional license which resulted in them seizing their vehicle for driving otherwise than in accordance with their license. Another driver who drove below the prosecution threshold speed was arrested after they tested positive for cannabis on the roadside. They were taken to Southampton Custody where a blood sample was taken and whilst being searched in custody more cannabis was found on their person. They now have a nervous wait whilst they are released under investigation pending the blood results.

Stay safe everyone

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