



# Jane's Watch

September 2017

Dear Residents

We start the month with an appeal for any information concerning a house broken into at Farleigh Wallop on Farleigh Lane (Farleigh Wallop to Dummer back road). On Sunday August 27<sup>th</sup> 2017 between 12:15 and 4:40pm a house was broken into. PC Reid is aware that a Renault Laguna saloon car in silver with a part registration of '05' was seen parked in this lane. The car was parked just off the road in a gateway and as such other vehicles passing would have needed to drive carefully past it. Inside the vehicle was a lady who was wearing a pink hair band. If anyone passed this vehicle between these times or if you could help in any way please give PC Reid a call directly.

PC Reid is pleased to report that a man has been arrested in relation to the burglary at St Leonard's Church, Cliddesden and is under investigation. Four young Basingstoke men, three of whom he caught red handed, have also been interviewed under caution for theft and criminal damage to this church in unrelated crimes over a two day period. They are subject to further Police action at this time.

## **Rural Crime is on the Increase is Everything being Reported?**

It seems not – can you please help?

In the past month, PC Reid has had to contact three people in our area to make enquiries about them being subject to theft and criminal damage, as they had not reported it. PC Reid was informed through other sources and believes this approach is totally wrong.

Whilst he fully accepts that some people have beliefs that:

*'The Police aren't interested' - 'They don't do anything anyway' - 'You can't get through on 101',*

Or if you are asking yourself "*what is the point*" – well the point is that rural crime is on the increase and police resources are stretched. BUT and it is a big BUT how are rural areas such as ours ever going to keep / get a strong Police presence if people simply aren't motivated to report crimes that have taken place on their land or property. The bottom line is if crime is **not** being reported in rural areas, then people outside that area will challenge the need and the question will be posed - if there is no crime reported and resources are tight why do they have a Police presence?

We are extremely lucky that we can report crime directly to PC Reid on his direct numbers. He may not always be able to do something about it, but at least he can record that it has happened and show that crime does happen in our area. He wants to know and is interested in all crime that takes place on his patch! Often it may well link into other similar crime patterns or your neighbour may have seen something or have CCTV footage, PC Reid needs to know what is happening in our area!

**Please if you are a victim of crime report it - ALL crime!**

Finally, an **advanced warning** that in College Lane, Ellisfield on Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup> 2017, from 7am through to 4pm the Basingstoke and District Agricultural Society are holding their Annual Ploughing Match in a field off of College Lane. The public are welcome, there is free entry to spectators and parking is provided. This is a really great rural event showing the skills of ploughmen from all across our area, there will also be trade stands and a burger van on site. If you are in the area please be aware that a great deal of heavy tractors and equipment will be using College Lane, Ellisfield during this period. If you have time please support the event!

To recap if any one has any information on the Farleigh Wallop burglary or indeed any crime please call PC Reid directly.

Many thanks as always for your support, vigilance and help.

**Jane Hannah**

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