

# Adur NHW Newsletter



## Shoreham & Southwick Issue

November 2023

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## Digital Switchover - scam warning



From 2025, the old analogue telephone landline network will be switched to digital, meaning that all phone calls will go through the Internet, and everyone will require broadband to make landline phone calls. Criminals are already using this change to scam vulnerable people. Remember to **never** provide personal or financial information to a cold caller, whoever they may claim to be. You can find out more about scams and fraud with our dedicated resource sheet.

AgeUK also has a useful webpage where you can read more about the Digital Switchover, especially if you need new equipment or support to make the change.

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk>

## Shoreham & Southwick Burglaries & Vehicle Crime

Specific details of Burglaries & Vehicle crime are not available at this time.

[www.lancingnhw.org.uk](http://www.lancingnhw.org.uk)

## The Children's Society

This year the Children's Society (<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>) is running its award-winning #LookCloser campaign, which is aimed at raising awareness of child exploitation and how to spot and report it. This campaign is being run in conjunction with the British Transport Police and the National County Lines Coordination Centre.

Countrywide, young people are being manipulated, sexually abused, forced to launder money and deal drugs. On a conservative estimate, 46,000 children (some as young as six) are thought to be involved in gangs and some 4,000 teenagers are being criminally exploited in London alone. And 84% of parents are worried about county lines in their area.

Child exploitation begins when criminals start building a manipulative relationship (online and/or offline) with children, who may then be sexually abused, forced into labour or to skip school, made to launder criminal money and to sleep in drug dens, coerced into transporting drugs or stealing from shops, and keeping secrets from loved ones.

Young people are targeted at fast food outlets, shopping centres and parks. They are forced to travel on trains, buses, coaches and use roadside services for rest stops. It can also happen 'behind closed doors' in hotels, salons, and car washes, or online through gaming platforms or social media.

Any child can be exploited but, by learning to spot the signs and how to report, we can keep children safe from this abuse. If something doesn't feel right, call the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency, or report online – but only report your concerns when it is safe for you to do so, even if this is after the event that your concerns initially arose.

If you are on a train, you can text the British Transport Police on 6106. Information on routes of travel, addresses, appearance, and behaviour of a child can all help to protect young people.

If you have information on child exploitation and abuse or suspect it may be happening but want to remain anonymous, you can contact Crimestoppers online or on 0800 555 111. A further source of aid is the NSPCC helpline (0808 800 500).

## West Downs NHW Task Force

Last Thursday's Annual General Meeting of the West Downs NHW Task Force truly marked the end of an era, with Alan Murrell standing down as its Chairman – a post that he had held since its creation in September 2015. Prior to that, he had been Chairman of the West Downs NHW Search Team (of which he had been a member since its creation in 2001) since 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2004.

It was ultimately Alan's responsibility to ensure that the Search Team volunteers were recruited, trained, equipped, transported to the venues and then led effectively by the Team Leaders in searches, often over difficult terrain and in adverse weather conditions. But the volunteers always knew that Alan would put them first. No wonder, therefore, that many of them achieved their 10 Year Service Award and some achieved 15 years by the year that the Search Team ceased operations. The Team clocked up 106 searches and over 11,500 hours' worth of work.

Moreover, it always proved able to field a group of volunteers at the shortest notice and was rightly honoured in November 2014, when it was awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services. And when Sussex Police advised in 2015 that they had no further use for its services, the decision was taken to rename the Team and to concentrate on community activities.

The demand for the Task Force's services has grown to this day, and the regard in which it is held is reflected in the fact that it has been accorded two Mayoral Receptions at Worthing Town Hall and a High Sheriff's Award in March 2019.

This tribute would not be complete without mentioning Sue, for she was unquestionably Alan's greatest support throughout until her passing in March 2021. Their commitment to their community didn't stop at the Task Force either, because they both supported their vulnerable neighbours during the pandemic and regularly maintained the two Neighbourhood Watch defibrillators in and about Worthing town centre - which Alan continues to do, in addition to conducting bike marking exercises both in Worthing and Shoreham.

Well done indeed, good and faithful servant.

Tim Drew

## West Sussex bikers offered a chance to refresh their skills this winter

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service is encouraging people to sign up for a free life-saving Biker Down workshop to help them stay safe on the road this winter.

The workshop will include training on scene management following a collision involving a motor-bike, first aid, including helmet removal, and how to best be seen on the road – vital skills which could save a life.

Biker Down instructor, Richard Poole, said: “Biker Down training is useful for all road users, not just bikers. There’s always a chance that you could be the first one on the scene at a road traffic collision involving a motorbike, and the actions taken in the early moments are essential to minimise injuries.

“Our workshops have been very popular this year and the feedback from participants has been extremely positive. One of our past attendees told us that they would definitely feel more confident dealing with the scene of an RTC now after taking part in the course. Another told us that the course had a ‘real world’ feel rather than it being a dry lecture.

“Our main aim is to ensure that everyone leaves the course armed with the knowledge and confidence to know what to do in the event of an emergency.”

Councillor Duncan Crow, Cabinet Member for Community Support, Fire and Rescue, said: “Biker Down is a very worthwhile course, helping to keep everyone safe on our roads. This free workshop is a valuable opportunity to learn skills that could save someone’s life. If you haven’t had the chance to attend a session yet, I would encourage you to book a place at our next workshop.”

Further Biker Down workshops have also been scheduled for next year on the following dates:

[Shoreham Fire Station: 25 January, 6pm to 10pm](#)

For more information on Biker Down workshops, please email [FRSFirebike@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:FRSFirebike@westsussex.gov.uk).



