

Adur NHW Newsletter



Lancing & Sompting Issue

July - August 2024

Your Committee

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| David Hansford : | Chair |
| Doris Martin | Deputy Chair |
| Steve Male | Secretary |
| Steve Martin | Treasurer |
| Ron Marsh | Committee Member |
| Robin Monk | Committee Member |
| John Nutt | Committee Member |
| Steve Saunders | Committee Member |

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Adur NHW AGM

9th of July at the Lions Community Hall, Roberts Road, Lancing

Two members of the Adur & Worthing Safer Communities Partnership were at the Adur Neighbourhood Watch Annual General Meeting on the 9th July to provide valuable insights into some of the work of the Partnership, whose objectives are set by the Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex and are aimed at preventing crime and the fear of crime.

Caroline Pusey's work covers county tensions, ASB, drugs and drug litter, graffiti, and liaison with the appropriate Government departments – for example, drug litter is reported to the Home Office.

Drug use varies according to location: most cannabis use is in Lancing with hard drugs such as heroin mostly used in Worthing and cocaine in Shoreham. Graffiti feeds into hate crime and this information is used to find where perpetrators are gathering and identifying community tensions. Drug litter hotspots are being identified, one of the main sites being the beach; local litter picking groups are now trained to pick up needles safely and report to Caroline, as are the binmen who will report the finding of drugs and drug litter. The what3words app is used to communicate the exact location of all such findings.

Maddy Tester specialises in working with young children and arranging safe spaces, in partnership with high schools, social care and justice, and Police colleagues; her main objective is to find out who is at risk, including the identification of adverse trends. To this end she organises "Awareness Evening" meetings and also works with Electric Storm Youth (which supports young people in Shoreham and Lancing) and Kicks, which is aimed at higher risk children and provides one-to-one mentoring and involvement in football activity. Many higher-risk children are attending this and results have been positive.

The "Immediate Justice" programme has begun in Brighton & Hove and is being rolled out across Sussex; it is aimed at low level offending which does not involve the courts. The Police administer immediate justice in the form of community payback schemes, in conjunction with the Red Snapper Group.

Three new members joined our committee & our standing members agreed to continue.

Antisocial behaviour (ASB)

In Neighbourhood Watch's National Crime and Community Survey 2023, antisocial behaviour (ASB) was reported as having been the most experienced, and the most feared, crime, over the previous twelve months.

Antisocial behaviour can ruin lives and devastate communities, so reporting it early on is important to prevent it from escalating. Local authorities, social housing landlords and the police all have powers to deal with antisocial behaviour. It is important that, on reporting antisocial behaviour to your local authority, police or housing provider, that you detail the impact that it is having on your health and wellbeing.

What constitutes ASB is extremely subjective and what one person may consider to be antisocial behaviour may not be so regarded by another. However, noise nuisance, harassment and intimidation, vandalism, and fly-tipping and littering are all examples of ASB. It also includes conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, and conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.

Nuisance neighbours, in fact, make up 37% of the most common form of antisocial behaviour, with noise disturbance (such as slamming doors, DIY at unsocial hours, loud music and rowdy behaviour) being by far the most reported issue. However, loud music does not in itself constitute anti-social behaviour unless it is persistent or excessive, and one-off parties or events are often acceptable, provided that the noise is not excessive and does not result in other antisocial behaviour or criminal activity. A quiet word will go a long way to solving the problem immediately, but it is important to remember that being a good neighbour involves compromise.

An ASB diary is available for downloading from the Neighbourhood Watch website (www.outwatch.org.uk/ASB) and can be used to record incidents over a period of 14 continuous days. You can ask anyone who has witnessed the nuisance to sign the entry in the "names & addresses of any witnesses" column. The completed diary will be useful evidence in accompanying any report you make about antisocial behaviour to your Local Authority ASB team or your landlord.

Find out more about what antisocial behaviour is and how to report it here

<https://www.sussex.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/what-is-antisocial-behaviour/>

Adults Services. Living well in your community: Your West Sussex Care Guide 2024/25

The County Council's 2024/25 edition of the West Sussex Care Guide is now available.

The Guide provides comprehensive information about care and support services for adults in West Sussex, as well as health and wellbeing advice and guidance to enable people to live independently at home for as long as possible.

