

Police Briefing Friday 4th January 2013

South Herefordshire & Golden Valley

It's been a fairly quiet start to the New Year so far, lets hope it stays that way!

Blakemere

A silver and blue Mitsubishi pick up L8V*H was seen acting suspiciously on private farmland at around 1am on Sunday 30th December. Enquiries are being made with the registered keeper of this vehicle. (We do have the full registration number but due to Data Protection are prevented from publishing it)

Incident ref 38-s-301212

Kingstone

Between 8am on Friday 28th December and 9am on Sunday 30th December, play equipment at Kes Childcare in Kingstone High School was damaged. The playhouse was broken into and items were thrown around.

Incident ref 546-s-010113

Moccas

A quantity of red diesel (aprox 1000 litres) was stolen from a tank in a farmyard between 4pm on Sunday 30th and 4pm on Monday 31st December.

Incident ref 494-s-311212

Peterchurch

Four 'high line' ewes have been reported stolen from a farm outside the village between 7th and 20th December. They were not tagged.

Incident ref 256-s-020113

Lottery Scam

The following was sent to us from the National Fraud Investigation Bureau, City of London Police.

It has come to the attention of the NFIB that letters are being received by members of the community suggesting they have won a category in the Euro Millions Lottery International promotion programme.

The letter suggests that the person has been selected from a computer ballot system drawn from over 90,000,000, individuals worldwide.

The NFIB has become aware of the suspected fraud after people without access to email or fax, or who misunderstood the instructions, posted their claims forms back to the listed addresses. This inadvertently prevented their details being disclosed to the fraudsters. This scam does not ask victims to pay any upfront fee, but instead requests that their credentials - including bank details, should be sent by fax to a number listed on the letter - which could be used to facilitate fraud.

A copy of the letter has been attached. The details of the recipient have been blacked out. Potential victims are being asked to remit their personal details to the following contact numbers:

0203 514 5428 Phone

0203 514 2452 Fax

These numbers have now been blocked by NFIB

You are encouraged to report this type of criminality or attempted crime via Action Fraud. To report fraud or any attempts via Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or calling 0300 123 2040.

And now that you all have had new 'toys' for Christmas, here are a few tips for keeping them safe!

Security Marking

Security marking valuable items will discourage burglars from stealing them by making it difficult to sell them on. It will also help the police to ensure they are returned to you if they are stolen but subsequently found.

You should mark your property with your postcode and the number and / or name of your house.

You can security mark property in a number of ways:

- **Permanent marking** - using an engraving tool and a stencil
- **Invisible marking** - using an ultra violet (UV) pen to write on your details. The ink when dried is almost invisible to the human eye but shows up under special

light. UV pen markings tend to fade over time, so it is best to re-apply every six months.

- **Forensic marking** - using DNA technology to mark property with a special code which is unique to the owner, allowing property to be easily identified.
- **Photographs** - it is a good idea to take photos of items such as jewellery and antiques and keep them in a safe with a record of any serial numbers or markings and a description. If your property is stolen this information will help the police recover your items and prove your ownership.

To deter burglars you can obtain window stickers from the police or your local Neighbourhood Watch scheme that say your property is security marked.

Immobilise It!

Once you have security marked your property, go a step further and place it on the national property register, Immobilise

(www.immobilise.com).

This online checking service is used by all UK police forces to trace owners of lost and stolen property. In addition Immobilise is checked daily by a huge range of recovery agencies and lost property offices.

As a direct result of Immobilise there are over 250 cases a week where property is returned or information collected that assists the police in investigating criminal activity involving stolen goods.

Should you have any items stolen, you will find it easier to deal with insurance companies as well.

Forensic Property Marking

Prevention is better than cure and security marking your property is likely to deter criminals and prevent theft. While several property marking methods are available, perhaps the most effective are forensic marking systems which involve the latest scientific developments.

How Do They Work?

Forensic marking systems use a colourless liquid that is simply dabbed onto possessions - everything from a widescreen TV to a wedding ring. It's almost invisible to the naked eye and is virtually impossible to remove. The liquid glows under ultraviolet light though, making it easy for the police to detect.

Each bottle contains a unique chemical code which is registered to you - conclusively proving ownership. This means anyone found in possession of stolen items that are marked with such solutions can be linked directly to a crime scene.

Deterring Thieves

Criminals know about forensic property marking and fear its ability to forensically link them with the scene of a crime. By coding your valuables and displaying deterrent signs, you are sending out a warning to any potential thieves and burglars who may be operating in your area.

Whichever style of marking you choose, be sure to 'advertise' the fact so that it acts as a deterrent.

What Products Are Available?

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) recommends the following suppliers of products:

- [3SI Security Systems Ltd](#)
- [RedWeb Security](#)
- [Selectamark Security Systems Plc](#)
- [SmartWater Technology Limited](#) (contact us for more details)
- [Stealth Mark Europe Limited - Crimestoppers](#)
- [StranDNA \(UK\) Ltd](#)

Click on the links above to be taken to the ACPO Secured By Design website for more information on each supplier.

Best wishes

Fiona

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