

POLICE NOTEBOOK

ARE PATROL OFFICERS becoming an endangered species? Have cash cuts made patrolling an afterthought, and do Chief Constables give enough priority to their officers walking the beat?

There is a growing public awareness of the widening gap between resources and demand for police services. Some forces have made basic changes in the style of patrolling to improve efficiency and effectiveness, and although some of these changes have been beneficial, others have been cost driven and have harmed quality of service. To change direction would require an increase in resources, more police officers would be needed to make patrolling fully effective, and given a higher priority.

The number of police currently available for patrol at any one time represents a small fraction of the whole strength. However if patrolling was made the first priority rather than the last, this number could be doubled making a substantial increase.

What price do you put on the high level of reassurance the public have when they see a uniformed police officer on patrol? I believe the value of the beat bobby is immeasurable.



Thames
Valley
Police

The public tell me they want to see more police in their area. They do not want cheap-jack alternatives. They want real, fully trained, professional police officers.

I am now back on my area in a full time capacity, and hopefully will be able to see and speak to you on my patrols. If you do have a problem or want advice the telephone number is **01865 266000 or 01865 266760/2.**

CRIME BUSTERS REVIEW

Calling all ageing bikers. If you had your full car licence prior to December 1990, and took advantage of riding a learner motorcycle (less than 125cc) on it - you must now complete the compulsory basic training. You can still ride your moped though!

Thanks to your vigilance three offenders from Stow and Moreton have been charged with theft from the telephone box in Ascott.

Pc 377 Salmon.

CONFIRMATION, 1997, Holy Trinity, Ascott-u-Wychwood

Could anyone, young or old, interested in the possibility of being confirmed during the autumn of this year please get in touch with the Vicar by the end of May. 01608 676572