

## Police Report.

Oxfordshire seems to have had its fair share of bogus callers recently. The latest spate has included men claiming to be from the Water Board. They are often equipped with pen and clipboard and sometimes even appear to know details of water pipes and stop taps etc.

Other tricks used by these criminals have included the need to check gas supplies, telephone lines, electricity supply and even men from the council who ask to check trees and roof tiles that may have been made unsafe by high winds. Please do not invite them in. Don't be afraid to close the door on these people.

Genuine officials are used to being questioned over their identity. If you are unsure leave the callers outside whilst you check their authenticity. At the end of this report is a list of telephone numbers that you may wish to keep by the phone - just in case.

A further word for those of you with burglar alarms, after my plea in the last issue. Please make sure that your keyholders have been well briefed on what to do should they be called out because of an activation.

We unfortunately meet many bewildered keyholders in the small hours of the morning who have clearly been woken from a very deep sleep and asked to attend an alarm.

Some have little idea of reset codes or alarm company contacts. Many are of the mistaken belief that the Police will be able to reset the alarm. It is up to the householder to ensure that whoever they hand the spare set of keys to at least has the basic knowledge of what to do should they be called out. I think it takes a very special kind of friend or relative who agrees to take on that type of responsibility. I'm sure they are all remembered at Christmas.

Finally, just a reminder, many local speed limits have been reduced in the area. Please be aware of the new restrictions in the villages, which you drive through.

P.C. Ray Hamilton.

**Thames Valley Police (24 hour)  
01993 703913**

**Thames Valley Police (Carterton)  
01993 893951**

**S.E.B. (Electricity) 0845 7708090  
British Gas 0800 393499**

**Thames Water 0845 9200 800**

### **House-to-House Poppy Appeal Results for 2001..**

Although the final figures are not yet available, the following provisional figures suggest a considerable success:-

Ascott £460, Shipton and Milton (which includes Fifield and Bruern) approximately £1,000 each, figures which will be greatly appreciated by the R.B.L.