



## NOVEMBER 2020

### NEWS

#### COVID: WHAT WE'VE LEARNT ABOUT HOW COVID SPREADS (NHS)



**NHS**  
University Hospital  
Southampton  
NHS Foundation Trust

### What we've learnt about how COVID spreads

I have worked as a doctor and now Chief Medical Officer at University Hospital Southampton for the last 30 years. Today, I find us facing the biggest challenge to the health of our community and the NHS who serves it. The threat of COVID.

Nationally, we are in a process of escalating restrictions and local lockdowns in response to regional levels of infection. Right now our local position in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight means we haven't yet had to experience the kind of changes seen by cities like Liverpool and Manchester.

However, rates are rising rapidly here and, if things continue on this path, within weeks we could find ourselves facing similarly stark choices.

We have now learnt a lot about how COVID spreads. This new information makes sense of why we're seeing this increase. It's also key to understanding what changes we can make to stop our region becoming overwhelmed and to ensure we avoid infecting others or catching it ourselves.

#### 8 things we know about how COVID spreads

1. It is mostly airborne. If you breathe enough virus in you will become infected.
2. Most people don't know they have the infection when they pass it on. They either don't have symptoms or they shed the virus before symptoms develop.
3. Infected people mostly shed droplets containing the virus. These droplets don't tend to travel far or last long in the air, which is why keeping apart and wearing a mask reduces your risk. These droplets settle on surfaces so washing your hands regularly stops you transmitting them to your face.
4. The virus can also be released in much smaller particles, which tends to happen when people breathe heavily, talk loudly, shout or sing. This is a problem because in these situations the particles travel further and remain in the air for longer, particularly in enclosed poorly ventilated areas. So beware crowded, noisy and closed environments.
5. The greater the variety of people you meet, the more likely you are to catch or spread COVID.
6. When the levels of the virus in the community are low, you can take a few risks and you'll probably get away with it. When the levels rise, chancing it becomes far more risky.
7. 80% of people who become infected don't pass it on to anyone, but the few that do can have the biggest impact when they're in noisy, confined and closed spaces, including people's homes.
8. Measures to control the spread are most effective the earlier they're introduced. Our rates are rising so we need to act now and do some simple things

**Autumn and the onset of winter bring cold days and evenings indoors. Windows and doors are closed in our homes, cafes, pubs and everywhere else we might meet. Essentially, it creates the perfect playground for the virus, which is why the rates are rising.**

#### How to avoid a local lockdown

It is all about making the right choices! For the time being you just need to avoid the 3c's,

- ✓ **Avoid crowds**
- ✓ **Avoid confined and poorly ventilated spaces**
- ✓ **Avoid contact whilst not socially distanced**

Walk apart where you can, wear a mask and wash your hands

#### It's not too late

Rising infection rates are not a foregone conclusion, it can be stopped in its tracks by the action we each take. Keep yourself, your loved ones and our community safe.

Yours faithfully

**Derek Sandeman**  
Medical director  
University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust





## CV19 TESTING SITES

More testing sites are opening across Hampshire, making it easier and more convenient for local people to access testing for coronavirus. These are **appointment-only**, walk-through sites and will help ensure access to prompt testing, particularly for those who are

unable to access testing sites by car, which is key to preventing further spread of the virus. See our [press release for more information](#), including advice on when to get a test and how to get one. It's important that anyone with symptoms – however mild – seeks a test promptly.



## BEAT SURGERIES

As we enter a second national lockdown we will again be postponing our face to face Beat Surgeries but we will be holding two more SAFE AT HOME events in November.

These SAFE AT HOME events will be held at places where we are already gathering, like supermarkets, but where we can still maintain our social distancing. During the last lockdown we saw a rise in domestic abuse and these SAFE AT HOME events are designed to support those victims. So, if you or someone you know isn't feeling safe at home then please come and see. We will be **outside the CO OP in Ashurst between 2 and 3pm on Wednesday 11th November** and **opposite the CO OP on the High Street in Lyndhurst also between 2 and 3pm on Monday 23rd November**.

These are difficult times for all of us and we would encourage you to contact us if you need our help in any way. If we can help, then we will. You can contact us via email, telephone or through our Facebook page which is NEW FOREST HEART COPS.

The best way to find out exactly what you can and can't do now that a second Lockdown has been announced is still to visit the Government's website. It is always being updated and very easy to understand and most importantly it gives you the absolute answers to what is and isn't lawful at this time and how best to stay safe. The address is [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and follow the links to the coronavirus updates.



## BEAT REPORT

17 homes on our Beat have had their outbuildings broken into this month, including 6 properties that were targeted on the same night in Lyndhurst at the beginning of the month and another 4 in a different part of the village at the end of the month.

