



Neighbourhood Watch

December 2018.



Not sure? Don't open the door.

Andover Rural	
01/12/18	Danebury Hill. Car window smashed and bag stolen & another report on 12/12/18.
04-05/12/18	Vernham Dean. Christmas Tree signs stolen overnight.
05/12/18	Broughton. Two males seen attempting to break into shop at 22.30.
05/12/18	Houghton. Car trailer stolen from driveway & an antique copper pot stolen from a garden overnight, 5-6 December.
07/12/18	Nether Wallop. Farm vehicle stolen & used in an attempted business burglary near Ampfield overnight 07-08/12/18. Reports of males seen in car stealing eggs and an honesty box near Kings Somborne and firing an air gun from the car near Romsey.
12/12/18	Abbots Ann. Two males in white van disturbed attempting to take scrap metal from gardens.
12-13/12/18	Longparish. Forced entry to shed, lawnmower stolen.
13-14/12/18	Nether Wallop. Moped stolen overnight.

Doorstep Crime.

There have been several reports of various rogue traders and cold callers in the area this month. Doorstep crime includes distraction burglary and rogue trading. Offenders pretending to be someone else, they may then distract you to get in and steal items, sometimes with an accomplice, offer to carry out repairs or improvements on the house, pretend to have lost a pet, claim they need to use your home phone, claim they are from the council, a utility supplier such as water or gas, or even police, and door to door salesmen trying to sell items. They can sometimes be intimidating and aggressive.

Sound advice is to say 'NO' to all doorstep cold callers and if you're not sure DON'T OPEN THE DOOR. Do report any suspicious callers on 101 as it helps build a picture of where potential criminals are operating and always dial 999 in an emergency.

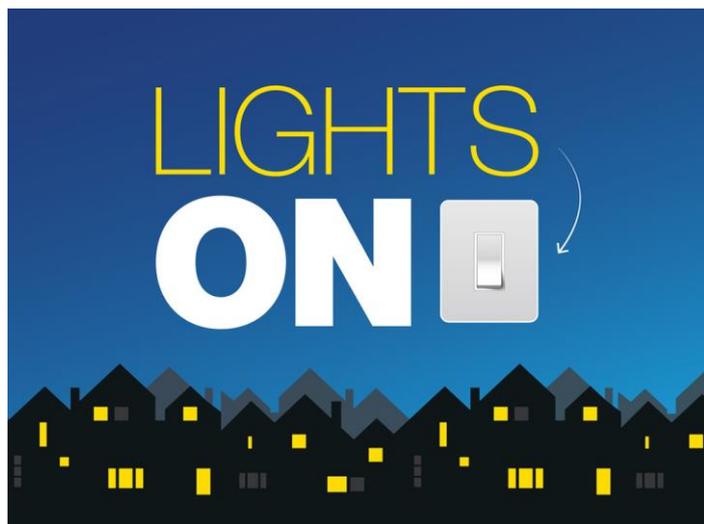
Drug County Lines.

According to the National Crime Agency there are currently more than 1,500 drug county lines operating in England and Wales at the moment, and drug gangs are targeting vulnerable people in Andover and surrounding areas. In 2018 police have been fighting back but they need information from the community to keep doing this, so do keep reporting any suspicious activity that you see on 101 or online at www.hampshire.police.uk.

Police Budget Consultation Survey.

The Policing Minister recently announced the funding for the police service for next year and recognised that policing is under significant financial pressure whilst experience exceptional operational demand. Our Police and Crime Commissioner is recommending raising the policing element of the council tax by £2 per month, £24 per year per Band D property which is welcomed by the Chief Constable and Hampshire Police Federation.

To capture public opinion on this proposal a consultation has been launched – please [take the survey here](#).



Don't make an empty home easy for burglars to spot when it's dark.

Long dark nights make perfect conditions for house-breakers, oil thieves, poachers, fly-tippers and farm and business burglars. We might be approaching the season of goodwill but criminals will think nothing of taking advantage of this time of year. Under reporting makes rural crime figures look less of a problem and this reduces the likelihood of police resources being focused on the issue, so we do urge any victims to report their experiences, including suspicious activity, to the police.

There have been some road traffic accidents due to the recent cold conditions first thing in the morning. Please take extra care driving during severe weather and remember that many of the smaller roads are not routinely salted and may be icy and slippery during cold weather.

Merry Christmas and a happy and crime free new year!

If you have any information in relation to any criminal or suspicious activity please report it to the Police on **101** or online at **www.hampshire.police.uk**, or anonymously via **Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111, crimestoppers-uk.org**.