



## September 2023

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

This month has been extremely varied.

I was still with my Tutee for September. PCSO WHELAN was then to join the Wellington Town Centre team. This all changed when PCSO FYNE announced her retirement from the police, she is moving to pastures new.

PCSO WHELAN was then asked to join Wellington Rural taking over PCSO FYNES position. So instead of tutoring a PCSO to work on Town, all change, I was then tutoring PCSO WHELAN to join me on the Rural beat.

So Welcome to PCSO Brianna WHELAN and a fond farewell to PCSO Louise FYNE.

### Missing person

Quite a bit of the first half of this month was spent locating a missing person. The person was going missing up to five times a day. We located the Misper and returned them to their home. When anyone goes missing, we assess if there are any safeguarding issues and work with social care to help safeguard the person and get help for their family also. We worked really hard on partnership work and this resulted in actions put in place so the missing person did not go missing again and the family received the help they needed.

### Events

We had the pleasure of having a stall at the older driver safety event in Bishops Lydeard. There were lots of interesting questions and advice. We also made some new contacts with other professionals at the event.

We also managed to put in a quick visit to Oake village halls 20 year anniversary. It was interesting to see and hear all about the changes.

We were also deployed to a Rave near Porlock, lots of ravers in attendance. Although not really my thing, way too old for that, the people and organisers were very pleasant. They switched off the music and cleaned up the site really well. No rubbish left at all. We were lucky to spend a few minutes with the Exmoor Rangers who arrived to clear up any rubbish at the site only to find the ravers had already been around with bin bags and cleared not only the rubbish but took those rubbish bags with them.

### 3 Males and a bong

On late night patrols we came across a smell of cannabis, followed the smell to a hut with three males and a bong sat in the middle. When asked one owned up to the bong and then handed over a grinder and an amount of cannabis. A second male handed over their grinder. One male has already attended the police station for interview and is being dealt with.

### Alarm

At the beginning of one shift there was an activation of a property alarm resulting in the alarm company contacting the police. This came in as a code one. PCSO WHELAN and I attended with PC LANG. On attendance there was a mortified homeowner. They had put in the wrong code by mistake. Usual checks were completed, search of the property, the homeowner could have been told to say it was a mistake. Thankfully all was well and the homeowner could get on with their day.

## Road related incidents

We went to quite a few road related incidents this month.

We had been called to Elworthy Cross for an oil spill on a bend late at night. We were able to locate the bend, put out signs asking for drivers to slow down and cut off the section of road with the oil to avoid the oil being spread. We then contacted Highways who came out to deal with the spill.

On the way to another job PCSO WHELAN and I heard observations being given for an intoxicated male on a fast road. Driving along we noticed a male appear from bushes and stagger into the road. We stopped our vehicle and made comms aware that we had the male that the PC's were looking for. As we approached to help, the male fell into the busy road. I got down and rolled him as close to the verge as possible and supported him so the cars couldn't get near him. When our PC colleagues arrived, we were able to lift the male out of the road and ensure his safety.

We were deployed to an RTC on a busy crossroads. On arrival we noted two vehicles blocking the road and injuries to one of the drivers. PCSO WHELAN checked the male and was about to give first aid when ambulance arrived. We managed traffic until all occupants of the vehicles had been checked by ambulance. We then made the decision to push one of the vehicles into a safer position. The other required a recovery truck. We managed to keep the traffic flowing until its arrival and shut the road for a short period when the vehicle was recovered.

I'm unsure if you all heard about the incident with an army truck in Norton Fitzwarren. My colleagues and I were on duty when we heard the first reports from the officers on scene. It's not a great feeling hearing your colleagues report that they are being driven at a male in an army truck. Four police vehicles and Members Of the Public vehicles were destroyed in this incident. We made way to the scene to support and take over cordons so MOP and Officers could receive the support they needed.

We were on the scene for many hours, we supported the family involved and although there was no way for the residents to drive out, they were very understanding.

One male was not. It was dark and we could see a light in the distance and a male voice shouting obscenities in our direction. We explained that it was a crime scene, and he would not be able to get through for his own safety. He was not happy with this and made sure the community and us were aware of this. After he tried and failed twice to get through, he walked off, only to reappear at a different part of the cordon. Again, he tried to get through and again he was told he could not. He eventually left the scene when more officers were able to get there.

It's a strange old world.  
Until next month

Take care.

Vicky

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