

December 2022

Foreword from Eastleigh and Hedge End District Commander, Chief Inspector Will Rollinson



Welcome to the December edition of the Policing Eastleigh partnership newsletter

I just wanted to take this opportunity before we all break for the festive period to update you on the great work my teams are doing in the district.

A short time ago, our Response and Patrol team received information of a stolen piece of plant machinery and through

some great investigative work, tracked it to a remote area of the district. The team contained the area while officers successfully applied for, and gained, a warrant from a magistrate which they later executed. They recovered not only the stolen plant machinery, but also uncovered a building being used to dismantle and break-up stolen cars.

As many of you will be aware back in October, three people were viciously assaulted in Eastleigh town centre. The two offenders were traced by Eastleigh Borough Council CCTV operators, who guided officers to the offenders who were hiding in the gardens nearby. The offenders were swiftly arrested.

This has led to both offenders being charged and the matter has now been referred to the courts. I'm pleased to say the victims are all making a steady recovery.

Whilst last month we finally caught up with a man we had been looking in relation to a series of burglaries and theft from motor vehicles occurring across the district. I am really pleased to say he was charged, remanded and is currently awaiting sentencing.

As the FIFA World Cup came to an end last weekend, I am really pleased to report that local officers were out and about in and around licenced venues showing the matches and there were no additional incidents of note. The atmosphere was really positive, with patrons enjoying the sceptical in good spirits which was fantastic to see.

As we approach Christmas you will see an continued increased police presence in and around Eastleigh Town Centre, this is part of our campaign to support local businesses and street community over the festive period under Operation Highlight.

Our High Harm Team have also had a busy period, executing a number of warrants off the back of great intelligence across the district. They have identified and shut down a number of cannabis factories and rescued a victim of modern day slavery in the process.

Lastly, on behalf of the teams and myself, I just wanted to thank you for all your hard work a dedication to keeping the district safe and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Eastleigh and Hedge End District Commander, Chief Inspector Will Rollinson

Finally, a quick reminder that our <u>Eastleigh Police</u> and <u>Hedge End</u> Facebook pages are a great way to follow the team and the work they are doing to tackle crime in the local area in order to keep our communities safe.

Investigation update



Man jailed for 20 years after being convicted of non-recent child sex offences in Hedge End

"I felt like my body wasn't my own anymore" - those are the words of a rape and sexual assault victim who has waited almost 30 years to get justice for the crimes committed against her.

It comes after a 68-year-old man from Cwmmawr, Tumble, Llanelli in Wales has been jailed for a total of 20 years after being found guilty, and subsequently convicted, of committing a string of non-recent serious child sex offences.

Stephen David Bron of Cwmmawr, Tumble, Llanelli in Wales was previously found guilty by a jury at Southampton Crown Court in November.

He was found guilty of one count of rape of a female under 16, one count of attempted rape of a female under 16 and six counts of sexual assault of a child under 16.

The court heard how the 68-year-old had sexually abused two children on multiple occasions over a 5-year period between August 1990 and December 1995 in the Hedge End areas.

One of the victims in her impact statement - which was read out in court – said that the abuse she faced 'has been a constant shadow hanging over me', recalling that she still experiences flashbacks nearly 30 years after the abuse.

The victim statement went on to say that 'she felt like her body wasn't her own anymore' and that she can 'only image what a different person I would have become if I had not had those experiences of abuse in my childhood'.

Stephen David Bron was sentenced on Friday 16 December at Southampton Crown Court to a total of 20 years in prison, eight years for attempted rape and indecent assault and five years for five further counts of indecent assault.

These will run concurrently with one another.

In addition, Bron was made the subject of an indefinite a sexual harm prevention order – as well as an indefinite restraining order to not contact either victim.

Detective Sergeant Claire Grant, from Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary's Western Investigation team, said: "Firstly, I must place on record the incredible bravery of both victims in coming forward and reporting the abuse committed by Stephen David Bron in the first instance.

"The trauma that they faced at the hands of Bron is something that they will undoubtedly have to live with for the rest of their lives – which is harrowing for them and their families – but their courageous actions have ultimately played a key role in us securing justice for them with today's sentence.

