

Neighbourhood Watch News – February 2010

AREA MEETING – Summary Notes

There was a good turn out to this meeting held in early December last year, and I was pleased to see a number of co-ordinators and others from Flackwell Heath. Dominic Grieve QC, MP opened the meeting by speaking about the role of the community in reducing crime and creating a climate where anti-social behaviour is unacceptable. This theme was reinforced by Insp. Ray Wilks (Marlow) who emphasised the importance of the local community in acting as ‘the eyes and ears’ of the neighbourhood policing team by reporting suspicious activity, anti-social behaviour and the like. Councillor Mike Appleyard outlined some of the activities of the local councils in terms of crime reduction, and noted the installation of Temporary Speed Indicating Devices (TSID’s) including the one in Blind Lane. Finally, Gerry Doyle, responsible for civil parking enforcement for Wycombe DC, gave a brief overview of parking enforcement in the area. Geoff Pegg, Chairman of Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association, described the role of NHWatch in crime reduction and highlighted the successes during the last year. After a lively discussion, there was an opportunity to enjoy ‘a cup of tea and a biscuit’ whilst visiting the various displays that had been organised, or chatting to the speakers. All in all, a successful meeting.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

If ‘Father Christmas’ delivered some desirable gifts to you over the holiday period, don’t forget that these are also desirable to the opportunist burglar. It is never too early to mark such property to increase the chances of return to you should it be stolen and later recovered. There is a wide range of security marking products available:

UV Marker pens – this is probably the cheapest form of security marking. A marker pen is used to put your house number and post code in an unobtrusive location on the item – on the back or underside of electrical/electronic items; on the INSIDE of a mobile phone case, etc. Keep a note of where you put the marking, and remember such marking is not everlasting.

Alphadot – a proprietary microdot system which uses a self-adhesive microdot containing a unique code registered to you. This can be applied to smaller, higher value items such as jewellery, porcelain and the like.

CREmark – this marking system employs a heavy duty marker pen in conjunction with a resistant, protective lacquer, and is more suited to heavy-duty items such as power tools, bicycles, garden ornaments, etc.

SelectaDNA – this is a sophisticated, chemically coded liquid containing uniquely coded microdots, and can be applied to a wide range of items. Your ‘code’ is registered with the manufacturer and access to the register is available to the police.

Finally, take advantage of security systems already available. Make a note of the **IMEI** number of your mobile phone – this can be found on a label inside the battery compartment, or by entering ***#06#** on your phone (Asterisk-Hash-Zero-Six-Hash) In the event that your mobile phone is stolen, give your provider the IMEI number to deactivate the device. Alternatively, register the details of your mobile or other portable device (free) on www.immobilise.com

For further information about Neighbourhood Watch, contact:
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Trading Standards (Consumer Direct): 0845 4 04 05 06