

Meet your local policing team



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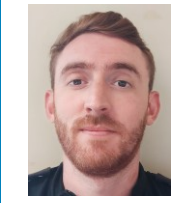
Sgt
Stonecliffe



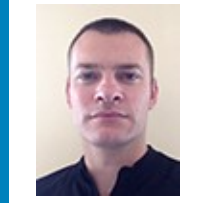
PC
Edwards



PC
Elliott



PC
Camsey



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PCSO
Balch



PCSO
Capey



PCSO
Ball

Welcome

My name is Richard Stonecliffe and I am the neighbourhood team leader for the Exmouth sector. We will be bringing you a quarterly newsletter full of safety tips and crime prevention advice, as well as giving you updates on issues and priorities that are of concern to local communities.

In this spring edition, we have included useful information about how to stay safe while enjoying our beautiful region over the coming months.

Myself and my colleagues, based at Exmouth Police Station work hard to keep you safe 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Remember, if you need us but you're not in immediate danger or a crime isn't taking place, please get in touch via our website www.dc.police.uk

If you see us out and about – please come and say hello.

Meet your local team

We will be at these events in the coming months:

Police Surgeries held at:

Exmouth Library -

Tuesday 19th March 11:00-12:00pm

Wesleys café, Budleigh -

Thursday 4th April 11:00-12:00pm.

Seachange, Budleigh –

Thursday 2nd May 11:00-12:00pm.

We look forward to seeing you there.



In this edition:

1. Top tips to keep your garden secure
2. Holiday travel advice in Devon and Cornwall
3. Have fun and stay safe
4. Scam alert!
5. Update about local priorities.

Keeping your garden secure

As the clocks change and the weather hopefully warms up, many of us are looking forward to spending more time in our gardens. Now is a good time to think about shed security and how you can keep your belongings safe. Protecting your garden and outbuildings not only keeps your valuables safe but can also stop burglars accessing tools to use to break into your home.

Prevention

1. Keep hedges and walls at the front of your home low (under one metre) so burglars have nowhere to hide.
2. Lock side gates at all times.
3. Consider spiky, defensive planting and keep hedges, walls and fences around your back garden high (over 1.8 metres).
4. Gravel driveways and paths make it harder for burglars to go undetected, due to the noise when walked upon.
5. Install an outside security light so burglars cannot approach without being seen.
6. Consider fitting a burglar alarm system.

For more information on how to keep your home safe, please visit our website:

www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/protect-home-crime/



Spring travel in Devon and Cornwall

The upcoming Easter holidays, May half-term, and two Bank Holiday weekends will bring extra visitors to Devon and Cornwall. This means there may be extra traffic on the roads and potential hold ups across our beautiful counties. The force will be doing its best to Police Bank Holiday hotspots and make sure motorists have a smooth journey on their way to the beaches.

Here's some tips to consider:

- When driving bear in mind that your journey could take longer than expected.
- Make sure you have plenty of fuel for the journey and plenty of water to stay hydrated should you get stuck in traffic.
- Older models of vehicles are particularly at risk from overheating if the weather is hot and you get stuck in traffic queues. Keep your car's radiator topped up before you travel to avoid a problem.
- When you get to your destination make sure you keep all your belongings out of sight. Small items can be shut in the glovebox or boot out of sight.
- Be prepared in case you do break down – have refreshments and keep your mobile charged.



Have fun and stay safe!

We are lucky enough to be surrounded by coasts and countryside but even the most beautiful landscape can have hidden dangers.

Although thankfully rare recent tragic cases have highlighted the importance of staying alert and safe while enjoying a day by the seaside.

The RNLI (www.rnli.org) and the Coastguard (www.hmcoastguard.uk) offer useful safety tips on their websites so you can still enjoy a great day out.

