

MAKE LIFE DIFFICULT FOR THE BURGLAR

Days are getting shorter now and Christmas is approaching, so now is the time to take extra care and make life difficult for the burglar. Most break-ins take place during the day, so make sure you lock up properly before you leave for work or go out shopping. Take the time to lock all the windows, especially on the ground floor.

If you are at home during the day and you notice anything out of place: a stranger taking an unusual interest in any house, a suspicious vehicle driving up and down your street, make a note of the details and report the incident to the Police Control Room – **01865 266000**. They will ask you for a description of the person, the registration number of any vehicle and will ask you where you last saw the person and which way they were heading. If you suspect that the person is in the process of, or just about to break into a house, telephone 999 immediately. Neighbours who are very elderly or infirm may not be able to reach a telephone easily, so if you see anyone suspicious calling on them, a telephone call on their behalf would not go amiss.

A final point – if you are buying electrical goods as Christmas presents, why not buy an ultra-violet marking pen at the same time so that the new owner can post code the gift straight away. Police often recover items they believe to be stolen property, but because they have not been marked or no record of the serial number has been kept, they cannot be positively identified as stolen. This means that not only will the rightful owner not get their property back, but it may have to be handed back to the thief! Marking your property only takes a few minutes, so why not make it a New Year's resolution, better still – do it straight away!

Notice to Advertisers

This issue has been compiled using a more modern process to 'future proof' the magazine. This has caused hours of work converting advertisements to the new format resulting in errors, most of which we think we found, but please let us know if we missed any. Thank you.

SO YOU THOUGHT IT WAS ALL OVER!

No, this is not a TV show but rather a matter of déjà vu. Just when we thought it was all quiet on the Shipton Village Hall front, we had a resurgence of vandalism in the form of two large stones (rocks) through one of the large double-glazed panels and the telephone particularly maliciously put out of order.

If the perpetrators (sorry, "them wot dunnit") of these pointless acts would like to submit an article explaining their grievances, we would be only too pleased to print it. If anyone else has any information, a quiet word in Bob Salmon's ear might be a good idea.