

BURY RURAL SECTOR Watch News



ELECTRONIC VERSION
JANUARY 2006

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NW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Annual Bury Rural Neighbourhood Watch Conference will be held in the **Great Wheltenham Village Hall** on **Thursday the 23rd on March** starting at **7.30pm**.

Invitations will be distributed to scheme coordinators during February.

PHOTOGRAPHING VALUABLES

The St Edmundsbury Crime Prevention Panel has formed a small team of volunteer photographers who have been trained by the Scenes of Crime Officer to photograph valuables.

If you own valuables that you would like to have photographed please apply to **CSO Keith Dowyle** on **01284 774470**. The pictures will be recorded on a CD which will be given to you. No copies of the photos will be retained by anyone else. It does not matter if you do not have a computer as the police will be able to copy the picture off the CD, should any of the items ever be stolen or lost.

As there is only one set of photographic and recording equipment available, although there are several photographers, there will be a limit to the number of sessions that can be held. Initially priority will be given to members of registered Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

FAREWELL

After nine short months my bungee cord has expanded to its full length and I return to Ipswich. During my 15 years police service, mostly at Ipswich, I always wondered what it would be like working in West Suffolk but I never seemed to have enough time to study this and see if things were done differently in 'The Far West'. My posting to Ixworth in March presented me with a golden opportunity to get first hand experience. Not surprisingly I found that the police officers were the same well trained, committed work force as they are throughout the County. Suffolk County Council and Local Councils still operate and continue to make stronger links with the Police and Community.

Now the Neighbourhood Watch (NW) Schemes, well they're something special! I will quote the story of my first NW Conference for some years to come when 50 co-ordinators turned up and two sent their apologies from the 52 schemes covering the whole sector. This relatively small group of people must have had control of a significant percentage of the UK defence weapons systems in the Cold War judging by the number of retired senior military officers and police officers within the schemes. Their reliability and organisational skills make Bury Rural the most successful NW scheme in the Force.

Many other factors influence West Suffolk and how it is policed but the biggest by far is the support given by the Community and how they willingly get involved with supporting the police both by giving information and as witnesses. Neighbourhood (NH) Policing Teams are on their way to Bury Rural. They are already a reality in SE Ipswich and are making a significant difference there. With the support of the Community, NH Teams in Bury Rural can only improve the situation further.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in West Suffolk but I am off to Ipswich on 3rd January and look forward to setting up an NH Team in NE Ipswich, in this process I will take with me the good things I have learnt during my time at Bury Rural and add it into the Team improving the Community links and the quality of service.

Have a safe New Year

Mark Lewis

Inspector,

Departing Sector Commander, Bury Rural Sector

**IF WHAT YOU KNOW MIGHT SOLVE A
CRIME . . THEN REPORT IT NOW !**

**CALL The Police on 01284 774100,
or Crime Stoppers on 0800 555111**

THE NORTH ZONE

Zone Sgt - PS 248 Clare Mowson E-mail Clare.Mowson@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Rural North West – PC 39 Lindsey Whittaker

E-mail Lindsey.Whittaker@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Police Surgeries, between 11am and 12 noon, will be held at the Ixworth Library on Saturdays the 28th of Jan and 4 Feb. As always anyone is welcome to come and see me then and discuss non urgent matters with me at these surgeries. I wish everyone a very happy 2006.

Lindsey Whittaker

Crime reported on the Beat this month

Barnham. Premises on Thetford Road were forcibly entered over night 6/7 Dec and a security light smashed in an attempt to enter a secure container.

Barnham. Between 9 & 11 Dec a twin axle trailer left on farmland beside Euston Road was taken and diesel was stolen from a tank.

A handbag was stolen at 10.30am on 16 Dec at a primary school. A young female has been arrested.

Fakenham Magna. About 2.30pm on 30 Nov an attempt was made to kick down the front & back doors of house on Thetford Road.

Honington. Overnight 29/30 Nov the paintwork of two cars parked on Woodside View was scratched.

Ixworth. Overnight 9/10 Dec a wooden bench in Abbey Close was broken up.

Between 6.15 & 9.45pm on 12 Dec Christmas decorations were taken from a garden in Garrard Place.

Light bulbs were taken from two Christmas trees, one in Garrard Place, the other in Gough Place in the evening of 16 Dec.

Sapiston. A garage door off Heath Road that had an alarmed door was opened on 8 Dec. Nothing was taken.

Rural North – PC 161 Sheena Tate

E-mail Sheena.Tate@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

I hope the residents of Stanton have noticed the improvement in the level of anti social behaviour and criminal damage over recent weeks. We are grateful for the information that we have been given about these activities. This has enabled us to focus operations much more effectively.

I will put out flyers, soon, announcing the place and time for the Barningham NW relaunch in the New Year.

