

## POLICE NOTEBOOK

**U**NFORTUNATELY P.C. Salmon has been too busy with other matters to have been able to submit an article in time for this issue, so I have been asked to 'fill in' as there are a few aspects of the investigative activities into the recent appalling crime in Ascott which he may like to have publicised.

Firstly there is the continuing request for information, no matter how insignificant it may seem. A recent contributor when asked why the information had not been offered earlier replied "I thought you would already know that". If you have any information, no matter how slight, and even if based on rumour, please give it to the police.

The investigation has involved over 50 police officers, a support group fingertip searching, dog handlers, mounted police, and an underwater search unit, as well as much undisclosed backup activity.

Inter-village co-operation was well demonstrated with the setting up of a Mobile Incident Unit on The Green in Ascott on the week-end of 19-20th August.

In order to free as many police as possible, Reg Ray, the Shipton Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, was asked if he could supply a few volunteers to man the unit during daytime from Monday to Friday, the police manning it over the initial week-end.

Within the hour Reg had faxed a roster of helpers back to the police.

A request was later made to Norman Frost, the Milton Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for volunteers to man the unit over the Bank Holiday week-end and this he was able to do.

The caravan was again set up on the 5th and 6th of September, following the BBC Crimewatch TV broadcast and was ably manned by Ascott volunteers organised by Mrs. Susan Boyer.

We must all continue to support the police in their attempts to solve this dreadful crime.

Unfortunately it will not return Vikki, but it could prevent another similar tragedy, and may help her family to come to terms with their loss as they try to rebuild their lives.

Don Salter

Police telephone **01608 642021**



Reg Ray with the Incident Unit