

LET ME TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY to introduce myself. I am P.C. Ray Hamilton and I am the beat officer covering the Wychwoods. P.C. Dave Rich has recently been moved back to Carterton to cover the ever expanding town.

My own Police service spans twenty-four years and during that time I have served at Reading, Oxford, Woodstock, Chipping Norton and now Carterton. My beat encompasses the parishes of Shipton, Milton and Ascott-under-Wychwood, Lyneham, Asthall, Swinbrook, Widford, Leafield and Minster Lovell. As area beat officer, my normal mode of patrol is in a marked Police van, and I am supported by officers who cover the whole sector based at Carterton Police Station.

Thefts from garden sheds and outhouses are ongoing, garden tools and lawn mowers as well as larger objects are common targets. A four wheel race Europa horse box was stolen from a roadside field next to Burford Road in Shipton-under-Wychwood on 17th March. If you have photographs of such items they help us to trace the stolen property.

For those of you involved in Neighbourhood Watch, I am hoping to eventually visit the co-ordinators to help gauge the strengths and weaknesses of the local schemes, and I encourage you to contact me if you have specific questions.

There has been confusion over the correct telephone numbers to use, so I list here some useful numbers:



Thames
Valley
Police

Carterton Police Station.

01993-893951.

Use this number for non-urgent calls, but you will probably get an answering machine out of office hours.

Central Police Switchboard

01993-703913.

Use this number if you need a Police officer to come to your property. Ask to speak to the Control Room, not Carterton Police Station. If you ask for Carterton Station you will likely get an answerphone.

All urgent matters should be made to 999

I feel quite familiar with this area having previously covered it from the Chipping Norton base, however it takes a while to remember individual dwelling names. Please check that your house name or number is not obscured by shrubs, and the weather has not faded it into near invisibility. It will help us to cut down response times should you ever need to call us.

P. C. Ray Hamilton.