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From: Suffolk Police [donotreply@suffolkneighbourhoodwatch.co.uk]
Sent: 25 September 2007 15:01
To: Suffolk Police Subscriber
Subject: Sudbury Sector Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter



Sudbury Sector Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

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Sudbury Newsletter

Protect it, Register it Campaign

Suffolk Police are joining forces with online property database Immobilise to help keep property safe and reunite stolen items with their rightful owners across the county.

Many items of identifiable property are either lost or stolen each year. By taking the time to register property on the Immobilise database, people can take a positive step towards reducing the crime, as their property would be identifiable to all law enforcement agencies across the country. This in turn will help the police reunite property to their lawful owners and will also help to catch criminals.

Almost any possession with a serial number can be registered for free, including:

- * Mobile phones
- * Ipods, other MP3 players and games consoles
- * Laptops, computers and PDAs
- * Satellite navigation and in-car equipment
- * Bicycles

Watches, jewellery, art and antiques can also be registered for a small fee. Users who upgrade can also add photos and certificates of ownership to their account.

Inspector Ben Cook, Suffolk Constabulary's Crime Reduction Officer says: "Many items of property we recover from criminals are not restored to their rightful owners, as without information on serial numbers or property marking we do not know who they belong to. We will now be routinely checking the Immobilise database, which will give us an additional method for locating the owners of property.

"Spending five minutes registering details of your valued possessions on immobilise.com means your details are instantly available to us and all other forces across the country. If an item is stolen you can update your record to tell us, so if we or any other force find your MP3 player, sat nav or bike, we have proof it belongs to you, not the offender. With the theft of such items becoming increasingly common, this database is a valuable tool to hit back at these criminals and bring them to justice.

"The Immobilise data base can also be used before purchasing second hand electrical items. By checking the CheckMend facility on the website before buying, it is possible to identify a stolen item. My message is to never buy any item that has not got its serial number displayed, as I can not think of any reason why they would need to be removed legitimately."

Suffolk Police have produced a leaflet to help people gather information on their property to add to the database. These are being handed out at schools, colleges and businesses. When people register on www.immobilise.com database they also get the chance to win one silver 4GB iPod Nano per week for the next ten weeks, thanks to support from Bennetts Electrical and the National Mobile Phone Crime Unit. To enter the draw and a chance to win one of ten iPods go on the www.immobilise.com website and register your identifiable property; ensure you tick 'Suffolk Police' when you get to the section 'where did you hear about immobilise?'

Members of the public can print off a copy of this leaflet, which provides advice and guidance for registering property and being eligible for the raffle. Alternatively this guide is available by contacting Julie Dennis on 01473 613994 or julie.dennis@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Sports Clubs - Beware the Burglars

In recent weeks there have been a number of burglaries to sports clubs and similar premises in the Babergh area.

Please be observant around these types of premises especially after dark.

If you see anything suspicious then do not hesitate dial 999.

Fed Up With Speeding Vehicles In Your Village?

SID (speed indicator display) which flashes the speed up in lights of vehicles passing it – then gives a smiley face for correct speed or a frown for fast drivers- is available from the County Council website. You can request it from the site

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/TransportAndStreets/RoadSafety/RoadSafetySpeedIndicatorDisplaySID.htm> or call 0845 606 6067.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH WEEK

You may not be aware that this year marks the 25th anniversary of the inception of Neighbourhood Watch in England and Wales. We are looking for NW schemes that celebrate their 25th (or more) year as a watch scheme. If you think your scheme is as old as this please contact Tony 01284 774313 or email- tony.simpson@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

The "National Police Steering Group for Watch Issues" and the "United Strategy Group for Watch Issues" (representing the movement), had their inaugural meetings in June and July 2007 respectively.

Following those meetings, it was decided a "Neighbourhood Watch Week" should go ahead in the week commencing 15th October 2007, to coincide with an initiative being run by the Home Office called "Not in my Neighbourhood". If you would like to have a street event (eg. property marking with UV pens, or Photo records of your valuables being done, – all free, or if you would like to promote the crime reduction products for sale (alarms etc,) or if you have any other ideas – please contact Tony.

Distraction Burglaries

Distraction burglaries are always a problem.

Information from members of the public led to the apprehension of three offenders and a vehicle in the north of the County recently but we're still being targeted by a different group.

Can you please help us to make life more difficult for them by ensuring that you and in particular any more vulnerable people you know have their door chains properly fitted and follow three simple actions with regard to unexpected callers before admitting any such callers to their home they can help us to deter these offenders.

STOP - Think about whether anyone is expected. Make sure the BACK DOOR is locked

CHAIN - put the chain on before opening the door

CHECK - Ask for caller's ID. Check it by phone - with chain still in place and caller waiting outside.

Sheds

Sheds appear to be another target so don't tempt the thief by leaving high value items on display and do take advantage of our shed alarms to close yet another door on the criminal. Working together we can have a real impact.

Remember shed alarms are on sale at most Police Stations at a cost of only £8.

SAFEkey

At the recent Suffolk Executive Committee Meeting of Suffolk's Neighbourhood Watch (SNHW), it was announced that £2,000 has been given to SNHW from Suffolk SAFEKey.

Suffolk SAFEKey, a keyholder service launched by Suffolk Constabulary in 2006, has attracted nearly 2,000 members in its first year.

The scheme is based on a keyholder service that has received Home Office recognition as an example of good practise in a review of local policing.

The service is essentially a database containing detailed information of nominated keyholders for a property. A keyholder is a trusted person such as a friend or family member who lives nearby to the property, who can gain access in the absence of the person registered as living or working at that property.

At the time of its launch it was agreed that £1 from every joining fee would go directly to SNHW. In addition to the £2,000, money from Suffolk SAFEKey will be funding community safety and crime prevention initiatives throughout the county in 2007.

Inspector Ben Cook, Force Crime Reduction Officer at Force Headquarters Martlesham Heath said:

'Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch are an integral part of greater policing family, and play an important part in community safety and crime prevention. So I'm delighted that through Suffolk SAFEKey, the Constabulary are able to give this money to the Suffolk's NHW.

I'm aware that some SNHW teams have really supported the launch of Suffolk SAFEKey in its inaugural year. So it's nice to be able to recognise this support.

Suffolk Constabulary has confirmed that it will continue to contribute £1 from every membership to SNHW throughout 2007

In an effort to support those people wishing to promote Suffolk SAFEKey, the Constabulary has put together marketing information pack for 2007. These contain leaflets, posters and leaflet holders that can be placed in prominent places throughout the local community such as libraries, community centres, and business reception areas.'

For just £11.75 (inc VAT) per residential property and £41.12 (inc VAT) per Non-residential property per year, people can gain the peace of mind by knowing the police will be able to contact the relevant trusted people during an emergency at their premises.

If you are interested in promoting this service through your Neighbourhood Watch Group, then please contact Suffolk Constabulary's Business Liaison Manager, Leigh Jenkins on Leigh.Jenkins@suffolk.pnn.police.uk or call 01473 782725.

Alternatively if you are interested in joining Suffolk SAFEKey and wish to know more about the service please go to www.suffolk.safekey.org.uk or call 0870 145 4440 (calls will be charged at the national rate).

Inspector Ben Cook

If you need any help with Neighbourhood Watch

Tony Simpson
Community Watch Liaison Officer
Police Station
Acton Lane
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 1 QN
01284774313
tony.simpson@suffolk.pnn.police

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If you have details about any crimes, then please contact your local Police Station, or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Taking pride in keeping Suffolk safe

