

**Witnesham & Swilland Parish Council Police Report**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

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Firstly, please accept my apologies for not being able to attend this meeting, I will try to attend as many meetings as I can, but it will not always be possible.

My name is Debbie Howgego, PC1469, and I am the new dedicated community police officer for your area. I have been a response officer for three and a half years but now look forward to getting more involved in the community and building up a good relationship with the people of the parish.

I have looked at the figures for the month of October 08 and found that there was only one recorded crime, damage to a vehicle outside the primary school, for which a person has been dealt with.

The evenings are now getting darker earlier as happens at this time of year. People's daily habits don't change that much over the course of the seasons, and so as the nights close in, the curtains that were open at 5pm in the summer remain open later in the year. The result is an obvious indication that there is no one home; it's the darkness that gives it away. It is not practical for everybody to knock off work early to rush home and

draw the curtains, but there are steps that can be taken to make your home appear occupied so as not to attract those who would like to make the contents of your home their own.

The answer to the problem is LOTs, or to put it another way, Lights On Timers. Actually, this is old hat, but still valid. Putting the odd lamp on a timer to come on whilst you are out will assist in giving the impression you are home. Another option is the dusk to dawn bulbs, low energy of course.

This is only part of the answer though. Looking out for your neighbour's property is good practice, as you would appreciate someone looking out for yours, helps keep the neighbourhood safe.

### **Mobile Police Station**

The mobile police station will visit as many different parishes as possible. To see when it will be visiting your area, click

on <http://www.suffolk.police.uk/Useful+Information/Mobile+Police+Station+Locations/> MACROBUTTON HtmlResAnchor Mobile Police Station on our website

<http://www.safersuffolk.org.uk/>

MACROBUTTON HtmlResAnchor

[www.safersuffolk.org.uk](http://www.safersuffolk.org.uk)

### **Police Direct**

For those of you that haven't signed up for Police Direct yet, please don't forget about it! The service is free, easy to use and is proving to be a very valuable policing tool.

The service doesn't just assist us it also benefits you. You will receive regular updates either via text, email or landline letting you know what is happening in your area.

Leaflets are available at all police stations or visit our website [HREF="http://www.safersuffolk.org.uk/"](http://www.safersuffolk.org.uk/)  
[MACROBUTTON HtmlResAnchor](#)  
[www.safersuffolk.org.uk](http://www.safersuffolk.org.uk)

If anyone has any concerns which, they would like to discuss, then please do not hesitate to contact me at the Kesgrave SNT office [kesgrave.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:kesgrave.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

Regards

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KESGRAVE SNT