Top tips include:

- Choose a lifeguarded beach.
- Know your flags, on a lifeguarded beach there will be flags to show you where to swim. Never swim if a red flag is flying.
- Remember 'Float to Live' and teach your children this.
- Keep an eye on your children when they're playing by the sea and never let them go into the water on their own.
- Consider carrying your phone in a waterproof pouch if you go for a swim.
- If you get in trouble at the beach call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.



Scam alert

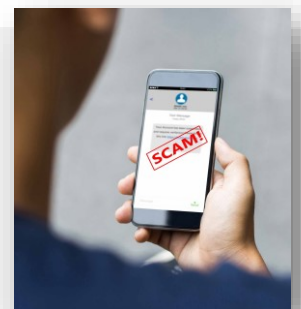
Criminals contact members of the public pretending to be from the victim's bank or from HM Revenues & Customs (HMRC). They can contact via phone call, text or email and warn you that there's been suspicious activity on your account. They then say that they've set up a separate "safe" account for you to transfer your money into however this "safe" account actually belongs to the scammer. Similarly, some scammers will claim you need to withdraw cash from your account and they arrange to collect it from you. They may claim this is part of a police investigation.

If you get any calls from numbers you do not know take five minutes to think: "Do I know who has contacted me? Are they who they say they are? Is this safe?"

Remember your bank, HMRC, the police, or any other trusted authority will **never** ask you for your PIN or banking passwords. They will never ask you to hand over cash or cards to a third party and your bank will never ask you to transfer money to a different account.

To stay up to date on the latest scams visit www.ActionFraud.Police.UK

If you are a victim of a scam you can report this to Action Fraud on Tel: 0300 123 2040.



Getting in touch

Whatever the demand we continue to keep our local communities and visitors safe.

We're always here if you need us but if it's not an emergency and a crime isn't happening right now with no one in immediate danger then reporting online will save you time and means we have all the information we need to respond appropriately.

Scan the QR code below to take you to our website home page and choose one of the blue boxes to find the form that's right for you.

 Non Emergency dc.police.uk If a crime has already happened or to give information about the crime		WebChat To get updates visit dc.police.uk and click on the Webchat widget
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 **999 Emergency** When life is threatened, people are injured, offenders are nearby or immediate action is required

Contact details for Deaf or hard of hearing / speech impaired

 999 BSL (video relay for BSL users)	 Text 999 (You must register for this service at www.emergencysms.org.uk)	 18000 Minicom/textphone
 Text 67101	 SignLive (video relay for BSL users) for Non-Emergency	 18001 101

There are situations which look like they should be police matters but are for other agencies to deal with such as noisy neighbours, dog fouling and fly tipping.

To avoid delays always visit our website first to see if this is an issue which is more appropriately dealt with by another agency.



Local Priorities

You told us that the priorities in your area are: Tackling anti-social behaviour that stems from drug dealing and drug activity throughout Exmouth town centre .

We have addressed the problem by:

1. Increasing police visibility in the area.
2. Actively engaging in multi-agency work to develop long term solutions.
3. Using Public Space Protection Orders to address and prevent anti-social behaviour.
4. Executing Misuse of Drugs Act warrants leading to the seizure of nearly £200,000 worth of illegal drugs and cash in the last eight months.

Anti-social behaviour that scars the reputation of Exmouth for locals and tourists, impacting on the economy of the town.

We have addressed this concern by:

1. Increasing police presence in the problem areas.
2. Conducting operations with the Roads Policing Team and partner agencies to educate motorists and when appropriate issuing fines to help prevent future anti-social driving.

Minimizing shoplifting incidents that have negative impact upon local businesses.

We have addressed this issue by:

1. Adopting a more robust police presence in the key areas.
2. By using the ASB escalation process to reduce incidents of such behaviour.

Keep up to date with what's happening in your area:

Facebook : Exmouth Police

Website : www.dc.police.uk and enter your postcode

D&C Alert : Sign up at alerts.dc.police.uk to hear instantly about the crimes happening in your area.