

## POLICE NOTEBOOK

Digital technology has now come to the Wychwoods. Thames Valley Police have now completed phase two of their telephone system, which means 'B' Division, of which the Wychwoods form a part, has a new and, hopefully, improved system. This present system has been tested in Aylesbury, and early reports were encouraging.

Eventually the whole of the Thames Valley will become digital. For all non-emergency calls, the telephone number to dial is Chipping Norton (code 92) 642021. At present we have not been able to bypass that expressionless female recorded message, but believe me, we are working on it. Once the operator picks up your call, he or she will immediately know what area you are calling from. Being digital the connection should be much quicker. Certainly the quality of the lines has much improved.

If you would like to contact me you can leave messages at Chipping Norton Police Station between 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. weekdays, and any other time at Banbury Police Station, still using the same telephone number. The new system should ensure that nobody is left hanging on to a phone; if no extension answers then the operator will come back to you. I would

welcome any comments on the system, good or bad. For EMERGENCY SERVICES the number is still 999.

During the past three months several speed traps have been set up in the area at my request. As a result persons have been prosecuted. Unfortunately this has not been highlighted in the local press, because offenders can opt for the fixed penalty system of fines, instead of taking up the time of the courts. Unfortunately our officers can only provide token cover, and the manner and speed of the driver through our local villages can only be controlled by the individuals concerned. However, if certain areas are getting worse, please let me know.

During the last six months the number of burglaries has risen. The most disturbing factor is that most of them are occurring between 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.. Please be extra vigilant, they are using some kind of vehicle, probably a van or estate car. Somebody must have seen them. If you are at all suspicious, take the registration number, and then call the Police. Nobody will criticise you if the call was made in good faith. It's only through our combined efforts that we can combat crime.

P.C. Salmon 377.

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## CAN YOU PLAY THE PIANO?

Would you like to use your talent playing the organ in St. John's Church, Fifield?

We are not seeking a professional church organist, but someone who would like to increase their keyboard skills on a small organ with one keyboard.

Services are at 11 a.m. on 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, and payment will be offered at £5 per session. If you think this could be for you, please ring Mr. Wilson on S-u-W 830695.