

# DORKING RURAL NEWS

Christmas 2008



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## Dear All

PC Jo Morris and colleagues PC Dom Loraine, PCSO Pat Booker and Ivor Williams attend community meetings and look forward to meeting with you for a chat. Thanks for the response to the call for helpers to the countrywatch scheme.

## Christmas and New Year Security Advice

As Christmas approaches can we give the following advice about looking after yourself and family for the festive season and beyond?

- Always secure and lock your doors and windows, even if you are just popping out - about one in four burglaries happen simply because the householder left windows or doors unlocked.
- Make sure your external security lights are in working order and put internal lamps on timer switches to come on when dark if you are away.
- Always use your burglar alarm - if you don't have an alarm, consider investing in one.
- Don't store keys near the front door particularly where they can be seen and never hang a spare key inside the letter box or hidden in a convenient hiding place such as under the mat or beneath a flowerpot - keep them in an accessible place away from the door known only to members of the household.
- Secure garages and sheds - they are often full of expensive tools that are attractive to a thief and ideal to use for breaking into your home.
- Don't leave Christmas presents under the tree in full view of burglars who may be peering through windows - keep them in a secure place until the big day.
  - Don't put your empty boxes from Christmas presents (or any new purchases) out until your recycling collection day and make sure you break up the boxes and secure them together - the boxes and wrappings provide burglars with just the information they are looking for to see what new gadgets and items await them inside.
- Postcode your property with a permanent marker pen or ultra-violet marker pen depending on the type of object being marked - this will make it harder for a thief to sell the items and easier for the police to identify the true owner if they are recovered.
- Note down the serial numbers of all electrical goods such as TVs, DVD players, computers and camera

equipment and keep the list out of sight in a secure place. It is also a good idea to photograph valuable items such as jewellery and pictures as this will help with identification if the items are recovered.

- Shopping for Christmas can be busy and stressful - be aware of your surroundings, watch out for pickpockets, keep bags zipped up and ensure wallets and purses are not visible. Never hang handbags on pushchairs or shopping trolleys.
- Don't leave your shopping on display in your car and make sure your car is locked and secure.

## Countrywatch

We again carry details of the countrywatch scheme. It is a text alert system for all members of our rural community. It is free to join and is aimed at the rural community which incorporates farmers, gamekeepers, farm workers, stables, feed suppliers, fisheries, landowners, and recreational sites. Countrywatch provides you with alerts sent direct to your mobile phone, with any incidents reported to Surrey Police within Mole Valley and surrounding areas.

If you would like to sign up please contact PC 2987 Jo Morris 01483 632225 or e mail

[Morris2987@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Morris2987@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

## Rural Help Issues

The key to a successful resolution of any issues is prompt communication to those in your community who can assist. There are agencies that may be more appropriate to your needs and I list them below. I include Neighbourhood Watch if you wish to involve them.

## Contacts

Crime Stoppers	0800 555 111
Mole Valley Council	01306 885 001
Neighbourhood Watch	01483 638125
MV Housing Association	01306 505 555
Surrey Highways	0300 200 1003

**Happy Christmas and a Safe New Year from**

Jo Morris, Pat Booker, Dom Loraine and Ivor Williams

**Only call 999 in a genuine emergency requiring police attendance. For all non-emergency policing matters and to speak to your local officers please call 0845 125 2222 For more information please visit our website: [www.surrey.police.uk/molevalley](http://www.surrey.police.uk/molevalley)**

**Your Local Rural Officers: (West) PC Jo Morris, [morris2987@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:morris2987@surrey.pnn.police.uk), PCSO Pat Booker, [booker12316@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:booker12316@surrey.pnn.police.uk) (East) PC Dom Loraine, [loraine2303@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:loraine2303@surrey.pnn.police.uk) PCSO Ivor Williams, [williams11525@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:williams11525@surrey.pnn.police.uk)**

**Dorking Police Station, Moores Road, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 2BQ**