

POLICE NOTEBOOK

“CRIME CANNOT LIVE in a community that cares”. More than anything, Neighbourhood Watch is about working together as partners for a safer and more caring community. The police alone cannot be responsible for crime prevention. We need to work together with local authorities and other agencies. But most of all we need to work with you.

Local communities are better placed than anyone to be aware of what's happening in their neighbourhood. Building and responding to that awareness is a vital part of Neighbourhood Watch. Please consider setting up a support group for Neighbourhood Watch in your street, or part of a street.

At present I have responsibility for twenty-four groups, which I try to see at regular intervals. This may appear to cover our parishes with great ease, but many more co-ordinators are needed. At present our area is suffering from daytime burglaries, where offenders arrive and leave under the general eye of the public, but who notices?

Neighbourhood Watches would firstly be self-supporting. I would attend when possible as part of a group, but I would not expect to have control over events, but would act more as a “Consultant” and would provide means to access other agencies where appropriate.

Each group would appoint a co-ordinator who would act as a



Thames
Valley
Police

contact and spokesperson between residents, local police and other agencies.

Some records may need to be kept and often arrangements are made for street signs to be erected. The co-ordinator would need to sustain the interest of the group members because in a relatively low crime rate area keeping enthusiasm within a group can sometimes be quite hard.

Discuss this proposal with your neighbours. If you need any help and advice on Neighbourhood Watch please contact Jane on 01865 266654 or myself.

CRIME BUSTERS REVIEW

Burglaries are occurring in our area mainly during weekdays between 0900hrs and 1800hrs. We believe they are using vehicles and often choose houses close to main roads. If you are in doubt, contact us. Mindless criminals have caused damage to fencing and sheds at the Wychwood primary School during half term. If you have any information, please let me know before the problem escalates. The money which will be used to repair this damage could have been used for something more productive.

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