

Welcome to the new look CSI!

In this edition you will find lots of crime prevention information and community safety advice, along with articles and news stories about the work community safety partners have been up to and have planned for the near future. Hope you enjoy the read!

Want to keep up to date with the very latest community safety news, information and events?

Then why not follow us on Twitter?

Visit [@wycombedcbesafe](http://www.twitter.com)



We also regularly update our community safety web pages visit:

[www.wycombe.gov.uk/
communitysafety](http://www.wycombe.gov.uk/communitysafety)

and look up our news section.

National Bike Week 16th-24th June 2012

With National Bike Week coming up, we thought we'd take the opportunity to remind you how to keep your two-wheels safe and secure:

Make sure it's security marked: We're organising a number of marking events, where we can mark your bike for FREE (see below). Alternatively, you could use products such as CREmark or forensic marking kits.

Store it in a safe location: If it's kept in an outbuilding when at home, such as a shed or garage, make sure it is secure with a good hasp and padlock. When out and about be sure to use a cable lock too.

Register it: Register your bike's details such as serial number, make and model for free with www.immobilise.com – the UK's National Property Register.

We have 5 bicycle locks to give away! For your chance to be entered into the prize draw, email your name and address to:
gemma_brooks@wycombe.gov.uk by 24th June 2012



Make your mark!

Officers from Wycombe District Council's Community Safety Team and local Neighbourhood Policing Teams have been out in force across the District over recent months marking hundreds of your valuable items. From lawnmowers to bikes, and computers to mobile phones – we've had the right methods to make your possessions safe and secure.

If you missed us, we're in the process of organising some more dates, so watch out for our Twitter Updates and list of events on the community safety web pages.



Dispersal Zone to combat anti social behaviour in Marlow

Wycombe District Council has joined forces with Thames Valley Police to ban groups of troublemakers from the residential streets around Gunthorpe Road in Marlow.

The implementation of a Dispersal Zone follows on from consultation with local residents about the youth-related anti social behaviour which is blighting the area. The zone has been set up to prevent and disrupt such behaviour and identify trouble makers.

In recent months Police have seen an increasing number of reports and complaints from local residents about groups causing anti social behaviour on the streets and the impact this behaviour is having on their quality of life.

Reported behaviour includes being verbally abusive and threatening towards residents, gathering in communal areas and on garden walls and refusing to leave, shouting, swearing, spitting, littering and damaging property and vehicles.

The zone came into force on 1st March 2012 for a six month period. Police Officers and Police

Community Support Officers (PCSOs) now have new powers to disperse groups of two or more and direct those who do not live in the area to leave and prohibit them from returning for up to 24 hours.

For more information on the dispersal zone, or to see a copy of the map in more detail, contact the Public Safety Team at asb@wycombe.gov.uk or telephone 01494 421087.



Let's nip crime in the bud!

With the approach of longer daylight hours and hopefully warmer weather, now is the time to consider the possible crime problems which may come with the new season. Follow our tips to 'weed out' garden thieves this Spring!

- **Don't give thieves shed-loads of opportunities!** Bikes, mowers and garden tools are just some of the examples of expensive equipment which are stored in sheds that may not be strong or secure enough to protect them. Don't delay - secure your shed now! To make matters worse, we are seeing an increasing number of cases where such tools are then used by the intruder to break into your home.
- **Set Boundaries:** These are your first line of defence against intruders. Strong gates, fences and walls which are kept in good repair can deter burglars from getting in.
- **Grow you own security:** Prickly plants such as Berberis, Holly and Hawthorn, may help deter thieves too, particularly around vulnerable areas such as windows, fences and drainpipes.
- **Let there be light!** Well positioned lighting is a great way of keeping intruders at bay and can be purchased from most large DIY stores. For more information download our 'shed-ucation' leaflet from the WDC community safety web pages.



Drive down crime in our beauty spots

Hopefully with the sunnier days, more of us will be taking advantage of the many beauty spots the Wycombe District has to offer. However drivers are being warned about the risks they may face when leaving valuable items on display, when parking these in these locations to take a walk in the countryside.

Visitors may believe their possessions are safe, but these often remote locations may allow a thief to take their time in breaking into a vehicle. Remember most criminals are opportunists – they take what they can, when they see it. If a vehicle looks empty, the chances are they will leave it alone, so don't leave anything on display – even a plastic bag or old coat can tempt a thief. Hiding items such as your Sat Nav in your glovebox or under the seat, won't fool them either – these will be the first places they will look.

For further information and advice on how to avoid becoming a victim of vehicle crime, download our free leaflet from our community safety web pages at www.wycombe.gov.uk



Did you know it's National Volunteers' Week on 1st-7th June?

