

## POLICE NOTEBOOK

**D**URING the month of November 1995, The Country Watch Scheme will be introduced into our area. The idea was born some three and a half years ago on the Witney Police area, and has grown from what was nothing more than an attempt to stem the activities of the "Hare Coursing" fraternity to an organisation that has caught the imagination of the rural community and big business, other Police forces and professional groups, the smallest Parish Council and the larger County Council alike.

All of these groups now actively encourage the scheme to succeed and all are eager to play their part in making the rural area a safer place. This scheme is no magic answer to policing problems in the rural areas. It is simply a partnership between the rural community and their local police service, in its truest sense, wherein both sides exchange information and call upon each other when a problem arises. Both partners being fully aware of each others capabilities and limitations but both being prepared to ask for the others' help when it is needed.

Country Watch covers the rural areas of our community. **IT WILL NOT REPLACE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**, which will still continue to protect and inform residents within the villages. It is not a scheme that is limited to one particular group of people, it incorporates the whole rural community, residents, landowners big and small, employees of all sorts,



rural industries of all kinds, leisure groups, sporting or less active types, local authorities of all kinds, from the County Councils to the smallest Parish Council. It encourages such groups as the R.S.P.C.A., B.B.O.N.T., The National Rivers Authority, The National Trust, to name but a few.

If you are interested, or want more information on Country Watch or Neighbourhood Watch, please contact Jane Taylor at Banbury Police Station Tel. 01865 266654. Please do not contact me at present. Due to the appalling incident at Ascott in August, my duties for the whole of my parishes have been somewhat disrupted, as I am actively involved with the incident room.

### CRIME BUSTERS REVIEW

Although it has been several months since the frenzied attack and murder of Vikki Thompson, vital information is still coming into the incident room at Banbury Police Station. I feel there is more information in our parishes. If you think you have some information, no matter how small or insignificant you feel it is, please let us know. Pick up the telephone NOW and dial the incident room 01865 266646, do not wait until you bump into me, it maybe too late.

Pc 377 Salmon