

# Harborough Newsletter

Issue 19: September

#### Latest news updates

Two people who filmed themselves speeding in cars they had stolen have been jailed for more than nine years between them. Twenty-eight burglaries were reported to the force between March and April this year where car keys were stolen from inside the property and subsequently the cars were taken.

This series of offences prompted the force to launch an operation across the Harborough and Wigston, South Leicester and Hinckley and Blaby Neighbourhood Policing Areas (NPAs). On 4 May during a burglary in progress in Davenport Avenue, Oadby, officers arrested two 16-year-old boys. Later the same day, 18-year-old Jake Ward and a 17-year-old boy were also arrested after warrants were executed at their home addresses.

The following day 23-year-old Ricky Cox was arrested after a warrant was executed at his home in Pochins Bridge Road, Wigston. Cox, Ward and two boys, aged 16 and 17, who can't be named for legal reasons, were charged with conspiracy to commit burglary. The fifth teenager, aged 16, who also can't be named, was charged with burglary.

On 14 August Cox was sentenced to four years in prison for conspiracy to commit burglary. Ward was sentenced to five years in prison for conspiracy to commit burglary and a further 18 months in prison for an unrelated burglary, this sentence is to run concurrently.

Two juveniles, both now aged 17, are due to be sentenced at a later date. The fifth person, a 16-year-old, who was charged with burglary, was sentenced after pleading guilty at Youth Court in June. He was given a referral order and ordered to pay

compensation and costs to the victim.

Throughout the summer we have been conducting an operation to deal with anti-social behaviour in the area. We've had a dedicated car and PCSOs assigned to the operation daily, from 8am to 11pm. The PCSOs have visited various public spaces to deal with any ASB or disorder, not only to prevent any ASB but also to speak with and educate young people on how their behaviour can impact others.





## **Neighbourhood Link**

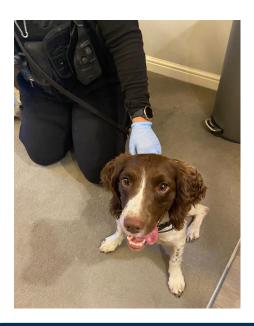
Here's a reminder to sign up to Neighbourhood Link! It's a great way of keeping in touch with us, once registered you can receive updates and crime prevention advice from your local beat team, you can also find out what our key priorities are and what we're doing to deal with these local issues.

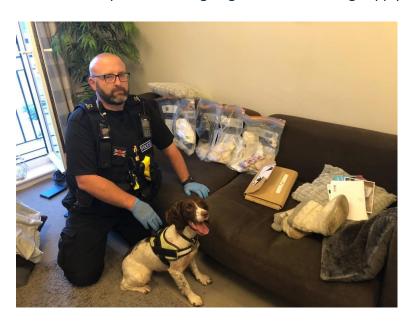
You will also be sent occasional surveys via Neighbourhood Link, completing these surveys gives you the opportunity to influence your beat team's local priorities, you can also communicate with your local policing team and choose what area of interest you want to be kept informed about so that you can tailor the information you receive. We now have over 20,000 people across Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland signed up for Neighbourhood Link and it really is worthwhile.

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#### Successful drugs warrant

Working with our Lutterworth Police colleagues & the Neighbourhood Proactive Team we executed two drug warrants in Market Harborough town. On Friday 28 August. It was a great result with a quantity of substances being recovered with the help of PD Jazz. This is part of our ongoing work around drug supply.





### Three arrested for courier fraud

Three people have been arrested by Leicestershire Police as part of a national campaign to target those responsible for scamming elderly and vulnerable people.

Courier fraud is where criminals call someone pretending to a police officer or bank official. They warn the victim that there are corrupt bank staff at the branch they use, who are intent on stealing their money, and ask them for their help. In some cases the victim is asked to withdraw a sum of money and a courier is sent to their home address to collect it. So far this year a 100 people have been arrested across the country as part of the campaign.

In January this year the force received two separate reports from a man and woman in their 80s who had been called by someone claiming to be a police officer working from a station in the London area.

He claimed the victims' bank cards had been compromised and were carrying out an investigation into corrupt bank staff at their local branch in Leicestershire. They were told to withdraw a large sum of money from their accounts so they could check it wasn't counterfeit.

Both victim withdrew £4,000 each from their accounts which was then collected by a courier from their home addresses.

Please be vigilant and be aware of these types of incidents. The criminals sound genuine and will try to gain your trust. They can be persuasive and sometime aggressive. This is a despicable crime and will not be tolerated. If you or someone you know has been a victim of a fraud or scam, please report to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040 or report it online.

As a force, we will continue to raise awareness of the issue and help reduce the chances of further people falling victim to these opportunist thieves. If you are contacted in similar circumstances we advise you to report your concerns immediately.

#### **Beat Surgeries:**

In line with government guidance around Covid-19, we have postponed our community consultations and beat meetings. Our officers will continue to be active in your community. We will re-arrange events as soon as we can. Remember you can always report crime by:

- Reporting online via <u>leics.police.uk/report-online</u>
- Calling 101

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