COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Neighbourhood Report: Test Valley Rural

Issue 92 – February 9, 2010

Beat TA 8 - (The Sombornes & Bossington) PC 1194 Martin Benton
No incidents of note.

Beat TA 9 - (Broughton, Houghton, The Wallops, Palestine & Longstock) PC 2660 Simon Beecroft
04/02/10 – Over Wallop, Stockbridge – Newly planted laurel trees stolen.
06/02/10 – Evans Close, Over Wallop – Entry gained to premises, items stolen.
07/02/10 – Cricket Club, Broughton Pavilion broken into, items taken.

Beat TA 10 - (Stockbridge, Leckford & Chilbolton) PC 2482 Tim Bonsor
No incidents of note.

Beat TA 11 – (Abbotts Ann, The Clatfords, Anna Valley, Wherwell, Longparish, Barton Stacey & Bullington) PC 1386 Jewell
05/02/10 – Sutton Scotney – Yard broken into, scrap metal stolen.
06/02/10 – Garden Centre – Theft of number plates from vehicle.

Beat TA 12 – (Grateley, Quarley, Amport, Thruxton, Monxton, Shipton Bellinger, Kimpton, Fyfield, The Pentons & Appleshaw) PC 1039 Bill Williams
03/02/10 – Industrial Park, Fyfield Road, Weyhill – Vehicle broken into, sat nav stolen.

Beat TA 13 – (Tangley, Hurstbourne Tarrant, Vernham Dean, Faccombe & Linkenholt) PC 2911 Roger Kitson
08/02/10 – Upton - Vehicle trailer stolen from shed on farmland.

Secure Your Garden

Making your garden secure could prevent an intruder entering your home.

Good fences protect a property but can also provide cover for a thief. It is recommended that you have:

A low hedge or open fence at the front of your home to make it harder for a thief to be hidden and increases your visibility.

At the rear of your house a strong fence 1.8 metres (6ft) high with an open trellis on top making it more difficult for a thief to climb as it creates noise and attracts attention.

A hedge of prickly shrubs can be an effective deterrent, but make sure your property can still be seen so a burglar cannot hide.

Fit a strong, lockable high gate across passageways to stop a thief getting access to the rear of your home.

Don't build pergolas, gazebos etc near to the house allowing access to upper windows.

Plants can be especially useful when trying to prevent access over fences and walls or under windows.

They are environmentally friendly and can attract wildlife to your garden. Train branches along tops of fence to make it harder for anyone attempting to climb over.

The following will give you an idea of the sort of plants you can use to protect your home and garden: Common Hawthorn (Crataegus Monogyna); Berberis; Common Gorse (Ulex Europaeus); Rose; Holly; Pyracantha; Winter Sun (Mahonia Bealei); Sea Buckthorn (Hippophae Rhamnoides)

Don't let your hedge grow too tall so that an intruder can hide behind it, also add gravel to your garden path. This low cost (and low maintenance) technique will deter a burglar because gravel is so noisy; the sound of someone walking on gravel at night will carry very well, and could easily wake someone or a family dog.

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