



April 2023

'A Snapshot of the working life of PCSO Vicky Henderson'

Concern for welfare

While double crewed with my PCSO colleague Lou we were sent to Taunton to look for an elderly male walking around in his pyjamas. We arrived at the place where he was last seen and conducted an area tour to find him. We spoke with many people and searched many places only to find he had been picked up by family members and that he was fine. This could easily have not been the case and we may have needed to put help in place for the male and family.

Avon and Somerset police have a dementia safeguarding scheme, please look on the website for more information. A brief overview is you fill in a form with the person details and include old addresses and where they like to go. We store that information and if you report that person as missing police then access it to help locate the person.

As part of the Scheme, you can request a wearable wristband, hangtag or lanyard with glow-in-the-dark card for the individual which stores electronic information about the wearer, such as their name and next of kin. The device will be scanned by emergency services if the individual is found wandering.

Devices are only available for those with dementia and not any other type of medical condition.



Concern for welfare

Another call came in from a lady who was locked in her house and couldn't get out. My colleague and I went to investigate what the circumstances were. On arrival, the female couldn't open the door as she couldn't find her key. I noticed a key safe on the wall and called our communication department to see if we had the code to unlock the safe. We didn't have it on record. I then spoke with the next-door neighbour who was able to send me to an address where I could then get the code.

After opening the door and speaking with the lady inside it was obvious there was an issue with memory. We sat down and as my colleague asked some questions, I made the lady a cup of tea, she could remember when she had last had one.

We were able to get information which enabled us to get her some help. We also spoke with the doctor and the care team that she had coming in, to update them on her condition. Other help has now been put in place.

Alarm sounding

While in Taunton we were called to an alarm going off in a disused public house. We got there and checked the premises to see if it had been broken into. There was no sign of a break in. Many residents came to explain that the alarm had been going off since the day before and all had a disturbed sleep due to the noise and as you can imagine weren't too happy at the prospect of another night of no sleep.

We contacted as many companies as we could to find a key holder, none could be found. While talking with the residents it came about that a gas company had been in the pub around the time the alarm sounded. We got in touch with the gas company, and they were able to send someone out to go in and reset the alarm.

Scams

I was called to a bank by an employee, they suspected a member of the public were being scammed. The MOP was wanting to transfer an unusual amount of money to an account that did not seem to be what the MOP thought it was.

A PC arrived to take over the investigation.

Police produce a booklet called "The little book of big scams", this is the 5th addition. This is written by our fraud department and is full of all the latest scams. If you would like a copy, please get in touch and I'm happy to drop one off or let you know where to find a copy.

Enquiries around theft

In different parts of the beat area there was a theft of a trailer, a small tractor and the theft of a horse box. I was sent to make enquiries around identifying opportunities for CCTV and witnesses. CCTV was identified and the CCTV owners were happy to help by supplying a copy or searching through many hours of footage to obtain video and stills. You know who you are, thank you. The horse box was found and returned to the owner.

Until next month

Take care.

Vicky

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