

## Crime Prevention Tips



As the weather warms and people take to the outdoors on their bikes once again, here are a few tips on how to keep your cycling equipment safe and secure.

-  Use a good quality chain and lock to secure your bike, even if you are only leaving it for a short time.
-  Chain it to a secure item, like a lamppost or a metal fence.
-  Consider getting a specialist marking kit with stickers, which can act as a deterrent to thieves.
-  Mark your bike with a postcode or unique reference number.
-  Keep a record of the make, model and colour of your bike - this may make it easier for police to return it to you if stolen.
-  Keep your bike in a safe place at night, like a securely locked shed or garage.
-  You could even consider chaining it to another item, like a lawn mower, which will make it harder for a thief to take away.

For more information about registering your bike, visit [www.bikeregister.com](http://www.bikeregister.com)



# 5



Altogether Better Policing

## Good Reasons to be Confident in Durham Constabulary

*There have been 3,800 fewer victims of crime in the last year.*

*Crime has fallen by 14% in the last 12 months.*

*You can help shape local policing through PACT (police and communities together).*

*Victim satisfaction is at an all-time high, so you can feel confident in coming to us.*

*You can contact your neighbourhood policing team in a range of different ways – either in person at your local police station between the hours of 10am and 5pm or by calling the 101 non-emergency telephone number.*

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Altogether Better Policing

# Consett

## Police News

Issue 6

### Off-duty officer springs into action

Welcome to issue six of your local police newsletter.

As we all begin to enjoy the lighter nights and warmer weather, please take a little time to think about how you can take steps to ensure you don't become a victim of opportunist thieves who may also be making the most of the Spring conditions.

If you have a garden shed, keep it securely locked at all times, and don't be tempted to relax your house safety just because it is milder outside - keep your doors and windows locked. We have also listed some bike safety advice on the back page of this leaflet, to help keep your property secure.

On a different note, a member of the neighbourhood team in Consett recently had to spring into action when off-duty during his weekly shop.

PC Ian Bradley was shopping in Morrisons in the town when he overheard an argument between a man and woman. PC Bradley intervened when the man's behaviour became threatening and

arrested him. The 56-year-old man, from the local area, was arrested for a section 5 public order offence and was issued with a fixed penalty notice for disorder.

PC Bradley commented: "The store was busy with shoppers at the time, many of whom were parents and young children. The victim was clearly distressed by the man's behaviour and I felt I had no choice but to intervene and arrest him.

"Any officer would tell you that you are never off duty and I'm just glad that he was arrested and removed from the store swiftly once my colleagues arrived from the station. Both the woman and the store manager were very grateful of my actions."

This is a great example of the commitment you can expect from your local police officers and I would like to thank PC Bradley for his swift action to resolve a difficult situation.

**Chris Davis**  
Neighbourhood  
Inspector  
Consett



### Your PACT Meetings

**PACT**  
Police & Communities Together



Have your say about policing in your community by attending one of our police and communities together (PACT) meetings - either online or in person. Check out the 'events' section of your local police team website pages for meeting dates, times and locations.

[www.durham.police.uk](http://www.durham.police.uk)



## Out and About

People in the Consett and Stanley areas are being given the chance to dispose of unwanted knives.

The neighbourhood policing team is running a knife amnesty which started in February to enable the public to hand over knives and bladed weapons anonymously and safely at the local police office.

PC Alan Patterson said: "Violent incidents involving knives or other bladed weapons are rare in Consett but we believe a campaign that promotes the safe disposal of knives and removes the potential for them to find their way into the wrong hands can only benefit the community."

Supported by the Consett North Partnership and Consett YMCA, the neighbourhood policing team will work with local youth groups and schools to educate on the consequences of carrying offensive weapons.

Members of the public were able to attend the front counters of Consett and Stanley police offices and safely dispose of knives and other offensive weapons during the amnesty. For more details contact the neighbourhood team on 101.

If you live in County Durham or Darlington and want to get involved in how your local area is policed, Durham Constabulary has the answer!



Along with our local councils we have developed PACT - Police and Communities Together - to ensure we're tackling the issues which matter to you in your community.

PACT meetings are held in local venues on a regular basis. This could be a community centre or similar, and we also hold online PACT meetings, PACT meetings in schools and sometimes PACT meetings in public open spaces (weather permitting).

At every meeting there's a discussion about local priorities. These are the issues which local people tell us they want their local policing team to tackle. If an issue is made a PACT priority it will be tackled, and there will be an update at future meetings about what has been done about it. The priorities should change all the time, because we aim to sort out the issue and move on to something else.

But you don't have to attend a meeting. You can be part of PACT simply by contacting your local neighbourhood team. You may see one of them out and about in your area, you can ring them using the non-emergency 101 number or you can follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

PACT is your opportunity to influence what we focus on, where you live.

To find out when your next PACT meeting is, call 101 or visit our website at [www.durham.police.uk](http://www.durham.police.uk) and click on your neighbourhood and ward/beat area.



A recent countywide campaign to tackle dog fouling has been a great success. Of the 486 people whose dogs were seen fouling whilst the Neighbourhood Wardens and PCSOs were on patrol, 97% were responsible and cleaned up after their pet. The 3% who didn't were all issued with £80 fixed penalty notices. Because the percentage that are irresponsible is so small, we really need good intelligence from the community to help us catch them. If you can provide any of the following information please report it to the council or at your local PACT meeting (reports can be made anonymously): the name and address of anybody who doesn't clean up after their dog, a description of them and their dog, the areas where they walk their dog, and the times and days they walk their dog in those areas.

