

## Welcome!

My name is Paul Laity and I am the local sector inspector for Devonport & West which includes the areas of Keyham and Ford.

This newsletter offers safety tips and crime prevention advice, as well as giving you updates on issues and priorities that are of concern to your local community. In this summer edition, we have included useful information about how to stay safe while enjoying our beautiful region over the coming months.

Myself and my colleagues work hard to keep you safe 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Remember, if you need us but you're not in immediate danger or a crime isn't taking place, please get in touch via our website [www.dc.police.uk](http://www.dc.police.uk)

If you see us out and about – please come and say hello. We'd love to meet you.

## Meet your local team

The Keyham Community Policing Team will be at these events in the coming months:

Police Surgery Lidl Carpark 29<sup>th</sup> July 1000 – 1400hrs

Police Surgery Lidl Carpark 19<sup>th</sup> August 1000 – 1400hrs

Plus we are regularly in the schools, local parks, community events and community groups!

We look forward to seeing you there.

## In this edition:

- 1 Top tips to keep your home secure
- 2 Summer travel in Devon and Cornwall
- 3 Have fun and stay safe
- 4 Scam alert!
5. What we are doing about local priorities.

## Burglary prevention: top tips to keep your home secure

Summer brings warm weather and the chance to leave windows and doors open to allow a breeze and keep your home cool.

Unfortunately, this can also be a sign to unwelcome visitors that your home is a soft target for burglars. Keep the below tips in mind to help you keep your home safe:

- Lock your front door when you're in the back garden. Opportunist thieves can be in and out of a house in moments.
- Remember to secure garages and outbuildings. Bikes and garden equipment are an attractive option for thieves.
- Don't leave your windows open in the hot weather when leaving your home. Keeping windows closed and blinds or curtains drawn during the hottest part of the day will help keep your house cool, as well as secure.



## Summer travel in Devon and Cornwall

During the summer months, roads are likely to be busy across the region as both local people and visitors get out and about to enjoy our beaches, towns and amazing countryside.

Here's some handy tips to consider:

- When driving in the summer, bear in mind that your journey could take longer than expected.
- Make sure you have plenty of fuel for the journey – and plenty of water to stay hydrated should you get stuck in traffic.
- Older models of vehicles particularly are at risk from overheating if the weather is hot and you get stuck in traffic queues. Keep your car's radiator topped up before you travel to avoid a breakdown.
- When you get to your destination, make sure you keep all your belongings out of sight. Small items can be shut in the glove box while bigger things can be locked in the boot.
- Never leave children or dogs in a vehicle in warm weather. Even if you're only gone for a couple of minutes and leave a window open, the rising temperature within a vehicle can lead to serious, or fatal consequences.



## Have fun and stay safe!

We are lucky enough to be surrounded by beautiful coasts and countryside, but even the most beautiful landscape can have hidden dangers.

Although thankfully rare, recent tragic cases have highlighted the importance of staying alert and safe while enjoying a day by the seaside.

The RNLI ([www.rnli.org](http://www.rnli.org)) and the Coastguard ([www.hmcoastguard.uk](http://www.hmcoastguard.uk)) offer useful safety tips on their websites so you can still enjoy a great day out.

Top tips include:

- Choose a lifeguarded beach.
- Know your flags! On a lifeguarded beach there will be flags to show you where to swim. Never swim if the red flag is flying.
- Remember Float to Live – and teach your children too!
- Keep an eye on children when they're playing by the sea and never let them go into the water on their own.
- If you get in trouble at the beach call 999 and ask for the Coastguard. Consider carrying your phone in a waterproof pouch if you go for a swim.



## Scam alert!

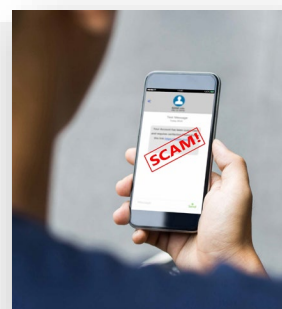
Criminals contact members of the public pretending to be from the victim's bank or from HM Revenues & Customs (HMRC). They can contact via phone call, text or email and warn you that there's been suspicious activity on your account. They then say that they've set up a separate "safe" account for you to transfer your money into – however this "safe" account actually belongs to the scammer. Similarly, some scammers will claim you need to withdraw cash from your account and they arrange to collect it from you. They may claim this is part of a police investigation.

