



Romsey Rural Safer Neighbourhoods Report January 2012

Welcome to the latest newsletter from your Safer Neighbourhoods team for the Romsey Rural beats

Your local officers are:



Sgt Christine Plascott



PC Vernon Gook



PCSO Jo Cole

ACTION WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN IN RELATION TO YOUR PRIORITIES

You said: You were concerned about speeding motorists.
We did: We continue to receive complaints of speeding in various locations within the rural villages. This will therefore remain our priority as it has done for some time now. We have been activity working with our Roads Policing Unit in various locations in the rural villages and conducting a number of speeding enforcements and stop checks.

You said: You were concerned about burglaries and non-dwelling burglaries like shed and outbuildings
We did: During the months of November and December few burglaries were reported. However we will continue to focus on conducting high visibility and plain clothes patrols together with support from our response teams and the local Neighbourhood Wardens.

WORKING WITH PARTNER AGENCIES Over the coming months we will continue to work with our partnership agencies VOSA, Environmental Services, and Customs and Excise, where we will be carrying out stop checks on vehicles, checking waste carriers license and diesel dipping.

JUSTICE SEEN, JUSTICE DONE

A man was arrested and charged and is currently on bail for burglaries in East Dean and Awbridge. The same man is also a suspect for a number of burglaries in Wiltshire just across the boarder.

Two men from Southampton were charged with poaching fish in the river at Kimbridge, Whilst being searched officers found a quantity of drugs – the men were also charged with drug offences

A man was stopped and charged for drinking and driving offences in Lockerley.

Whilst conducting speeding enforcement recently in West Wellow, Lockerley and Braishfield a number of offences were disclosed.

Six people were caught speeding in West Wellow
Five people were caught speeding in Lockerley
One person was caught speeding in Braishfield

School visits: We will continue to work with our rural village schools carrying out visits and working with groups of children, discussing 'stranger danger' and 'keeping safe'.

Parish Council Meetings: We are attending Parish Council meetings, giving regular updates on crimes and outcomes.

Local Action Group (LAG): Local residents from a number of villages meet with us approx every three months to discuss current issues and concerns in their village. We then try to resolve any problems giving feed back and updates. If you would like to join us please email or make contact.

Farm Watch: We are still actively seeking members for Farm Watch, If you own a farm or other agricultural/countryside establishment please contact us to discuss the scheme further.



To report anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood issues, call 101.



In an emergency, dial 999.



CRIME PREVENTION

In recent weeks we have seen a number of oil and diesel thefts across the county with a small number being reported in our rural villages. Please be aware of the following precautions and do not hesitate to contact us if you need further advice.

Heating Oil Thefts – Prevention Tips

1. Flow Control switches should be turned off and the electricity supply isolated when the tank is not in use.
2. Good quality locks. Close shackle padlocks offer most resistance to most burglar tools i.e. the bolt cropper!
3. Consider security lights, these can have a very positive effect and make any property a much harder target for thieves.
4. Defense planting – Planting prickly plants around a tank will deter thieves, if not, the smallest trace of blood or shred of ripped clothing could help identify the offender!
5. A metal grill or cage with a lockable access point can further improve security.
6. CCTV – This is a valuable means of crime prevention and detection although can be costly.
7. Ensure that the tank is as out of sight as possible, if you are unable to do this camouflage as best you can.
8. Conceal exterior pipe work.
9. Keep front gates to your property shut and any side gates locked.
10. Check your tank regularly and report anything suspicious to your Safer Neighbourhoods team at Romsey as soon as possible.

How To Prevent Burglary: Most burglaries tend to be opportunist rather than planned, so if your home does not look secure or seems unoccupied it could be at risk. Understanding what burglars look for when choosing their target will help you to identify possible weak spots in your home's security.

Mark or etch your property with postcodes, house or flat number.

Keep a record of serial numbers or register items with serial numbers a www.immobilise.com

Do not leave your car keys or ID documents near doors, letterboxes or windows.

Always check who's at the door and don't open it if you feel anxious or suspicious.

Close doors and windows, even if you are only going out for a few minutes.

Keep your valuables out of sight

Leave some lights on if it will be dark before you return home.

Install a visible burglar alarm. Always keep sheds and outbuildings locked and check them regularly.

Cancel milk or other deliveries if you will be away for days or weeks at a time.

Ask a neighbour to remove your post and check your property when you are away. Get them to park a vehicle in your driveway.

How Does A Burglar's Mind Work:

Burglary on the whole is an opportunist crime. A burglar will select his target because it offers him the best opportunity to carry out undetected, with the fewest number of obstacles in his way. A building that presents itself as unoccupied and insecure is far more likely to be a target.

- Side gates open
 - Accessible windows open
 - Doors unlocked
 - Ladders left out, allowing access to inaccessible windows
 - Garden tools available to force entry
 - Untrimmed hedged or high fences prevention natural surveillance.
- Each of these makes access to the building far simpler and is an indication to the prospective burglar that it's worth a second look.
- Keep gutters clean and free from weeds etc and trees and hedges pruned back if possible as this will prevent bogus callers calling at your property.
 - Never leave a spare key concealed anywhere near doors – burglars know all the hiding places
 - Do not label house keys in case you lose them and they fall in the wrong hands.

SUSPICIOUS SIGHTINGS – We have received a number of reports of suspicious people and vehicles in rural villages recently. I would like to thank you for reporting this and encourage you all to keep up the good work. As a result of the information you have passed on we have been able to plan our patrols focusing on areas where these sightings have taken place

COME AND MEET US

The mobile police office will visit the following locations on the following days:

Tuesdays: February 7 and March 6:

- 9–9.30am Wellow School - layby
- 9.30–10am – Wellow Stores - Lower Common Road
- 10.15–10.45am Sherfield English Post Office

Thursdays: February 23 and March 22:

- 9.30-10am, Awbridge opposite Cowleaze Cottages
- 10-10.30am, Lockerley Village Hall

Fridays: February 24, and March 23:

- 9-9.30am, Ampfield Hall
- 9.45-10.15am, Braishfield Hall
- 10.15-10.45am, Michelmersh and Timsbury Hall

Contact your Safer Neighbourhoods team by calling **101** or emailing:
romsey.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk