

Knutsford—February 2016

Chief Inspector's Update

Dear all

January has seen a busy start to the year with a number of new initiatives starting up. Operation Shield has been launched in the Macclesfield area at a recent Rural Watch meeting at Blaze Farm on 28th January with over 40 Farmers and rural residents attended to listen to speakers from Cheshire Police and the NFU Mutual on ways to improve communication and fight rural crime. It was an excellent night and we were pleased with the enthusiasm and commitment shown by all those who attended. This was mirrored at a similar meeting in Knutsford two days before where 35 farmers attended to discuss ways in which we can work together. A number of initiatives are planned over coming months which will see us working with residents and farmers in new ways to reduce rural crime even further.

We have also had some good results over recent weeks including the arrest and charge of two offenders for a spate of Burglaries across Plumley, Congleton and Wilmslow. Our Officers are working hard to detect the increase in such crimes we experienced before Christmas.

We are also welcoming a number of new Officers and Transferees to the Local Policing Unit over the next few months which will see us putting more Police out on the streets to protect the public. Not many forces can boast that they are doing this so we are really pleased to be able to maintain the service we offer you as a result.

Rob Dickinson

Local Policing Unit Commander, Macclesfield LPU.

Meetings

08/02/16 – Police Surgery at Knutsford Library, Toft Road, Knutsford, WA16 0PG
1500 to 1600 hours

18/02/16—Community Police Meeting at The Jubilee Hall, Stanley Road, Knutsford, WA16 0GP
1000 to 1100 hours

20/02/16 Police Surgery at The High Legh Garden Centre, Ditchfield Lane , High Legh, WA16 0QW
1000 to 1100 hours

23/02/16— Police Surgery at The Plantation Garden Centre, Plumley Moor Road, Knutsford , WA16 9SD
1000 to 1100 hours

Contact Us: Non-emergency number: 0845 458 6371

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macclesfield.lpu@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

 @policeknutsford



News Stories From Your Local Area

Community Speedwatch Grows

PCSO Chris Munro is pleased to announce that three new Community Speedwatch groups have been set up and trained in recent weeks and are now actively conducting Speedwatch sessions on Toft Road, Goughs Lane and Mobberley Road in Knutsford. Chris has been actively recruiting volunteers from the local area and training them in how to use Speed Detection Devices safely. Those volunteers then record the details of speeding motorists and provide the information to Police who then send out advisory letters as a result.

We have found this process to be a great deterrent in local areas and involves members of the community actively making their roads safer for everyone. If anyone would like to learn more about Community Speedwatch please call in and see PCSO Chris Munro at Knutsford Police Station.

Operation SHIELD - Update

Work has just started in Rostherne to protect every house in the village from the risk of being burgled. Operation Shield involves the use of a forensic property marking kit to mark up items of value in every house so that they can be traced back to the owners address if stolen and later recovered. Rostherne Parish Council have funded 70 SelectaDNA kits to be issued to every household enabling each resident to protect their property from theft. These Kits are usually £40 if bought from the supplier but Cheshire Police are able to get a substantial discount and buy them for £8.80 if purchased in large quantities.

Op Shield signs will now be placed in prominent areas of the Village to advise potential burglars against targeting any of the local households. Some of the most recent figures are showing that areas protected by SelectaDNA and operation SHIELD have benefitted from up to a 68% reduction in Burglary as a result. Sgt Andy Miller who is leading the Operation said "Our aim is to make it as inhospitable as possible for travelling criminals in Cheshire and this is proving to be a great way of making this happen. We will be starting work in a specific part of Plumley as well soon due to a recent spate of Burglaries in this location." Any queries or questions should be directed to Sgt Miller by emailing - Andrew.Miller3628@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Landrover Thefts

Macclesfield Local Policing Area has suffered a recent spike in thefts of Landrover Defenders with a small number of thefts or attempted thefts around Knutsford. We would advise anyone who owns such a vehicle to take extra care in securing their vehicle and fit steering wheel locks and approved alarms at a minimum. If you are able to lock your vehicle in a garage or block your vehicle in at night then this would be a good idea as well. We will be sending out advice to all known Defender owners in the next few days but feel free to contact us by emailing Sgt Andy Miller on— Andrew.Miller3628@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

You Said, We Did

Burglary in Rural Areas –Operation SHIELD is now in full swing with over 300 houses having been issued with Forensic Property Marking Kits. So far the feedback has been amazing and we are trying to secure further funding to buy more kits to give out. . Two males have also been arrested who have committed a considerable numbers of Burglaries across the County.

Vehicle Crime on Longridge — Since our spike in thefts from Vehicles in December we have spent a great deal of time on preventative patrol in the areas affected and have been trying car doors and notifying vehicle owners who have left their cars unlocked. This appears to have had the desired effect of reducing opportunities and therefore the number of crimes reported.

Distraction Thefts. - Thankfully this spate of thefts appears have been reduced considerably across the Local Policing Area but we remain vigilant and advise anyone to report suspicious persons to the Police immediately calling 101.