**If you get any calls from numbers you do not know, take five minutes to think: "Do I know who has contacted me? Are they who they say they are? Is this safe?"**

Remember your bank, HMRC, the police, or any other trusted authority will **never** ask you for your PIN or banking passwords. They will never ask you to hand over cash or cards to a third party. And your bank will never ask you to transfer money to a different account.

**To stay up to date on the latest scams, visit [www.ActionFraud.Police.UK](http://www.ActionFraud.Police.UK)**

**If you are a victim of a scam, you can report this to Action Fraud on Tel: 0300 123 2040.**



## Getting in touch



We're hugely busy over the summer, keeping both local communities and our visitors safe.

We're always here if you need us – but if it's not an emergency (i.e. a crime isn't happening right now and no-one is in immediate danger) then reporting online will save you time and means we have all the information we need to respond appropriately.

Scan the QR code below to take you to our website home page and choose one of the blue boxes to find the form that's right for you.

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  <b>Non Emergency</b><br>dc.police.uk<br><small>If a crime has already happened or to give information about the crime</small>         |  | <b>WebChat</b><br><small>To get updates visit dc.police.uk and click on the Webchat widget</small> |
|  <b>999 Emergency</b> <small>When life is threatened, people are injured, offenders are nearby or immediate action is required</small> |   |  |

## Contact details for Deaf or hard of hearing / speech impaired

| Emergency  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <br><b>999 BSL</b><br><small>(video relay for BSL users)</small> | <br><b>Text 999</b><br><small>(You must register for this service at www.emergencysms.org.uk)</small> | <br><b>18000 Minicom/textphone</b> |
| Non-Emergency  |   |  |
| <br><b>Text 67101</b>   | <br><b>SignLive</b><br><small>(video relay for BSL users for Non-Emergency)</small>                  | <br><b>18001 101</b>              |

There are situations which look like they should be police matters, but which are actually dealt with by other agencies, such as noisy neighbours, dog fouling, fly tipping and more.

To avoid delays, always visit our website first to see if this is an issue which is more appropriately dealt with by another agency.



## Local issues

Whilst reported crime and Anti-Social Behaviour is consistently very low in Keyham and Ford, like the rest of the community we were extremely saddened with the recent Arson in North Down Park and more recently Graffiti of the park. A beautiful area that we know means a lot to residents and visitors.

It was great to see Plymouth City Council clear the damaged play equipment so swiftly and also remove the graffiti as soon as we reported it and like you we look forward to hearing the Council's plans for replacing the park.

The Keyham Policing Team quickly identified the persons responsible for these separate incidents and we are grateful to Keyham Neighbourhood Watch and local residents who have supported our investigations which remain ongoing.

The reasons behind this type of offending are often complex but we urge parents and carers to identify positive engagements for your children particularly as we approach the school holidays – there are so many great events in the area, please keep an eye on what Plymouth City Council, Keyham Green Places and Wolseley Trust offer –

[www.plymouth.gov.uk/news](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/news)

[www.cropskgp.org.uk](http://www.cropskgp.org.uk)

[www.wolseley-trust.org](http://www.wolseley-trust.org)

The Keyham Team will continue to conduct patrols of all the parks in the area and will continue to work with partner agencies and the community to ensure Crime and ASB remain low and that residents have a safe and peaceful summer.

## Keep up to date with what's happening in your area:

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/DevonportPolice](https://www.facebook.com/DevonportPolice)

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

**Website:** [www.dc.police.uk](http://www.dc.police.uk) and enter your postcode

**D&C Alert:** Sign up at [alerts.dc.police.uk](http://alerts.dc.police.uk) to hear instantly about the crimes happening in your area.



Devon & Cornwall  
**POLICE**