"Their innocence was taken away from them at a very early age – and the lasting impacts on his victims are clear to see – but a very dangerous man is now behind bars.

"We hope that this sentencing can provide the victims with a sense of closure and comfort that he can no longer harm them.

"We want to show you that no matter the circumstances, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary are committed to supporting survivors of rape and serious sexual offences and we will do everything we can to identify offenders and put them in front of a court.

"If you've been a victim, please report rape or sexual assault as soon as possible. Even if you're not 100 per cent sure, we'd sooner hear from you so that we can make sure you're safe."

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary have a dedicated team set up to investigate serious sexual assaults and rapes against children. We continue to invest in this area of work to reduce violence against children, identify perpetrators and get justice for victims.

If you're not ready to talk to the police just yet, that's OK.

You can speak to a number of organisations in confidence and what you tell them won't be shared with the police unless you ask for it to be – for more information please visit: https://www.hampshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rsa/rape-and-sexual-assault/.



Eastleigh man convicted of public order offences after incident in Eastleigh Town Centre

A 32-year-old man from Eastleigh has been convicted of public order offences following an incident in Eastleigh Town Centre on Thursday 1 December.

William McKinley, aged 32 of no fixed abode was arrested and charged with being drunk and disorderly in a public place and causing criminal damage.

The charges come after CCTV operators alerted local police to an altercation in a pedestrianised area of Leigh Road between Eastleigh High Street and Market Street on Thursday 1 December at around 9.45pm.

He appeared at Southampton Magistrates Court on Friday 2 December where he was convicted. McKinley was ordered to pay a £40 fine, £70 compensation and a victim surcharge of £16.



Two men charged with drug supply offences following Hedge End warrant

Officers investigating drug offences in Hedge End have charged two men and a further person arrested following a pre-planned warrant on Wednesday 14 December.

The charges come after a warrant was conducted at a property on Station Road in Hedge End just after 6am.

Mirza Baig, aged 27 of Station Road in Netley Abbey was charged with being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs and acquiring / use / possession of criminal property.

Dewan Eniyath Choudhury, aged 27, of station Road in Netley Abbey was charged with being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs and acquiring / use / possession of criminal property.

They appeared at Southampton Magistrates Court on Thursday 15 December; where they were remanded in custody. They are both due to appear at Southampton Crown Court on Friday 20 January.

Whilst a 24-year-old man of no fixed abode was arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs and acquiring / use / possession of criminal property and possession of a firearm. He was later released on conditional police bail until 14 March 2023.

Our Priorities

- Working to tackle hate-crime and associated anti-social behaviour in the night time economy across Eastleigh.
- Increase policing presence in Eastleigh town centre during the festive period; with a specific focus on business crime and the night time economy.



Please feel free to contact your local Sergeant with any queries or concerns that you may have in your local communities using the details below:

Police Sergeant Shane Hebburn

Eastleigh High Harm Team

Police Sergeant Tom Cottrell

Eastleigh Central

Acting Police Sergeant James Phillipson-Masters

Eastleigh East and West

Police Sergeant Rhys McCarthy

Hedge End South

Police Sergeant Tom Hannam

Hedge End North

Alternatively, you can contact Eastleigh District Commander, Chief Inspector directly via william.rollinson@hampshire.police.uk or Sector Inspector for Eastleigh and Hedge End Louise Hubble via louise.hubble@hampshire.police.uk.

Want to stay informed? Register for Hampshire Alerts

As a local resident, you can play a key role in helping us to prevent and detect crime and anti-social behaviour.

Improving the flow of information between the local community and the police is vital to achieving our aim to work together to deter criminals.

By signing up to Hampshire Alerts, you will receive timely updates covering crime prevention advice, crime alerts and witness appeals for incidents in the local community. It is your way of being kept informed of what we're doing in the community, allowing us to keep the communities of Eastleigh and Hedge End safe.

Click here to sign-up to receive regular Hampshire Alerts

Keep in touch with us on social media

If you want to know what our officers are doing in the district to reduce criminal activity in our local community, why not follow us on social media?

Join us on Facebook @EastleighPolice / @HedgeEndPolice