I hope you all had a happy and safe festive season and wish you a very happy 2006.

Sheena Tate

Crimes reported on the Beat this month

Hopton.

Overnight 1/2 Dec a wing mirror of a car parked on The High Street was damaged.

Stanton. Between 2 & 5 Dec a post was damaged during an attempted burglary in the Shepherds Grove industrial estate.

Stanton. Between 1 & 5pm 11 Dec a cat flap was removed from a back door in Buckles Field, but no entry gained. Cat flap was found nearby.

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT TO ME, AND YOU HAVE E-MAIL, PLEASE USE E-MAIL, UNLESS IT IS URGENT, AS THAT IS EASIER, QUICKER AND MORE ACCURATE TO TURN INTO A FORMAL REPORT. *Sheena.*

Rural North East – Parishes normally covered by PC Chapman have been reallocated to other CPOs. PC Lindsey Whittaker covers Great & Little Livermere, RAF Honington and Troston; PC Sheena Tate, Pakenham; and PC Graham Howe, Ampton, Great Barton and Timworth.

My next surgery at the Post Office in Pakenham will be at 2pm on Thursday 19 Jan. ***Sheena Tate***

Crimes reported on the Beat this month

Great Barton. Between 4.30 and 5am on 14 Dec an intruder walked in through an unlocked conservatory door of a property in Woodland Place. On opening a patio door was greeted, vociferously, by a large dog.

Hasty exit of one empty handed intruder.

Great Livermere. Between 6 & 7pm on 28 Nov an attempt was made to enter a car.

Pakenham. A barking dog disturbed thieves trying to steal alloy wheels from a car parked off Fen Road between 12.30 & 1.30am on 9 Dec.

Overnight 8/9 Dec a car on Fen Rd was entered, but nothing was taken.

Between 2.45 & 3pm 10 Dec a window of a locked car on Fen Road was broken and a pink Georgio Armani handbag stolen.

Troston. Overnight 3/4 Dec two bronze horse statuettes were stolen from a house on Church Lane.

Computers were stolen from a garden office in The Street overnight 22/23 Dec. The thieves broke a glass pane in the door and opened it with a key that had been left in the lock.

DOGS AND ALARMS DO DETER THIEVES, BURGLARS & VAGABONDS

THE USE OF E-MAIL FOR REPORTING

As you will see in the Rural North report, PC Sheena Tate has suggested that if there is no urgency over a report then it is a great assistance to the police to have the report in writing through e-mail. Delivered this way it is most accurate, being exactly what you have reported and not what the recipient thought you said. It can also be copied and pasted into other documents saving the time taken to type it all out, and it will be there for reference until deleted.

THE SOUTH ZONE

Zone Sgt – PS 1352 Neil Ireland E-mail Neil.Ireland@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Rural South East – CPO PC 704 Ruth Horton

E-mail Ruth.Horton@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

At the Horringer Christmas Tree festival their Neighbourhood Watch (NW) had a spectacular tree bedecked with police tape, keys, bells and stickers together with a blue flashing light. It was topped by a Fairy Doll in police uniform that bore a striking resemblance to their CPO.

Clearly the Horringer NW has much creative talent. A very happy New Year to you all.

Ruth Horton

**Crimes reported on the Beat this month
Bradfield St George.**

Between 18 & 24 Dec a green wheelbarrow was taken from a garden in Freewood Street.

Rougham.

A bag was stolen from an unlocked van on The Green at 1.30pm on 2 Dec.

Sicklesmere.

Overnight 14/15 Dec 40 patio slabs were taken from the back of a house in Hawstead Lane.

Rural South – CPO PC 992 Sarah King

E-mail Sarah.king@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

It was lovely to see all the children of Barrow Primary school for the Christmas lunch. I shall be visiting each class in the New Year. We still have a small stock of shed alarms at the reduced price of £5 and light-timers at £2.50. Do let me know soon if you would like any.

A very happy New Year to you all.

Sarah King

**Crimes reported on the Beat this month
Little Saxham.**

Between 23 & 27 Dec a large quantity of tyres were stolen from premises in the business park.

And, between 25 & 26 Dec, from other premises in the same area. Thieves returned to this unit overnight 27/28 Dec but were frustrated by heightened security measures.

Westley. Two sets of golf clubs were stolen from a locked garage in Old Church lane between 20 & 21 Dec.

Rural South West – CPO PC 819 Graham Howe

E-mail Graham.Howe@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

The Mobile Library visits many of the villages on my beat at least once a month and I try to link in with the Library as often as possible, particularly in the smaller villages where there's no village shop. This is an excellent opportunity for me to meet members of the Community on my Beat. If you see a police car near the Mobile Library I'm probably there so do call in if you have anything you'd like to discuss.

Graham Howe

Crimes reported on the Beat this month

Fornham All Saints.