Some very unique items were taken from one of the garages, where overnight between 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October a large number of gold nuggets, precious stones, metals and crystals as well as an antique vase, Japanese sword and a metal detector were stolen. If you know anything that can help us identify those responsible or if you know where any of the items are then please let us know, quoting the crime number 44200408787. You can see the stolen items on our Facebook page at NEW FOREST HEART COPS.

Items were also stolen from garages in Brockenhurst, Bartley and Ower and the office at a car garage in Cadnam was also broken into this month. Four very expensive mountain bikes were taken overnight from the conservatory of a house on Queens Road in Lyndhurst.

Investigations are ongoing and if you have any information for us or if you know who has some new mountain bikes for sale let us know and the crime number is 44200415511.

There have been 10 thefts from vehicles this month. 2 vans have again been broken into in the car park of the hotel on the main A31 at Stoney Cross while the only New Forest car parks targeted were Fritham and Puttles Bridge just off the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive. Cars and vans parked in Ower, Minstead and Netley Marsh have also been broken into this month and a catalytic converter has also been stolen from a car parked at Paultons. Thieves steal catalytic converters for the valuable metals they contain. Vehicles with a higher chassis are often targeted, as are hybrid vehicles. To keep yours safe, ask your car dealer if they can give you advice on locks, cages or guards that are approved by your vehicle's manufacturer. Stealing catalytic converters is on the rise across the whole country so here are some easy steps to follow to help keep your vehicle safe

- Park your vehicle in a locked garage, but if this isn't an option then leave it in a well-lit and well-populated area.
- If using a public car park, park alongside other cars and face your bonnet towards a wall where possible.
- Avoid parking half on the pavement, this makes the underside of your vehicle more accessible
- If your catalytic converter is bolted on, think about having them welded shut
- Installing security lighting and CCTV on your drive can act as a deterrent

In other incidents more glass has been smashed at the telephone boxes in Newbridge, Copythorne and East Boldre, 5 cars have had their windows damaged on a driveway in Brockenhurst, and we seized two cars in October because their drivers didn't have any insurance. Also this month more than a dozen KOI carp have been stolen from a pond in a garden in Bramshaw, 2 fence energisers have been taken from a farm in Newbridge, drums of used cooking oil have been stolen from a pub in Ower and a car window was smashed in a pub car park in Minstead.

The Copythorne Community Speed Watch team has again been out checking the speed of traffic in the Parish. During October they spent 9 hours monitoring almost 2,000 vehicles and 254 of them were found to be exceeding the 30 mph limit and 3 drivers were recorded going over 50mph. The good news though is that 35% of those vehicles recorded were travelling at or below the 30 mph limit so thank you very much. Please stick to the speed limit across the whole Forest especially now that the evenings are darker and the weather restricts our visibility.

Don't forget you can contact any of us on the New Forest Heart Police team on the details below but please use 999, 101 or the on line reporting page on the Hampshire Police website to record crimes or incidents of anti-social behaviour.

For Lyndhurst and the north of the Forest its

[steven.norris@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:steven.norris@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

**07554 775477**

[richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

**07554 775469**



### **FRITHAM BROADBAND - UPDATE**

Residents of Fritham may have noticed a flurry of activity around the village by Openreach, and we thought it was timely to summarise what we know.

The Nursing Home on the outskirts of the village ordered a leased line in early 2019, the delivery of which will include installing fibre from the junction box at The Bell in Brook.

A resident of Eyeworth has recently ordered a leased line which would extend the 'spine' of fibre from the Nursing Home through the village.

In July 2020 we asked Openreach to provide a revised proposal for a Community Funded Project, in the expectation that the two developments above would significantly reduce the cost to residents.

The first estimate was surprisingly considerably more expensive than the previous proposal! However, Openreach have now hopefully realised how all the pieces of the puzzle should fit together, and we are hoping for a more realistic proposal soon.



### **MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT CHIEF CONSTABLE MAGGIE BLYTH**

I am writing to you as the new Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) for local policing and public protection. My responsibilities include oversight of all response policing for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, our neighbourhood police officers and staff - and those who deal with vulnerable individuals through our public protection teams.

Hampshire Constabulary is a varied force to police with so many communities living across our cities and towns, including the Isle of Wight - and of course the vast rural districts that include so many countryside areas.

It is vitally important to me that in our approach of dealing with high harm crime, we protect the most vulnerable in our communities and we maintain the trust and confidence of the public we serve – and that means those of you living in rural areas as well as our urban conurbations.

Going out with our Country Watch team, I have been really impressed by how well our frontline officers and staff are working with you, with key stakeholders and with farmers, estates and the many individuals making up our rural communities.

