



Hello and welcome to this Community Policing Team Report for
Great Cheverell Parish Council
September 2018



INTEGRITY



IMPARTIALITY



TRANSPARENCY



PUBLIC SERVICE

A reminder of your local Police Community Support Officer's....



PCSO 8206 Paul WHITESIDE
PEWSEY



PCSO 8229 Georgie BROWN
DEVIZES RURAL



PCSO 6093 Jon MILLS
PEWSEY



PCSO 6188 Melissa CAMILLERI
DEVIZES TOWN



PCSO 6035 Mark BRAITHWAITE
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DEVIZES RURAL

News

Missing people

In July this year alone, officers dealt with 300 reports of missing people - 193 of these were children.

Our summer long Beyond the Beat campaign, explores what policing in 2018 involves and looks at some of the hidden demand on police officers. This week, we are looking at the complex area of missing people, including some of the reasons children go missing.

"I've lost my child!" For parents and carers, these are dreaded words. The overwhelming panic is indescribable the moment you realise that you can't find your child. Your instinctive response is that your child has been harmed, or abducted by a stranger. And whilst we are all aware of the high profile cases where this has happened, the reassuring reality is that in most cases, children are found physically unharmed and are quickly reunited.

Unfortunately children do get lost: in supermarkets, play parks, shopping centres, theme parks - and closer to home if they are old enough to be out playing independently. The UK has seen a blisteringly hot summer where children have been enjoying the freedom of playing outside more than usual - in outdoor pools, by rivers and lakes and on the beach.

People are often surprised to hear that there's no law to say when it's OK for a child to be left alone and all children and young people are different. Some 11 year old children are mature and confident enough to go the park or to the shops on their own, but others might not be ready to do this safely. It's up to parents and carers to decide if their child is ready and mature enough.

However, it's important to stress that if a child is left alone in a way that's not safe then their parent or carer will be breaking the law. If you're unsure, the NSPCC have a [short leaflet](#) giving examples of what is acceptable and what's not.

Inspector Mark Kent, Wiltshire Police's Force Lead for Missing says: "Losing a child doesn't mean you're an irresponsible parent. Children are naturally inquisitive and curious and, let's face it, adventurous.

"Whilst we don't want to curb their natural spirit and independence, we can put in place some basic guidelines and give them advice that will help avoid, or at least minimise, the potential trauma and possible physical harm that occurs when a child is lost. It may seem counter intuitive, but stay where you are for the first few minutes after your child has disappeared. The likelihood is that they'll come back to where they last saw you."

With these simple tips, you can help keep your child safe.

- Agree an obvious meet up point just in case your child gets lost, like a first aid point, information point if you're in a shopping precinct, or tell them to go to a member of staff in a supermarket.
- Make sure your child has your telephone number - landline and mobile. If they're very young, teach them your number through rhyme and rhythm or learning by rote and repetition.
- Teach them their address and postcode.
- Make a note of what they're wearing - blue T-shirt, black shorts etc.
- Have a recent photo of your child.
- Make sure they can describe you too.

Head to your agreed meet up point. If they are not there, alert the staff on hand that you have lost your child and that they've been told about your meeting point. Give the staff your phone number so that they can call you if/when your child turns up. Describe what they're wearing and what they look like.

If your child has their own mobile phone, try and call it. You can set up their phone with a saved ICE number (In Case of Emergencies) so a parent or other relative is easy to contact.

What to do if someone you know goes missing

- Before calling the police, take the following steps to try to locate the missing person.
- Search their home or the place they were last seen, in case they are hiding or fallen and suffered injury. Remember that children can hide in small spaces.
- Look out for any notes or clues that may suggest where they may be. Check diaries, social media or email messages.
- Check to see if they have left you a message on your phone voicemail or email.
- Contact family members, friends and the person's place of work to verify that they are missing and not just somewhere unexpected.
- Make a list of family/friends.
- Check places of significance to the person ie, parks where they may play, or gather with friends.

Inspector Kent says: "If even after all this preparation, your child still manages to wander off without you noticing, the most important thing is to try and stay calm. That way you'll be able to think and communicate more clearly and logically, helping you and others to find your child."

How to report a missing person

You can report a missing person to us at any time. You do not need to wait 24 hours before making a report.

Call us on 101, or 999 if the missing person is a child, or someone thought to be at serious risk or harm.

Fake Bank Notes

We have received a number of reports with regards to potential fake notes that have been used in shops. For information on how to identify a genuine note, the Bank of England provide a lot of material on their website www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes which can be used to help determine whether a note is genuine or not.

Current Priorities

Burglaries

Unfortunately East CPT has seen a rise in burglaries over the past 8 weeks, due to this we have now ensured this is a priority for East CPT.

Alongside our increased patrols we are offering the following security advice to residents;

To improve the security in and around your home we are asking residents to remember the following advice:

- *Lock your doors and windows every time you leave the house, even if you're in the garden, and make sure you have approved locks or bolts on all doors and windows*
- *Never leave a spare key in a hiding place like in a plant pot or letterbox - a thief knows all the hiding places*
- *Keep all keys, purses and wallets out of sight and away from the letterbox*
- *Consider installing a burglar alarm, and only use a company that is registered or certified with the NSI or the SSIAB*
- *Do not open the door to anyone you don't know or are not expecting. Always check by using a spy-hole or look through a window*
- *Make sure that you have up to date contents insurance*
- *Register all serial numbers from electrical items, tools and garden equipment with Immobilise.com (the free national property register). Mark items without serial numbers with an artificial DNA property marker such as Smartwater or SelectaDNA*
- *Do not keep large amounts of cash at home - it is much safer in a bank or building society*
- *Trim back any plants and hedges at the front of your property to no higher than 1 metre to remove hiding places*
- *Always report any suspicious activity, note any vehicle registrations, descriptions of persons involved and direction of travel*

- Use a timer to set lights to mimic your usual activity when you are not at home
- Take photographs of all jewellery including hallmarks and keep them safe. Also consider using an artificial DNA property marker on jewellery or other valuable items
- Make sure any bolts are low enough so they cannot be opened by reaching over the top of the gate.



Local Crimes

10/08/2018 – Theft of a trailer, padlock cut on the gate to enter property.

22/08/2018 – Attempt theft of scrap metal, nothing taken.

No reports of ASB/burglaries/public order.

Please dial 101 to report a crime and 999 in an emergency.

Please follow us on:

Twitter <https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wiltshirepolice/>

Or sign up to Community Messaging <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>



Thank you, kindest regards,

CPT East Community Co-ordinator,
Devizes, Marlborough and Pewsey.