It also offers details of services including care at home, day services, extra care housing and residential care for when people need more help, as well as a comprehensive list of providers.

The Guide is circulated to a wide range of stakeholders including GPs, hospitals, voluntary and community sector organisations, care at home and residential care providers and libraries. We know from feedback that it is a popular and valued publication.

You can view 'Living well in your community: your West Sussex Care Guide 2024/25' online as an interactive eBook and browse through it electronically. Alternatively, you can request a printed copy by emailing publications@westsussex.gov.uk or calling 01243 642121.



Rogue Traders

Over the last six months, the Police have seen an unprecedented rise in doorstep crime and rogue trader reports across both Surrey and Sussex. These include unsolicited doorstep calls, cold-calling by phone, and leaflets through the letterbox by scammers and rogue traders bearing false logos so as to appear genuine. And, as usual, the elderly are being disproportionately targeted.

Since the beginning of the year, Sussex and Surrey Police have received 332 reports of doorstep crime which resulted in a total loss of over £1.44m (representing an average loss per person of £9.56k where losses were reported and it is likely that the true figures are far higher, because many of these crimes go unreported). The victim demographic of both forces shows that 41% of the victims were male and 59% female, with 64% living on their own and the average age being 80.

The quality of work will be substandard at best, and the price charged exorbitant. In one extreme case, an elderly victim was targeted repeatedly over the course of two years by different roofing companies carrying out work to the roof and stating that the previous contractors had carried out defective work. The victim ended up losing over £600,000.

Remember that doorstep criminals rely on being able to catch you unprepared, so it is always a good idea to rehearse your reply to an unexpected call so that it will come as second nature when the situation arises. If the call is about roof repairs, driveway jet washing or pruning trees or hedges, inform the caller that you only deal with "Buy with Confidence" County Council approved traders (Buy With Confidence is operated solely by local authority Trading Standards services, meaning that all checking and monitoring of business is done directly by them, not by third parties or private companies).

Furthermore, remember that a black and yellow door/window sticker, warning off uninvited traders and telling them that failure to leave your premises is a criminal offence under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008, is available from the Police.

Explore the history of West Sussex via the Record Office's new website

West Sussex Record Office have launched a new website giving residents even better access to the history and heritage of the county.

Visitors to the website can be transported to years gone by from the comfort of their own home through access to digital records. The online catalogue uses a specialist digital preservation system enabling users to search through the records and access up to 36,000 images available to view, download and purchase.

Cllr. Duncan Crow, West Sussex County Council Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire & Rescue, said: "West Sussex has a rich history that I encourage all residents to explore and it's great that via our new website this has made it easier and more exciting for all.

"The new website also supports our Council Plan priority making the best use of resource by modernising the way residents can access services through the use of digital channels and technology to make it as easy as possible."

To help users to get the most out of the new website, advice on searching the catalogue is available along with new research guides and further information about the collections. There are also new pages on all the Record Office's projects and latest news.

The online shop also has a host of books, DVDs and CDs available to purchase, some of which can't be found anywhere else.

Residents can also visit their local library to use a public computer, and staff will be able to help get you started on the new website. For those in need of a little extra help, the library offers digital support with the chance for a one-to-one session with a digital volunteer. Contact your local library for further information.

For those residents who still want to make a visit to the Record Office in person, the website is still a handy tool. The new Reader Order Management system can let the team know what documents you'd like to view in the Searchroom by requesting up to three items in advance, helping customers make best use of their research or study time when they visit.