Firstly, we are reliant on those relationships to keep our information and intelligence flowing and, secondly, it is those partnerships that will truly protect and keep strong all that we value across Hampshire.

Rural crime across the county is diverse and requires specialist knowledge from our officers, which the Country Watch team provides. It also needs robust and considered tasking from our different neighbourhood teams, who understand their local communities and are able to harness the right support – whether it is linked to local problem solving or helping tackle the most serious and organised crime that tends to affect our force area and knows no boundaries.

I am keen for Hampshire Constabulary to continue to build and reinforce relationships that enable us to keep people safer. We will strengthen the trust of all our communities through our delivery of fair, thorough, transparent and unbiased policing.

I do hope you enjoy this digital edition of the Rural Times and I look forward to meeting with some of you over the next few months - albeit whilst we acknowledge social distancing!



## RURAL CRIME STRATEGY

Public confidence in the policing service provided to our rural communities is something we are always looking to improve. To help us deliver a service that supports our communities as best we can with the finite resources available to us, we focused during the summer on developing our rural crime strategy to ensure we are targeting those areas which present the greatest threat, risk and harm.

With the help of our specialist Country Watch rural policing team, guided by the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan and national rural and wildlife policing initiatives, we have set out the six areas we will focus upon:

- Agricultural and business crime
- Rural isolation
- Game sports and wildlife crime
- Serious and organised crime
- Environmental and heritage crime
- Rural community crime and road safety

We will unpack each of these and provide you with the finer detail in the coming months, along with actual examples from across the two counties of the strategy in action.

To help us get this right, we have already set up a Rural Crime Tactical Board within East Hampshire, which is police-led. It is attended and supported by officers from Country Watch, local neighbourhood policing teams and, critically, by members of the rural community as well. They are best-placed to help us shape our crime prevention and detection messages so that the operations we carry out have maximum effect.

The initial signs from the Board in East Hants are so positive that we are looking to adopt a similar model across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight - by expanding and setting up a total of four Rural Policing Tactical Groups across the east, west and north of Hampshire and also on the Isle of Wight.

All will follow that similar approach of taking advice and feedback from those best placed to give it and those people are therefore able to hold us to account - so we don't just talk a good game, we deliver as well. We look forward to sharing with you some of the updates and work from those groups.

Key to improving our policing offer to our rural communities is having that clarity of vision through the Rural Crime Strategy - so we know, and you know, what it is we are trying to achieve.

This strategy is informed at a local level by the Tactical Groups who have knowledge of local problems and context. Tactics can therefore be delivered by us continuing to work closely in partnership with other agencies and organisations.

Chief Inspector Alex Reading



## CAUTION URGED AS THE DEADLIEST MONTH FOR THE NEW FOREST ANIMAL ACCIDENTS APPROACHES

As the nights draw in, drivers using New Forest roads are reminded that animal accidents increase in the lead up to Christmas, with November being the deadliest month for livestock.

Commuters are urged to be vigilant as accidents involving animals in the Forest peak between 5pm and 8pm on weekdays in the winter months.

They are also being encouraged to slow down from 40mph to 30mph, a move which adds only three extra minutes to most journeys across the Forest and can drastically reduce accidents involving animals.

Last year, 159 New Forest animals - ponies, cattle, donkeys, pigs and sheep - were involved in collisions, with 58 killed and 32 injured.

The free-roaming animals are known as the 'architects of the Forest' – it's their grazing which helps make the Forest internationally important for wildlife.

Nigel Matthews, Head of Recreation Management and Learning at the New Forest National Park Authority, convenes the Forest's Animal Accident Reduction Group. He said: *'It's the grazing by animals that helps shape and maintain the New Forest we all know and enjoy. We urge drivers to be animal aware at all times and always add extra time to journeys in the Forest. By slowing down at night, especially when oncoming vehicles approach, drivers, their passengers and the animals will be much safer.'*

The worst month for animal deaths is November; as days become shorter and clocks go back, journeys to and from work are often in the dark. Low light in winter, dazzling oncoming headlights and bad weather can make visibility poor.

Most of the drivers involved in animal accidents are relatively local people on regular trips. The high-risk routes have been identified as:

- the B3078/79 from Cadnam to Godshill
- the B3054 from Lymington to Dibden Purlieu
- the B3055 from Brockenhurst to Sway
- the C10 from Picket Post to Holmsley.

The number of commoners' animals killed and injured has almost halved in the last 20 years. Sadly though, high numbers of accidents continue to happen.

