

Sussex Police

Wealden Neighbourhood Policing Team

NHW Update

News, Advice and Appeals

- **Happy New Year!** Welcome to our first NHW Update for 2015. We hope you had a safe and happy festive period and thanks for all your support in 2014. Because of the holidays this update contains two weeks worth of crime reports.

- **Scam warning after Blackboys woman loses £5,000** – Scams continue to be a problem, not just in Wealden, but right across the UK. Unfortunately a local resident became a victim between Christmas and New Year, when a 72 year-old woman living at Blackboys, near Uckfield, was persuaded to part with £5,000 by criminals. On Monday 29 December, the victim took a phone call from a man claiming to be a Fraud Squad detective to say someone stopped in the Midlands was found to have her bank details. The victim called 999 to check on the caller's identity and a woman operator assured her that the officer was genuine and reconnected her to him.

The victim also called her bank, but it is believed the criminals had kept the line open in order to masquerade as officials and thus quell any suspicions.

On the 'officer's' advice she took a taxi to Uckfield and drew money out of her supposedly compromised bank and savings accounts. She then followed instructions to hand the cash to a courier that was sent to collect it for evidential and forensic purposes.

Detective Inspector Mark O'Brien, of Sussex Police CID, said: "Anyone receiving calls like this should not use their phone for at least 10 minutes after ending the initial call, as criminals deliberately keep the line open to pose as other officials. As soon as possible after this, or preferably using another phone such as a mobile, they should call 999 and tell police of their suspicions, giving as much detail about the call as possible."

Anyone who has already had similar approaches, or who has other information which may help detectives, is asked to email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or phone 101.

Please share the following with friends, family, colleagues and neighbours:

- The Police will **never** contact you by telephone and ask you to disclose any details of your bank account
- The Police will **never** ask you to send them your bank cards
- The Police will **never** ask you to key your PIN numbers into the telephone keypad
- The Police will **never** ask you to transfer your funds between accounts
- The Police will **never** ask you to pay cash into an account 'for safe keeping' or in the interests of an investigation into fraudulent activity within a bank

For more information about fraud, scams or internet crime visit

www.actionfraud.police.uk

Crime Update

If you have seen or heard anything related to these incidents please contact Sussex Police [here](#), email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk, call **101** or contact Crime Stoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

Ref	Date	Details
1087	29/12	Two bicycles were stolen from a property in Summerhill, Polegate on 29 December, 2014. Some time between 8am and 5.30pm a shed at the property was broken into. A crowbar was used to force the door open and two bicycles were taken – a Scott PRO CR1 carbon road bike, and a Boardman PRO Hybrid mountain bike.
0333	31/12	Some time between 27 and 29 December 2014 a shed in Oaklea Way, Uckfield was broken into. The door to the shed was smashed off and a wheelbarrow was removed, but later found nearby. No property was stolen.
0383	04/01	The window of a chemist shop in the High Street, Hailsham was smashed on Sunday 4 January. A number of bottles of aftershave, valued at around £150, were stolen.
1020	01/01	A handbag, hidden under a coat, was stolen from a car parked in the Pylons car park, Ashdown Forest between 1pm-2pm on 1 January. The passenger front window was smashed to gain access.
0783	02/01	A blue Peugeot 206 parked in Hawkins Way, Hailsham had its rear passenger window smashed overnight on 1 January. A handbag was stolen from the front seat of the car.
0316	04/01	A sat nav was stolen from a light blue Mazda Sport vehicle parked in Harebeating Drive, Hailsham . The incident happened between 2.45pm on 3 January and 9.45am on 4 January. The front passenger window was smashed to gain access.
0367	04/01	Some time between 10pm on 3 January and 9.30am on 4 January a Peugeot 407 parked in Whiffens Close, Hailsham had its passenger side window smashed. Nothing was stolen from the vehicle.

1043	05/01	Between 3pm on 4 January and 4pm on 5 January the outbuilding of a property in Archery Walk, Hailsham was broken into. A yellow and black motocross bike, a road/push bicycle and two mountain bikes were stolen.
0142/0374	06/01	Sheds belonging to two properties in The Gages, Hailsham , were broken into recently. In the early hours of 6 January fishing equipment was stolen from one. Another shed was broken into some time between 9pm on 5 January and 7.30am the following morning, but nothing was taken.
4715002164	06/01	Between 4.30pm on 30 December and 10am on 31 December a Stihl leaf blower was stolen from a shed in Lashbrooks Road, Uckfield .
0093	10/01	Some time between 11pm on Friday 9 January and 1am on Saturday 10 January a red Kawasaki quad bike was stolen from a property in Sheffield Park .
1081	10/01	A shed belonging to a property in Framfield Road, Buxted , was broken into some time between Tuesday 6 January and Saturday 10 January. A Hitachi chainsaw and a red petrol lawn mower were taken.
0387	09/01	Between around 1.30pm and 3pm on Thursday 8 January a number of items were stolen from a white Ford Transit van parked in Butts Field, Hailsham . A Newtech electrical tester, a Hilti concrete breaker, two Makita drills, a Makita chasing machine and a set of drill bits were taken.
272	10/01	A silver VW Transporter, parked in Priory Road, Forest Row , had its hub caps stolen and its fuel filler cap broken. The incident happened between 7pm on Friday 9 January and 7am on Saturday 10 January.
1165	12/01	Power tools were stolen from an outbuilding in Limes Lane, Buxted , between 4.30pm on 11 January and 12.15pm on 12 January. The items taken were an orange and white hedge trimmer and a petrol-driven chainsaw with a 14 inch bar on it – both made by Stihl.
0059	14/01	Some time between 14 December 2014 and 10 January 2015 an orange Husqvarna petrol lawn mower was stolen from the shed of a property in Lower High Street, Wadhurst . The mower's engine is a Briggs & Stratton HQ45 in black.

0450	13/01	A yellow Mercedes Vito van, parked in Osborne Road, Crowborough , was broken into between 6pm on 12 January and 8.30am the following morning. A green Hitachi battery drill, a case of drill bits and an Erwin black toolbag and tools were stolen.
1368	14/01	Between 7.30am and 6pm on Tuesday 13 January a Tern Joe D24 folding bike was taken from the garage at the rear of a property in Hunters Way, Uckfield .

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This message was sent by Emma Fleetwood-Jones, Public Engagement Officer

Please do not reply to this email to report crimes or incidents. Contact us online <http://www.sussex.police.uk/help-centre/report-something-online> or call **101** when it's less urgent than **999**