



Adur and Worthing Weekly Bulletin

Friday 29th March 2018

News and appeals

Man jailed for stabbing woman in Southwick

A man who stabbed a woman who nearly died as a result of her injuries in Southwick has been jailed for 13 years and six months.

Hove Crown Court heard that Bradley Wright, 34, of Highdown, Southwick, stabbed his 34-year-old victim when she turned up at his home at 8.30am on Saturday 16 September last year. The two knew each other but a row had broken out between them and he stabbed her in the chest with a five-inch knife and fractured her eye socket. She was rushed to hospital where her heart stopped beating and medical evidence proved that the knife had connected with her lung and heart.

She underwent emergency surgery which saved her life. Doctors said she had a nine to 12 per cent chance of survival.

Her 28-year-old friend who had accompanied her to Wright's house was punched by him and suffered a broken nose.

Wright was arrested and charged with causing grievous bodily harm with intent, assault and assaulting a police officer on the way to custody.

He was found guilty on 19 March following an eight day trial and sentenced to 13 years and six months.

Detective Constable Seb Day said: "The victim was very lucky to survive after she suffered life threatening injuries. We are pleased that Wright has been given a substantial jail sentence and taken off the streets."

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/man-jailed-for-stabbing-woman-in-southwick/>

Police seek to increase awareness of 'Clare's Law'

Sussex Police is carrying out a social media campaign to raise awareness of 'Clare's Law'.

The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) enables people to apply for information about their partner's (or ex-partner's) history if they're concerned about their own safety. It also enables a concerned family member, friend, neighbour or colleague to apply for that information to protect someone they believe to be at risk of harm.

A disclosure means sharing specific information about a partner for the purposes of protecting the person in a relationship with them from domestic violence, and is known as a 'Right to Ask' disclosure.

Acting Detective Inspector Daniel Dugan said: "Sometimes people worry their partner might have a history of abuse - there may be signs to indicate that person may have been abusive in the past, or they just have a gut feeling that their relationship could be dangerous. Clare's Law enables that person, or anyone else who may be concerned, to find out for sure – and anyone can ask for this potentially life-saving information.

"It can help people make an informed decision about whether to continue with a relationship that could become violent or dangerous, and provides support when making that choice.

"This relatively underused tool that can help protect people at risk of abuse. With better awareness, we hope the disclosures will prevent people from becoming victims at the hands of abusers."

Police and statutory partners may also disclose information to an individual even if they haven't asked, if they believe someone to be at risk, which is known as 'Right to Know'.

The scheme is known as Clare's Law because it was introduced across the country in 2014, following the murder of Clare Wood in 2009 by an ex-partner. Tragically Clare was strangled and set on fire at her home in Salford, Greater Manchester, in February 2009 by George Appleton, who had a record of violence against women.

Her family, who campaigned for the introduction of Clare's Law, are convinced she would still be alive had she known the full extent of her partner's previous behaviour.

Danny Dugan said "We work closely with other agencies to identify those who may be at risk. Disclosures are also made to those that don't ask for one, if we are made aware of information from police or partners that indicates a person may be at risk of harm from their partner or ex-partner.

"We are working to increase awareness in the community. Posters and booklets are being circulated to all doctors' surgeries and Citizens Advice Centres across Sussex to provide guidance and to encourage people to make an application if they have concerns about their relationship, or someone they know. These are also available on the Sussex Police [website](#).

Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne, said; "I wholeheartedly support this Clare's Law awareness campaign because not enough people know they have the right to know if their partner has a history of domestic abuse or violence.

"Abusers and stalkers can be highly adept at hiding their past and, as we know from too many tragic cases, the realisation of a partner's true nature often comes too late.

"I urge anybody in **any** doubt about a partner, or that of a family member, to make an application for a disclosure.

"I completely understand that some people might see this step as a lack of trust with the person they want to trust completely but, if you feel that somebody isn't right for you, please trust your instincts... you are probably right."

To make a Clare's Law application contact Sussex Police:

- Visit a police station or speak to any officer
- Email 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk
- Phone 101

But if you believe that you or someone else is in immediate danger, always call 999.

There are a number of other organisations that can offer advice and support in relation to domestic abuse:

SUPPORT IN SUSSEX

- **Safe Space Sussex**
- The Portal – 0300 323 9985
- Worth Services – 0330 222 8181 / 01903 205111 Ext. 84395 / 07834 968539 (weekends)
- Victim Support – 0300 303 0554
- **Veritas Justice**
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline – 0800 200 0247
- Galop – 0800 999 5428
- Men's Advice Line – 0808 801 0327
- National Stalking Helpline – 0808 802 0300
- Respect – 0808 802 4040
- Paladin Service: **National Stalking Advocacy Service** –020 3866 4107

Signs of Domestic Abuse: Domestic abuse (also known as domestic violence) may include:

- Emotional abuse – name calling, continual criticism, humiliation, withholding affection.
- Isolation – controlling where someone goes or who they talk to, trapping someone in their own home, acting in a jealous or possessive way.
- Intimidation or threats – smashing or throwing things when angry, threatening to hurt children, pets or themselves.
- Economic abuse – giving someone an allowance, refusing to share money, not letting someone work.
- Control – taking ‘privileges’ away, making someone ask permission.
- Physical violence – pushing, slapping, biting, kicking or choking. Includes using an object or weapon to hurt someone or driving recklessly to scare them.
- Sexual abuse – holding someone down during sex, forcing them to behave or dress in a sexual way.

<https://sussex.police.uk/news/police-look-to-increase-awareness-of-clares-law/>

Alerts/Press Releases sent out this week click the link to see full details.

Crime summary

Burglary

Reference: 0667 23/03/2018

Location: Crescent Road Worthing

Date and time: Between 8:30 am and 9:00am on the 23/03

Details: An attempt was made to break into a property by smashing a window on a door. No access was gained.

Reference: 1402 23/02/2018

Location: Dorchester Gardens Worthing

Date and time: Between 5pm and 11pm on the 23/03

Details: A door was forced to gain entry to a property. Nothing was stolen.

STREET BRIEFING

GORING – APRIL 7TH BETWEEN 11AM-1PM – OUTSIDE TESCO EXPRESS GORING ROAD WORTHING

**Come and discuss any crime and antisocial behaviour issues with your
local Councillors and PCSO Kelly Watson from Sussex Police**

The event and is open to all residents, visitors and business owners.

Please feel free to share this event.

Help us keep Sussex safe

If you saw or heard anything, or have any information about any incident in this message please contact us online, email us at 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or call 101, quoting the reference number provided.

Alternatively you can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111, or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Message Sent By

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