

POLICE NOTEBOOK

MOTOR VEHICLES ARE an every day part of our life, we rely on these vehicles to convey and deliver nearly all the commodities we need. The motor vehicle can take us to all parts of the world which earlier generations never explored. However to others the machines have become a menace and a nightmare when using footpaths. Motorists please remember that you can drive and park on a road but footpaths are designed for pedestrians, adults with prams and vehicles for the disabled. Even the slightest obstruction of the footpath can cause danger to the partially sighted or blind person. Why some motorists would sooner block part of a footpath than the road is often a mystery to me and please remember a £20 fine is an expensive payment for lack of consideration.

Another motoring problem that is also disturbing is the number of drivers and passengers that continue to ride in a motor vehicle and refuse to wear a seat belt. Regulation 5 Motor Vehicle (Wearing Seat Belts) Regulations 1993 states that every person driving or riding in the front seat of a motor vehicle (other than a two wheeled motor cycle with or without a side car) and riding in the rear seat of a motor car must wear a seat belt if they are fitted. Exemptions to this rule are (a) if a person holds a medical certificate saying so (b) if a person using a goods or mail delivery service is delivering door to door and (c) if a person driving is reversing. If your vehicle was built before January 1965 front and rear seat belts do not have to be fitted and vehicles built before April 1987 do not have to have rear seat belts fitted.



Mothers, remember your children need protections so BELT THEM UP. Chipping Norton Police are having a campaign during the following months where we will be concentrating on targeting vehicles that do not have their occupants belted up. Just that few miles to and from school could be the time when an accident happens. Even at 30 miles an hour an un-belted car occupant involved in an accident has the force of several tons. The Act goes much deeper than I have explained and there are other exemptions to the ones I have listed. If you are unsure or need further advice please contact me on the usual number of 01865 266760/2.

CRIME BUSTERS REVIEW

Do not be alarmed when reading future statistics about increases in assaults and drug-related offences because now many more offences are crimed as a result of governmental changes. It does not necessarily mean that we have had a sudden change in people's behaviour .

Information that you have provided has resulted in the reduction of criminals travelling from the Cheltenham area. Offenders have also been detected, following thefts from motor vehicles in Chadlington and Shipton-under-Wychwood .

Pc: 377 Salmon