

## Abduction case ongoing after arrests

A SECOND man was arrested in connection with the attempted abduction of two children on Friday night.

The 43-year-old, from Hastings in East Sussex, has been bailed until February pending further enquiries.

It comes after a man described as tanned and in his forties tried to grab a 12-year-old girl from Leigh Park on December 18, and an 11-year-old boy in Southleigh Road, Emsworth, on December 19.

Another man was arrested and questioned last week, and then released from custody with no further action.

Police are continuing the investigation, and said the response from the public has been 'tremendous'.

They have received at least 45 calls from the public, and have spoken to 40 motorists along Southleigh Road.

However, detectives are renewing their appeal for motorists who were nearby at the time of the Emsworth incident to come forward and help with the investigation.

Detective Inspector Jeff Huggett said: "The 11-year-old victim told police that drivers sounded their horns at him when he ran into traffic to get away from his attempted abductor.

"If you were driving a gold-coloured Mini-style car or similar model, or a blue Vauxhall, in Southleigh Road in Emsworth at around 8.30am on the morning of Wednesday, December 19, please make contact with the police."

Witnesses should call police on 101 with any information.

# The signs are good as village is put on map

A VILLAGE is hoping the culmination of a year-long project will help put a village on the map.

Featuring a time capsule buried at its base, a new village sign is the result of months of community work, and the woman behind the project has spoken of her excitement at its completion.

"It has really brought the village together," said Corina Hall of Sidlesham Parish Council.

"So many people had ideas on what they thought should go on the village sign and I wanted to please everybody.

"When the team of artists sat around the table we were trying to incorporate it all, and I think we've done that."

The village has recently celebrated a speed limit reduction, which traffic campaigners said would help people recognise the area as an individual place, not as a through route to Selsey.

Cllr Hall added: "A lot of people go through Sidlesham; it's a very long village and they don't appreciate the number of houses that are there.

"I'm hoping this is the sort of thing which will make people realise."

Having been quoted around £5,000 for a new sign



The Rev Stephen Guise blesses the new sign at Sidlesham

PICTURE BY LOUISE ADAMS C121762-1

at the start of the year, the council began looking for alternative options.

The wooden post and metal sign originated from The Selsey Tram, a pub in Donnington which closed down.

From this point onwards a long list of local businesses, individuals and the local school were all involved in seeing the project completed.

The sign, based on the

Paddock Straight, was officially unveiled on Saturday, December 15.

The introduction of a sign was initially suggested as a way to commemorate all the events of the Jubilee year.

"It's a big relief to get it done," Cllr Hall added. "There were times when I was concerned we wouldn't get it done for the Jubilee, but everything happened very quickly and then it

was up."

The project has been described by the council as an example of true recycling.

Combined with the recent speed limit reductions in the area, hopes are high the changes mark the beginning of a stronger community spirit in the village.

Cllr Hall added: "A lot of people have told me how nice it looks and how pleased they are."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Carol concerts in cathedral

CHICHESTER Cathedral was packed on Sunday afternoon, as people of all ages flocked to sing carols.

The queues for the free service stretched around the building and every seat was filled with half an hour to spare.

There were readings from friends of the cathedral, choristers and the Dean of Chichester.

Friday and Saturday's services sold out of tickets, which were allocated in November.

Children dressed up as angles, shepherds and wise men at the crib service on Christmas Eve. They were invited to take part in the service, telling the Christmas story.

### Vehicle theft

A QUAD bike was stolen from a stable block in Emsworth last week.

Between December 19 and 20, the Suzuki King quad bike was taken from a stable block on a property in Woodmancote Lane.

Police are appealing for anyone who may have seen the incident, or for anyone with information to contact Sussex Police on 101, quoting reference 0262 20/12/12.

## £90,000 worth of cannabis seized as police swoop on drugs factory in a rented house in Tangmere

A CANNABIS factory with £90,000 worth of plants, was discovered at a house in Churchwood Drive, Tangmere, last week.

On December 18, 50 plants were found in the bedrooms of the rented house after neighbours reported a leaking overflow pipe to the owner.

DS Alan Pack said: "This was a professional operation.

"We are seeking four people in connection to it, including a man in his forties who was renting the house.

"We take this crime seriously and will be seeking to confiscate the proceeds they have made."

No arrests have been made, but police are appalling to anyone with information about the factory to come forward by calling 101.

And in another drug raid, Selsey Neighbourhood Policing Team arrested four people in connection with the



Cannabis plants under cultivation at a house in Churchwood Drive, Tangmere

cultivation of cannabis and possible supply in the area.

On Thursday, the four were arrested for possession with intent to supply cannabis and two of them for the production of cannabis.

The seized cannabis has an approximate street value of £2,200.

Selsey's Neighbourhood Officer, PC Drake said "We will continue to robustly target those involved in producing and/or supplying controlled drugs locally.

"If you have any information about either drugs or crime within your community let us know, it could be the

information we need to take action."

This comes a few weeks after a drug detection operation in Selsey, where numerous checks were made, but no arrests were made.

Those with information on drugs please call 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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