During the day of 4 Dec stones damaged the front door and porch window of a house on The Street.

At 6.25pm 5 Dec a bullet was fired at a moving vehicle on the A134 holing a window. No one was injured.

Overnight 8/9 Dec eleven vehicles parked on Tut Hill were scratched.

Fornham St Martin.

A bike was stolen from a garage on Thetford Road overnight 7/8 Dec.

West Stow.

At 11.30am on 1 Dec coping stones were stolen from a wall on Icklingham Road.

A container at the Anglo-Saxon village was broken open overnight 14/15 Dec but nothing was stolen.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CONFERENCE

The planning for our next conference, to be held at Great Whelnetham Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 23rd March, is well under way. We would however be interested to hear if there are any particular subjects that you, the Coordinators and members, would like to hear about or discuss. If you have some issue you would like to raise or discuss do please contact your Community Police Officer, Zone Sergeant, the Sector Commander or Peter Johnson in good time.

In the article on Information and the Community at the end of this Watch News you will read about modern technology being able to trace the registered details of a vehicle in a matter of seconds. This is done by the Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) system. Unless required for operational reasons we expect to have this equipment available to demonstrate at the conference. You will recall that in the September Watch News we reported the acquisition of "Metal Mickey", the mobile CCTV vehicle sprouting a plethora of internal and external cameras and microphones. Again operational commitments permitting we hope to have this in operation at the conference, where it will be used to capture the images of those arriving at the conference.

To help sharpen our abilities to note and report suspicious incidents there will also be a presentation, with active audience participation, to test our capabilities, on observing and reporting.

BE SURE TO NOTE THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARIES

TO CONTACT YOUR CPO CALL 01284 774100 AND ASK FOR THE OFFICER'S AIRWAVE VOICEMAIL

PETER'S PANEL

We're into New Year Resolution time again. So what are you going to do or give up? I'm sure you all know the first thing I'll suggest you do, and that is to security mark all those valuable new items that have arrived at Christmas and any of those that may have escaped the marking process earlier. If, like us, you have recently moved house then everything needs to be redone. Don't try to remove the previous mark, instead put an **X** at either end of your old mark and apply the new one elsewhere. By leaving the old markings you automatically create an audit trail that an investigator could follow.

Just in case you may have forgotten, let me remind you how you should mark items. These should be marked with your post code followed by either the house number or, if it doesn't have a number, the first three letters of the name of the house. There are various methods that can be used to mark valuables such as etching, stamping and with permanent or ultraviolet markers. The latter two can wear out and even be removed and the former two may damage the item. So choose with care.

In addition to marking valuables with a post code you should also make a note of any manufacturers' serial numbers as they are a very positive identification. Those valuables which do not have a manufacturer's serial number, or where marking could damage them, such as oil paintings, should be photographed. If the image can be stored digitally, this would allow a very rapid distribution of the picture to dealers in the event of theft. It goes without saying that any pictures or lists of property and serial numbers should be stored elsewhere than on a home computer in case that is also stolen.

The reason for marking valuables with your Post Code and house number or name is that with these it will take only a few seconds for the police to establish exactly where in the UK an item came from. This means your chances of having lost or stolen property restored to you is greatly enhanced. As important, the police will have a better chance of proving that property they suspect has been stolen does, in fact, belong to someone else; and if they can't do that, the property has to be given back to the thief. No one, except the thief, wants that to happen!

INFORMATION AND THE COMMUNITY

The past few months has seen a very satisfying increase in the amount of information being passed to the police from members of Neighbourhood Watch and the general public. This direct information is of great value as it enables the police to target offenders quickly and accurately. Do not think you have to present a watertight case, you simply have to tell the police what you suspect or know – leave the tying up and cross referencing of details to them, that's their job and they do it very well.

Obviously the freshest information is the best, if offenders are active in the area or are still likely to be travelling, you should always dial 999 to make your report. Whilst you may prefer to make a report to someone you know, such as your CPO by calling 01284 774100 and leaving a message on their Voice Mail Box, this may not be the best way to pass on information as they will not get the message until they are next back on duty, and that could be several days.

Unless suspect individuals are known to you, perhaps the most useful information you can note for the police are accurate car registration numbers. Modern technology enables the police to trace all the details about a car and its registered owner within the matter of a few seconds of knowing its registration number. Descriptions of vehicles and individuals are, of course an added bonus, but getting the correct registration number is the top prize. Even parts of a number are useful, especially if they are combined with other details such as colour, make, model and any blemishes or unusual features.

The public made a significant contribution last year to the prevention and detection of crime in this sector, so let us go forward into this New Year with the resolution to do even better at passing on timely and accurate information to the police. You have helped make this corner of our county a better place in which to live. It can get even better, but only if we, as a community, all keep alert and report our suspicions as soon as they are roused.

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