

# Update from Surrey Police Chief Constable Nick Ephgrave

October 2016



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Surrey safer*

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*One of the many lovely things about being Chief Constable is being able to share good news, such as the operational updates in these bulletins. In this edition I am also pleased to be able share some great staffing news and let you know that Gavin Stephens has been appointed as the new Deputy Chief Constable for Surrey Police. He has been temporary in the role since January and, after working for Surrey Police for over 20 years, has a wealth of experience and local knowledge that he brings to the role. I know he is as passionate as I am to make Surrey the safest county it can possibly be.*

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*Chief Constable Nick Ephgrave*



## Clocks go back

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As we head into the winter months with longer and darker evenings, crime patterns show that this can be a period where burglaries become more prevalent. We know from the success of past awareness campaigns and a reduction in the number of burglaries that many residents have taken steps to secure their properties, but we are not complacent and are determined to ensure that Surrey is a no go area for would-be burglars.

During October, as part of Home Security Month, we have been providing advice and distributing kits to mark property with forensic liquid to help ensure residents are protecting themselves from opportunistic thieves. Please could I ask that you share the prevention messages with your colleagues, as well as the communities you serve. Advice and guidance can be found on the Surrey Police Facebook and Twitter accounts by searching #SmartOnSecurity and on the advice pages of the Surrey Police website, which can be accessed here: [www.surrey.police.uk/advice/protect-your-home-and-belongings](http://www.surrey.police.uk/advice/protect-your-home-and-belongings)

## The 'Rookies' effect

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Last month I mentioned the television series, Rookies (or Britain's Rookie Cops as its name strangely changed to mid series!), that aired on ITV featuring some of our latest recruits on their journeys from an ordinary member of the public to fully-fledged police officer. The decision to take part in the series was not one that was taken lightly and we had to ensure this was the right thing to do for our Force and the recruits who volunteered to allow the cameras to follow them.

We have been evaluating the impact of the programme on both the public and our staff and I'm pleased to be able to report the response has been overwhelmingly positive.

Public feedback included:

- "Great to see such a strong focus on using mentoring for training new Police recruits in #britainsrookiecops @SurreyPolice"
- "All have helped to show Surrey Police as the professional and caring people they are. You are all a credit to the service. Congratulations on an excellent TV programme and on your graduations."

One of our main objectives in taking part was to encourage more people to join us and I'm pleased to say that recruitment interest has increased and we have seen our average police constable applications increase by 50% during the Rookies period.

It seems that our communities felt the Rookies programmes helped to give a human and realistic insight into the tremendous work our officers do. If you managed to see the programmes I hope you also found this glimpse into the daily lives of our junior officers interesting and reassuring.

## Operational successes

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I am pleased to say as usual there are too many operational successes to be able to give you a full run down but some particular highlights I thought you might find interesting to hear about are:

- A 79-year-old man has been charged with multiple non-recent serious sexual offences against two school pupils in Surrey. He is charged with 17 offences that happened between 1977 and 1981 at a school in Banstead.
- Crime doesn't pay was the message as two fraudsters were ordered to pay back £992,947.60 by January 2017 or they will have to serve a further six years in prison each after being found guilty of conspiracy to commit fraud between January 2008 and September 2012 in a prosecution including the support of the Football Association Premier League (FAPL).
- A proactive initiative launched in north Surrey has seen 15 people put before the courts, eight arrested for outstanding warrants, burglary, theft and going equipped. It has also seen seven people hand themselves in as a result of police activity in September.
- A 25-year-old man has been charged with five serious sexual offences against a teenage girl in the Park Barn area of Guildford between 2014 and 2016.
- A Farnham man has been sentenced to 36 years behind bars for serious sexual offences. He pleaded guilty to 22 counts of rape and indecent assault against two young girls between 1991 and 2005. The 48-year-old admitted the crimes after compelling historical DNA evidence uncovered by Surrey Police proved conclusively he was the offender.
- Christopher Denning, who used his celebrity status to prey on young boys has been sentenced to 13 years behind bars for serious sexual offences. He pleaded guilty to 24 offences which took place between 1969 and 1986 and involved several young boys. The conviction was as a result of a joint investigation between Surrey Police and the Metropolitan Police Service.
- We have successfully been able to obtain our first Sexual Risk Order in relation to a man in his 20s from east Surrey. In order to implement this magistrates had to be satisfied the order was necessary to protect the public, or any particular members of the public, from sexual harm from the individual. The restrictions of his order include being prevented from contacting any child under the age of 16, undertaking activity which is likely to bring him into contact with a child under 16 and possessing devices that are capable of accessing the internet, unless specific requirements are met. The civil order, if breached, could result in a five year prison sentence and would mean the man is subject to the same notification requirements as a registered sex offender.



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