

# On the beat in

## Hereford Southside & Rural

Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter

February 2024

### Where we work



### Team contact details

**Team email:** herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk

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*We are happy to receive calls from Members of The Public, however please do not use these to report crimes and/or incidents. For more information on reporting a crime/incident please go to [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) and select 'Report' or call 999 (Emergency) / 101 (Non-Emergency)*

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## Op Forefront

Drugs warrants, teams targeting priority suspects, high visibility and plain clothes street patrols and road safety operations formed part of a day of action yesterday (Wednesday 28 February) across Herefordshire.

17 people were arrested across the county's Local Policing Area (LPA), including the warrants, and an intensive pre-planned operation focusing on people wanted for crimes including fraud, theft, assault, arson, domestic violence, and those wanted in court.

Officers from our Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) also carried out patrols engaging with the community, as well as targeting shoplifters in Hereford, Ledbury, Leominster, Bromyard, and Kington.

Road policing units supported them with speed enforcement activities at known hotspots and our Problem-Solving Hub actively engaged with valued members of our farming and rural business communities as Herefordshire LPA spent the day in the spotlight.

There were five stop searches with four positive outcomes and 15 premises visited on the successful day of action which saw an estimated total of £5,000 worth of drugs seized, £14,400 of illegal property seized, 13 traffic tickets issued, and 15 suspects interviewed of which six investigations were started, six suspects were bailed for further enquiries and one suspect was sent to court.

Items seized included 766 packets of illegal cigarettes, 34 pouches of illegal hand rolling tobacco, 46 illegal vapes, two offensive weapons, nine mobile phones and seven bottles of alcohol spirits.

Officers from our teams also made 580 visits to community premises and signed up 165 people to our Neighbourhood Matters website to keep them informed of the latest policing matters where they live.

415 Neighbourhood Matters surveys were completed as well as school engagements and six community partnership events.

Officers across the LPA were joined by the force's chief officers, including T/Deputy Chief Constable Richard Cooper, who joined Task Force and CID on the warrants, where we caught and arrested one person and seized two offensive weapons at an address in Kingstone and seized some suspected class A drugs from an address in The Furlongs, Hereford.



## Kingstone Arrest

At the start of February, arrests were made in Kingstone. 3 males were arrested for burglary dwelling and rural crime offences in the area of Kingstone. Multiple items recovered including suspected stolen goods.

We are trying to identify the owners of these items below, believed to be stolen following a burglary in Kingstone.

If anyone recognises the below items, they are asked to contact PS Mark Jones on [mark.jones@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:mark.jones@westmercia.police.uk) Please note to prove legitimate ownership, serial numbers/proof of purchase and photographs will need to be considered.



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## Farmers – Property Marking Event

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February saw members of Southside SNT team up with different police-teams and partnership agencies to host the first Property Marking Event aimed at local farmers. In attendance were; Southside SNT, Rural & Business Crime Officer, Design out Crime Officer, The British Farming Union, We are Farming Minds and more.

We had a good turn out from those attending the event, and a range of tools were property marked alongside our burglary prevention packs handed out, signage useful to farms and Neighbourhood Matters sign ups

The event was great to ease the concerns of residents and provide general security advice due to the recent incidents in the surrounding Kingstone area.

We are looking at hosting this event again soon. If you have any suggestions on where you would like to see us pop-up for a property marking event for local farmers, please email us and let us know at: [herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk)



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## Coffee with a Cop

Our coffee with a cop event was held at The Herefordshire Community Reuse & Recycle on the 16<sup>th</sup> February and was a great success.

We had a great view with amazing weather on the way, this was made even better by the fabulous turn out of people.

There were lots of areas covered, community issues, speeding, shed security, parking advice & more.

We had a few signups for Neighbourhood Matters too, keeping them up to date with the local information.

Keep an eye out for the next event. If you would like to make a suggestion to a time or location for our next Coffee with a Cop, please email us with your suggestions at:

[herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.police.uk)

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## Community Speed Watch

This month, one of our new community speed watches (Much Birch CSW) received their training, joined by PCSO Marsh.

The members of the scheme have completed their training & are "on the road" to monitoring & recording in their area.

This scheme has been running for some years now & has great community benefits.

If this is something your community is interested in, here is the criteria needed:

- ❖ The area must have a 30mph or 40mph speed restriction.
- ❖ Speed data collected by West Mercia Police must show that speed levels in the area do not meet the national industry requirements for police enforcement.
- ❖ No other enforcement activity is currently in place.
- ❖ There must be at least six volunteers in each Community Speed Watch scheme.
- ❖ Speed checks must be conducted by at least three volunteers at any one time.



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## Police Cadets - Recruiting

We're excited to announce that we're now accepting applications for our Police Cadet programme! Our cadet programme invites 16 to 18-year-olds to gain new skills and qualifications, increase their confidence and make a positive change to their community.

As a West Mercia Police cadet, you'll receive an unrivalled insight into policing, the chance to meet with specialist police teams and the chance to support us at community events and police operations.

You will join one of our five local cadet units where you'll be issued with a cadet uniform and attend weekly sessions from September 2024.

Our cadet units are located in:

- Herefordshire (Ledbury Police Station)
- North Worcestershire (Bromsgrove Police Station)
- Shropshire (Shrewsbury Police Station)
- South Worcestershire (HQ, Hindlip)
- Telford & Wrekin (Malinsgate Police Station)

Spaces are limited, so please submit your application as soon as possible to avoid missing out.

Find more information on our website and submit your application at: [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)



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## Neighbourhood Matters

Sign up to Neighbourhood Matters your brand-new community messaging service.

Neighbourhood Matters enables residents, businesses and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can choose exactly what type of alert you wish to receive and how you receive them; whether that be by email, text or telephone.

Sign up now at: [www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk)