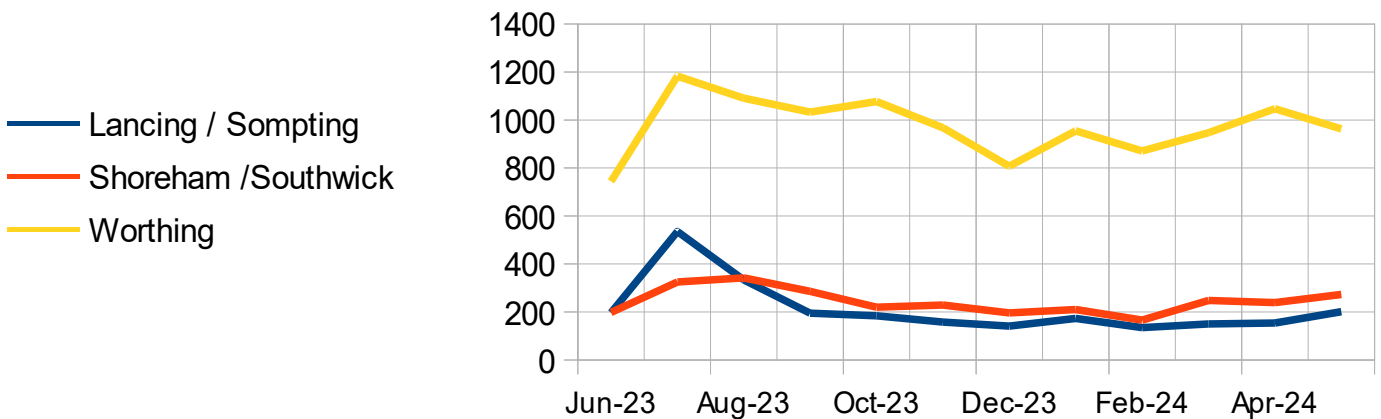
You can also use the website to find out what events and talks are taking place and book your place online.

Start exploring today at <https://www.wsro.org.uk/>.

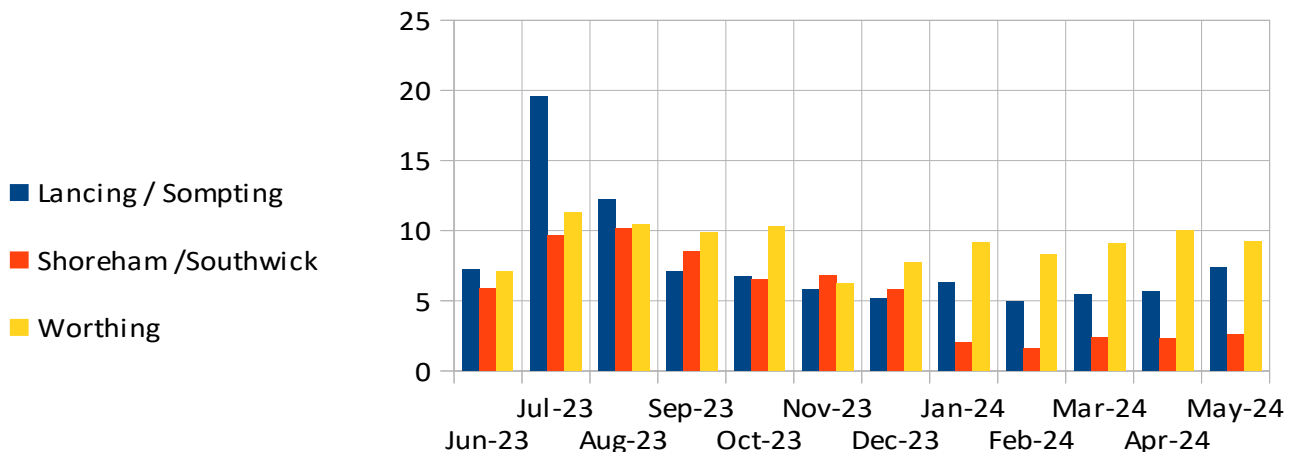
Crime Statistics for May 2024

| May 2024 | Churchill | Cokeham | Manor | Mashbarn | Peverel | Widewater | Sub Total |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Antisocial Behaviour | 8 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 10 | 33 |
| Bike Theft | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Burglary | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Criminal Damage | 6 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 27 |
| Drugs | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Other Crime | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Other Theft | 4 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 18 |
| Weapons | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Public Order | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 9 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Theft Shop | 2 | 0 | 1 | 13 | 8 | 0 | 24 |
| Theft Person | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Vehicle Crime | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Violence & Sex Offences | 13 | 12 | 5 | 15 | 11 | 17 | 73 |
| Totals | 34 | 25 | 27 | 47 | 35 | 33 | 201 |

Crimes June 2023 to May 2024



Crimes per 1000 of Population



See the latest Alerts at : [https:// worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/](https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk/)