

Puriton/ Woolavington/ West Poldens Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter

July 2009- August 2009 Newsletter for Puriton/ Woolavington/ West Poldens

Welcome to your fourth Puriton/ Woolavington/ West Poldens Neighbourhood Policing Team newsletter.

We have been very busy, helping with school cycling proficiency, security marking equipment and setting up No Cold Calling Zones.

If you would like to meet with the members of your local police beat team or discuss a current problem in your area, please use the details at the bottom of this newsletter to get in touch with us.

We hope you enjoy this issue of your newsletter and we look forward to keeping you updated on our progress in the forthcoming months.

PACT

Partners and Communities Together (PACT) gives you the opportunity to influence what happens in your neighbourhood. Neighbourhood issues are identified through local meetings and are taken to a partnership panel where courses of action are agreed. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Current public priorities agreed 21st July 2009 by members of your community No new priorities.

Next PACT meeting:

20th October 2009, 7pm at Woolavington Village Hall

Rural burglaries

Unfortunately some of the smaller rural villages on the beat have recently been targeted by overnight burglars, amongst which a vehicle, quad bike and tools were stolen.

We are continuing with our enquiries and will be carrying out high visibility patrols in the areas but if you have any information regarding these incidents or see anything unusual or suspicious, please remember to call the police non emergency telephone number 0845 456 7000 or 999 in an emergency.

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Crime reduction techniques

Due to the recent rural burglaries, please remember to be extra vigilant with your own homes and property by following some simple steps.

- * Look at your house to identify places where you can deter the thief by improving the security.
- * Don't tempt the thief - keep all valuables and keys out of sight.
- * Fit strong locks on your windows and doors and take simple precautions such as locking windows and doors when you go out even if just stepping next door or out in the garden.
- * Keep keys out of sight in a safe place.
- * Do not leave large amounts of cash around your home.
- * Alarms are an effective deterrent against burglars and surveys have shown that homes are less likely to be burgled if an alarm is fitted.
- * Photograph valuable items individually with a ruler by each item and take more than one photograph and at different angles. Make sure the photos show any marks, damage or repairs.
- * Take photos of your rooms & displays so if items are stolen you can see what has been taken.
- * Mark your valuables with UV pens or by etching and register on www.imobilise.com
- * Use a light timer when on holiday or out in the evenings.
- * Use outdoor lighting wherever possible.
- * Plant thorny or prickly hedges or plants around the perimeter of the garden.
- * Rear gardens should have fencing at least 6ft high. Trellis on top of fencing panels is not only decorative but is also difficult to climb over as it breaks easily and noisily.
- * Fit a security bulk-head light to the outside of your home at the front and back. These lights should also use low-energy light bulbs and have dusk-to-dawn sensors so that they are on during the hours of darkness.
- * Always lock garage and shed doors and fit strong padlocks.
- * Lock ladders inside your garage or shed.

Sign up to Bridgwater Rural Watch through the police and all of your valuable equipment such as tools and farm equipment can be security marked and photographed for free.

Lost property

If you have lost property please report it using the ReportMyLoss website. Report My Loss enables you to upload detailed descriptions and photographs of lost items for free – greatly increasing the chance of the property being returned to you. It also helps the police as when found items are reported they can quickly be matched to lost property using a simple search engine - whether they have serial numbers or not.