Volunteers' Week is an annual event which celebrates the fantastic contribution that millions of volunteers make across the UK.

We in Wycombe District are no exception, and have hundreds of volunteers working with the Community Safety Partnership; without whom our achievements would not be possible.

One of the best known examples is Neighbourhood Watch (NHW). One of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives ever. Its aim is to reduce opportunities for crime and make it more difficult for the would-be-thief, vandal or criminal to act; to reduce the fear of crime and to strengthen community spirit.

However, NHW relies on people like you donating just an hour or so of your time a month to take part, or coordinate a scheme. If you're interested, please telephone the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number 101.

If in doubt – Keep them out!

Most people who call at your home will be genuine. But sometimes people turn up unannounced with the intention of using lies and trickery to persuade you to let them in. Once inside, they can then steal money and valuables. They are known as 'distraction burglars' or 'bogus callers' and unfortunately they have been recently operating in our area.

Do not let these people into your home. Remember:

STOP

Ask to see their identification. If they are genuine, they will not mind.

CHAIN

Use the chain, or shut the door whilst they wait outside for you to double-check.

CHECK

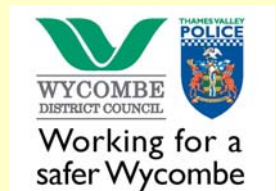
Call the organisation they claim to be from. For example, if they state they are a Police Officer call 101 to verify they are who they say they are. For other relevant numbers, check your local phone book or call Directory Enquiries.

Don't feel intimidated. Why not ask them to return when a friend or family member could be present? Again, if they are genuine – they will not mind.

Remember if you are in any doubt – keep them out!

The Police would like you to report any suspicious people or vehicles that you may have any concerns about, as soon as you shut the door to them. Call the Thames Valley Police non-emergency number on 101. In cases of emergency dial 999.

If you would like further information or advice on how to protect yourself, a friend, family member, or neighbour from this type of crime; please call Wycombe District Council's Community Safety Team on 01494 421117.





A night out on the town

Members of the Nightsafe partnership who work to promote a safe night out in High Wycombe were on hand to answer questions about the work they do and provide information about personal safety on Saturday 25th February.

Based near the Bowling Alley in Eden, Officers from Wycombe District Council's Community Safety Team and Thames Valley Police's Town Centre Unit, invited people to experience the knife search arch, or to find out more about local Nightsafe initiatives such as 'Am I Safe?' or Street Angels.

As well as the work in Eden, Licensing Officers from the Council and Police were out and about undertaking their checks on premises that sell alcohol; and Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) volunteers were on hand to offer advice to visitors of the town too.



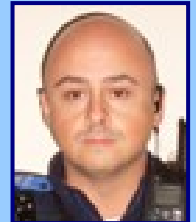
For more information about the work the Nightsafe partners do in our Towns and Villages please visit:

www.nightsafewycombe.org



Day in the life of... PCSO Lee Abrahams (High Wycombe Town Centre Neighbourhood Unit)

For a typical 08:00 to 18:00 shift I like to be in full uniform and ready to 'book on' by 07:45. I begin the day by checking my emails and messages; and then attending daily briefing to ensure I'm up to date with the latest information on offences that may have occurred in my area. Briefing also advises me of anyone who is wanted for arrest or questioning, so I know who to remain vigilant for. I then undertake a final check for jobs that need attending, and head out on patrol.



I spend the majority of my time out on patrol and enjoy this aspect of my job, generally making contact with members of the public and local businesses in the Town to see if they have any issues I can help them with. Should there have been any offences such as a burglary on the previous day, I will also make house to house enquiries to gain intelligence on the crime; as well as dealing with incidents as they occur throughout the day, everything from parking obstructions to street drinking and anti-social behaviour.

I occasionally attend meetings with our local partners, such as the Community Safety Team at the District Council and local community interest groups. These are an important way of building up a strong partnership to address issues that are affecting our community. I also have the privilege of attending the local schools on a regular basis, to give presentations, but also to provide young people with an opportunity to speak with their local police in an environment more comfortable and familiar to them.

In addition I often give talks to other local groups, offering crime prevention advice and answering any queries they may have.

Above I have mentioned just a few of my daily tasks, but as you can imagine the full list is varied and endless!

I'd like to urge residents however, if you have any issues you are concerned about in your community – do contact your local neighbourhood officer by telephoning 101. Or if you see me in Town – come up and say hello!

Look out for our next edition of our CSI out in July 2012

If you have any suggestions or recommendations for the newsletter – don't hesitate to get in touch! Telephone 01494 421117