The County Council will be running a 'Big Spring Clean' campaign with Litter Free Durham in March and April. The aim is to help communities come together to improve their neighbourhood by removing litter and rubbish. If you would like to organise or take part in an event in your community, contact the Civic Pride Team on 03000 261000.

The new force website is now live. Why not take a look at your local area by searching [www.durham.police.uk](http://www.durham.police.uk) where you can find updates on incidents, appeals for information, and details about your local team plus officer contact details. You can also find information regarding local policing priorities.

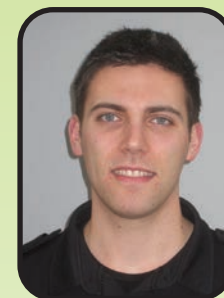
Action Fraud is the UK's national fraud reporting centre where you can report fraud, get advice and information. Visit their website [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or follow them on Twitter @actionfrauduk - Mon to Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm.

Did you know? Being part of a Neighbourhood Watch scheme may entitle you to a reduction in your home insurance premium. Neighbourhood Watch prides itself on effective communication and provides a link to and from your local safer neighbourhoods unit and neighbourhood policing team. It provides updates in relation to policing activity, incidents, crime, successful arrests and events where you live.

There are currently 63 Neighbourhood Watch schemes across the Consett area. We are looking for new co-ordinators where you live. For more information, contact your community liaison officer by calling 101.

Don't get in with a loan shark...it will cost you an arm and a leg. Loan shark lending is a crime. Don't be a victim. We can help you. In strictest confidence call 0300 555 2222, text loan (space) shark (space) and your message to 60003, email [reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk](mailto:reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk) or visit the website ([www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks](http://www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks)).

## ... down your way



"My name is Jan Simlesa and I am a PC covering the Moorside, The Grove and Castleside areas of Consett.

I have previously worked as a PCSO in Consett, and was delighted to return as a police officer in the neighbourhood team.

I already know the area well and have made good connections with members of the community here, and I plan to spend time out and about on the beat to keep those good links going.

It is really important that we understand your concerns, so we can tackle the local issues that matter to you. You can let us know by attending a police and communities together (PACT) meeting, by calling us on the non-emergency 101 number, or by stopping to chat to one of the team when they are out on the beat."



"My name is Kirstie Wilson and I am a PC for the Langley Park and Cornsay Colliery areas of Consett.

I joined the team here in August last year as part of my police officer training and have settled in well to the neighbourhood team.

Alongside the rest of the team, I am committed to making sure that Consett remains a safe place to live, work and visit. To do this we to hear feedback from local people, so that we can address any concerns there may be. Please consider attending one of the local PACT meetings, where you can help shape policing priorities for your neighbourhood. You can contact your neighbourhood policing team in a range of different ways - either in person at your local police station between the hours of 10am and 5pm or by calling the 101 non-emergency telephone number."

## Your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team

T/Inspector 1176 Chris Davis

**Blackhill & Bridgehill**  
PC 2642 Darren Rodgers  
PCSO 7517 Ian Larmouth

**Benfieldside & Shotley Bridge**  
PC 2642 Darren Rodgers  
PCSO 7165 Marie Garfoot

**Burnhope**  
PC 2416 Ian Bradley  
PCSO 6780 Lisa Jackson

**Castleside**  
PC 2691 Jan Simlesa  
PCSO 6846 Vanessa Gray

**Consett East**  
PCSO 7039 Scott Ruddick  
PC 1161 Alan Patterson  
PCSO 5523 Jeff Parker

**Consett North**  
PCSO 7039 Scott Ruddick  
PC 1161 Alan Patterson  
PCSO 5523 Jeff Parker

**Consett South**  
PC 2691 Jan Simlesa  
PCSO 6846 Vanessa Gray

**Cornsay**  
PCSO 6055 Debra Robson  
PC 2697 Kirstie Wilson

**Delves Lane**  
PC 2181 Nev Waller  
PCSO 6939 Simon Walters

**Ebchester and Medomsley**  
PC 2551 Louise Ramshaw  
PCSO 7182 Julie Brown

**Esh**  
PCSO 7348 Steven Liddle  
PC 2697 Kirstie Wilson

**Lanchester**  
PC 2416 Ian Bradley  
PCSO 6780 Lisa Jackson

**Leadgate**  
PCSO 7242 Michael Craine  
PC 2551 Louise Ramshaw

**Safer Neighbourhoods Unit:**  
PCSO 7425 Vikki Ord  
**Community Liaison Officer**  
PCSO 6357 Cath Egan  
**Anti-social Behaviour Officer**

### Main Station

Consett Police Station  
Parliament Street, Consett  
County Durham DH8 5DL  
Telephone: 101  
Fax: 0191 3752410  
Email: [consett@durham.pnn.police.uk](mailto:consett@durham.pnn.police.uk)  
Facebook: search for 'Consett Neighbourhood Police Team'  
Twitter: @ConsettPolice

**Front counter staffed:**  
10am to 5pm - Monday to Friday

Outside these hours an intercom system and CCTV facility is available to link callers to the communications centre.

**DURHAM  
CONSTABULARY**

**101**

IN AN  
EMERGENCY  
ALWAYS  
CALL 999

twitter

facebook

You Tube  
Broadcast Yourself

**You can contact your local neighbourhood team on 101**

**Your local Neighbourhood Watch coordinator is .....**