Partnership Engagement - Southwick Library

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November - 10:00 Hrs to 11:30 Hrs

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December - 10:00 Hrs to 11:30 Hrs

( may be subject to change nearer the date)



If you would like to talk to someone about your safety at home and in the community, as well as any concerns you may have about anti-social behaviour and crime in Adur & Worthing, the Safer Communities Partnership will be hosting a pop-up at Southwick library.

Further information can be found at our web sites :

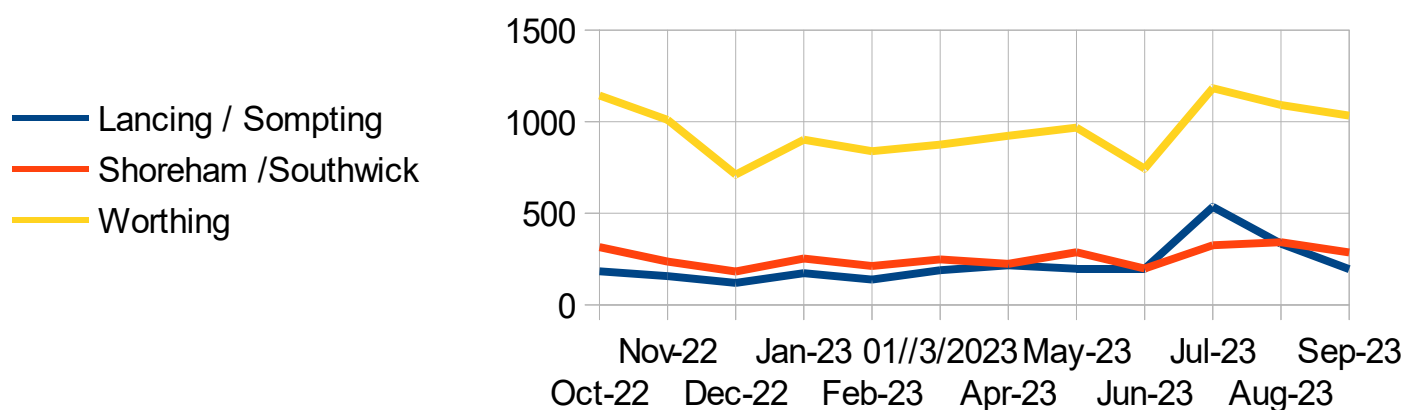
<https://worthingnhw.ourwatch.org.uk>

[www.lancingnhw.org.uk](http://www.lancingnhw.org.uk)

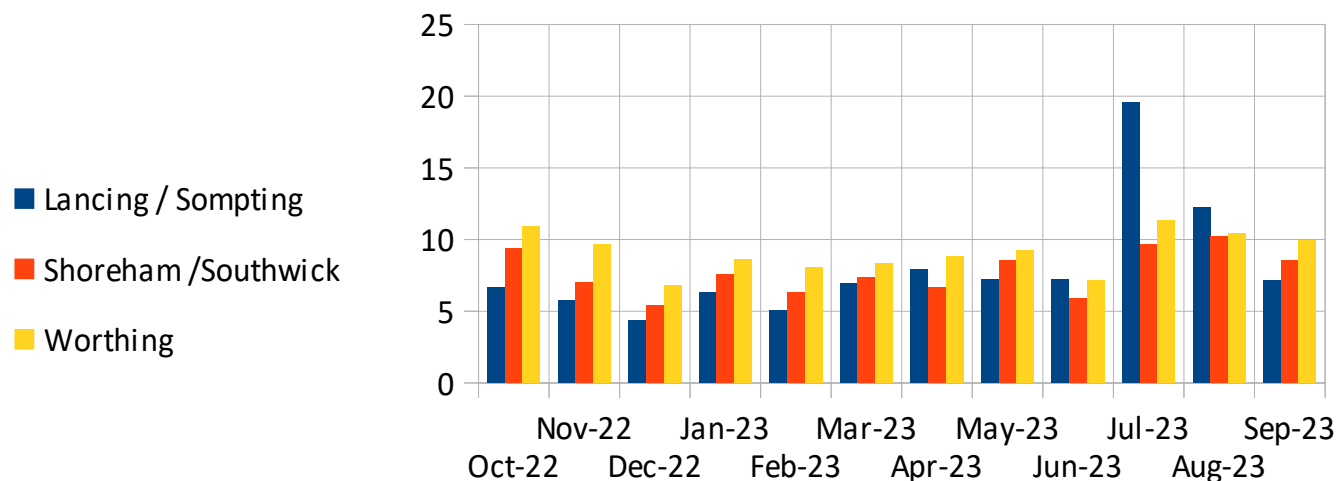
## Crime Statistics for September 2023

September 2023	Buckingham	Eastbrook	Hillside	Marine 1	Southlands	Southwick	St Mary's	St Mary's	St	Sub Total
						Green	North	South	Nicholas	
Antisocial Behaviour	2	6	5	1	3	3	13	8	1	42
Bike Theft	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Burglary	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Criminal Damage	2	4	2	0	3	5	2	6	2	26
Drugs	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	6
Other Crime	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3
Other Theft	0	3	0	3	1	2	0	5	1	15
Weapons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Order	0	4	5	1	2	3	9	8	0	32
Robbery	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Theft Shop	0	0	1	0	18	3	2	42	0	66
Theft Person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vehicle Crime	0	1	1	0	0	1	3	1	0	7
Violence & Sex Offences	6	12	10	2	15	13	10	11	5	84
Totals	10	32	25	7	45	32	40	84	11	286

### Crimes October 2022 to September 2023



### Crimes per 1000 of Population



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