

Here is the latest update from the Faringdon Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Rural Crime

Thames Valley Police is issuing advice to horse owners in South and Vale. There have been reports of two incidents, the first incident occurred on Thursday 14 March and the second incident occurred between Saturday 30 March and Sunday 31 March where horses have sustained cuts to their bodies in Buckland and Longcot. The incidents are being investigated as criminal damage. Officers are investigating these incidents and would urge horse owners to remain vigilant and take steps to ensure the safety of their horses.

- Consider installing CCTV.
- Make regular checks of the fields where horses are kept to check that fences haven't been breached and that no one else is in the field with them.
- Secure tack room windows on the inside with solid iron bars (not tubular steel).
- Secure all doors with good quality locks; use bolts (not screws) on the hinges.
- Mark your tack using an ultraviolet pen.
- Display warning signage to deter thieves.
- Padlock gates with substantial padlocks and heavy duty chains.
- Reverse top hinges on gates to prevent lifting.
- Install security lights and an intruder alarm.

Always report any suspicious activity involving livestock to the police online or via the police non-emergency number 101 (or 999 if you believe a crime is happening). Alternatively, if you wish to remain anonymous you can contact Crimestoppers on their dedicated rural crime number 0800 783 0137.

The Faringdon Neighbourhood Team has seen an increase in hare coursing in the Pusey and Buckland area over the past month during the early hours in the morning. We have conducted increased patrols in the area and identified suspect vehicles currently involved. We are working hard to catch and deter offenders. As a team we are utilising various powers and legislation to help drive offenders from the area, even if we are not able to achieve the evidential standard to convict offenders to court. These include S.59 warnings for anti-social use of a motor vehicle, dispersal powers preventing subjects from a designated area for up to 48 hours and stringency chip checking of all dogs stopped or seized.

Also reported this month were two trailers stolen from a repeat victim just outside Faringdon. Offenders gained access to the business premise by entering a field and driving through fencing. Another livestock trailer was stolen from the Goosey area. If you see suspicious vehicles or farm machinery/trailers moving at night that appear out of the ordinary please consider calling 999 with vehicle descriptions and direction of their travel. Owners of such equipment are asked to be stringent in marking or utilising DataTag. Ensure that you have records of serial numbers and use heavy duty wheel locks to deter offenders.

County drug line disruption

Officers from the Neighbourhood Team supporting area CID, visited three addresses across Faringdon on the morning of the 28th March 2019. Two males were arrested for drug offences and two other males were arrested for outstanding court warrants. The investigation is ongoing at this time.

Burglary

We have had further reported burglaries happening within the vicinity of Faringdon with two happening in the last month in the villages of Letcombe Bassett and Buscot. Please continue to report any suspicious activity on 999. Offences appear to be daytime and early evening. The offenders have recently targeted properties for jewellery leaving messy searches and have accessed the victim's homes by smashing rear windows.

Being burgled is a traumatic experience. It's not just the financial cost of replacing stolen items, but also the emotional impact of feeling violated after a burglar has been in your home.

You can reduce the risk of becoming a victim by looking at your home security through the eyes of a burglar. Think about how you would break in if you locked yourself out. You may be surprised at how easy it would be.

To get started, simply download your **FREE Home Security Guide** from the Thames Valley Police website here: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/advice/home-security-guide/>

- Below are some quick practical steps that you can take right now to make your home more secure:
- Ensure doors and windows are locked, even if you are just out in the garden.
- Store house, window and car keys out of reach of windows and your letterbox.
- Hide valuables so they can't be seen from outside.
- Mark your valuables with a UV pen or forensic marking kit as this will make it harder for thieves to sell the items.
- Register valuables for free on the national property register at www.immobilise.com and bicycles at www.bikeregister.com.
- Trim back hedges and shrubs at the front of your property so that burglars have nowhere to hide.
- Always lock sheds and garages to prevent access to tools that could be used to break into your home.
- Plant thorny bushes around the perimeter of your garden to deter thieves from climbing in.
- Gravel can be laid on driveways, paths and beneath ground floor windows which will make a noise when stood on.

By working together we can build community resilience to deter burglars from targeting homes within the area.

Please get in touch/follow us using the following:

E-mail: FaringdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Twitter: [@tvpsouthandvale](https://twitter.com/tvpsouthandvale)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale

Phone: 101

Always phone 999 in an emergency