Charlotte Lines, Chair of the Commoners Defence Association said: *'Great work has been done by several Forest groups working together to reduce the number of road traffic accidents involving commoners' livestock. Reflective collars for ponies and ear tags for cattle are just two of the initiatives commoners are implementing to reduce the risk, however there are still too many casualties. Animals can just appear from nowhere and in an instant, so we ask users of Forest roads to drive with care and caution over the winter months and help us protect our animals. #Add3Minutes #PassSlowAndWide #BeForestFriendly.'*

The New Forest's Animal Accident Reduction Group has spearheaded a range of measures including police mobile speed cameras on the most dangerous routes and reflective warning signs on key roads during the winter months when accidents peak.

The Group is supported by the Commoners Defence Association, Forestry England, Verderers of the New Forest, New Forest National Park Authority, New Forest District Council, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Constabulary, New Forest Trust, New Forest Association and British Deer Society.

Bruce Rothnie, Forestry England's Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest, said: *'The New Forest is a unique place. Allowing animals to roam freely across an unfenced landscape is vital to sustaining that uniqueness. Everyone living and working in this special area can help this winter by slowing down and being extra vigilant for animals on or close to the road. Look out and look after.'*

If you do have an accident involving a pony, cow, donkey, pig or sheep you are required by law to report it to the police as soon as possible. A reward of up to £5,000 is offered for information leading to the successful conviction of drivers prosecuted for failing to stop and report an accident involving a Forest animal.

Head Agister, Jonathan Gerrelli said: *'People driving in the Forest need to be aware at all times when travelling on the Forest roads, as the free-roaming animals have no road sense and can appear suddenly in front of your vehicle with little warning. At this time of year, when the clocks change and you find yourself now driving home in the dark, particular care is needed. Allow yourself a little more time for your journey and if visibility is poor, due to the weather, darkness or an oncoming vehicles lights, slow down.'*





*'If the worst happens, and you do collide with a forest animal, or witness an accident involving one, please report it as soon as possible. A 'hit and run' is the last thing we want, where an animal could be left in pain for hours or days if not reported. Even if it runs off, the animal could be seriously injured, so call the police and an agister will be sent out to search for the casualty.'*

How drivers can help:

- Be ready to stop – animals can step out even when they've seen you approaching.
- Drive slowly, especially at night – there is a pool of darkness behind the headlights of approaching cars - an animal may be standing in it.
- Give animals grazing by the side of the road a wide berth – cross to the other side of the road and be prepared to STOP if there is on-coming traffic.
- Grazing animals on both sides of the road? Take extra care – they may cross to join their friends.
- One animal by the roadside means there are others close by – be aware.
- Bends and tops of hills need more care – animals may be standing in the road just out of sight.
- Reflective collars worn by some ponies may help you see them in the dark - but be aware that not all ponies have them.
- Deer can easily jump the fences alongside roads like the A337, A31 and A35 – and when there is one deer more will usually follow.
- **Be animal aware at all times.**

To view animal accident maps and statistics in detail, or download an animal accident business card with the emergency numbers to call, visit [www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/animalaccidents](http://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/animalaccidents).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS: SEPTEMBER

	<p><b>11 NOV</b>  <b>2pm – 3pm</b>                  outside the CO                  OP in Ashurst</p>	<p><b>BEAT SURGERIES</b>                  PCSO 14495 Richard Williams                  New Forest Heart Neighbourhood Policing Team                  Mobile telephone number: 07554 775469                  External telephone number: 101                  Email: <a href="mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk">richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk</a>                  Website; <a href="http://www.hampshire.police.uk">www.hampshire.police.uk</a></p>
	<p><b>24 NOV</b>  <b>7:30pm</b></p>	<p><b>BRAMSHAW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b>                  By Video Conference.                  The Agenda will be published on the <a href="#">Parish Council's website</a></p>
	<p><b>23 NOV</b>  <b>2pm – 3pm</b>                  opposite the                  CO OP on the                  High Street in                  Lyndhurst</p>	<p><b>BEAT SURGERIES</b>                  PCSO 14495 Richard Williams                  New Forest Heart Neighbourhood Policing Team                  Mobile telephone number: 07554 775469                  External telephone number: 101                  Email: <a href="mailto:richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk">richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk</a>                  Website; <a href="http://www.hampshire.police.uk">www.hampshire.police.uk</a></p>
	<p><b>15 DEC</b>  <b>7pm</b></p>	<p><b>BRAMSHAW TRUST AGM (BRAMSHAW VILLAGE HALL)</b>                  In the present circumstances it is likely to be a virtual meeting of the Trustees without any public present. Should any member of the public wish to ask a question of the Trustees please contact Jenny Watts <a href="mailto:jenpalwatts@hotmail.com">jenpalwatts@hotmail.com</a>                  More details will be posted nearer the time.</p>

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