



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

## ***Royston Rural Watch, June 2016***

PCSO Chris Brabrook 6522, PC Mike Hardiman 2787 &  
PCSO 6531 Penny Tomsett

Sgt Guy Westwood 1604



***Our Non -  
Emergency  
Number 101***

### **Theft resistant number plates To combat 'cloning' and other crimes**



If your number plates are stolen from your car you should report it straight away – you might start receiving parking fines, speeding fines or worse as number plates are used to disguise the identity of cars used in a wide range of crimes.

Number plate theft is a big problem – rates have more than doubled in the last five years and there were at least 40,000 cases last year. Thefts from cars are significantly under-reported.

According to the DVLA Stolen plates are used by criminals to:  
Change the identity of stolen cars so they can be sold

Disguise cars used in activities like ram-raiding or driving from petrol stations without paying, Evade congestion charges, parking and speeding fines

If your plates are stolen contact the Police immediately.

It may seem trivial at the time but it's no fun if you subsequently start receiving fixed penalty notices or are suspected of committing crimes yourself.

If you're in the process of buying a new car, ask the dealer to fit theft resistant number plates when the car is first registered.

### **New standards**

Number plate manufacturers, DVLA and others have developed a voluntary standard for theft resistant number plates.

Plates that meet the standard will resist known attack methods for a minimum of three minutes and can be expected to cost around twice the price of normal plates.

### **Benefits**

Fewer motorists facing fines for crimes they didn't commit, fewer motorists innocently buying cars that turn out to be stolen and reduced incidents of fuel theft.

## **Anti – Social Behaviour - Ashwell**

Overnight on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June we received some reports of damage / Anti-Social behaviour in West End and Swan Street, Ashwell. Eggs had been thrown at properties and vehicles, breaking a window and causing a general nuisance for local residents.

Young voices, possibly both male and female, were heard as the offenders ran away. Due to the age of some of the residences in the village some permanent damage has been caused by the egg throwing and we are now investigating a report of Criminal Damage.

We ask that the public remain vigilant and report suspicious behaviour to the Police, no matter what the time of day or night. And we ask that the parents of young people within the village to 'know where your child is' and what they are up to. Anybody with information about the incident are asked to contact their local Safer Neighbourhood Police Team, either PC 2787 Mike Hardiman or PCSO 6522 Chris Brabrook

## **I tunes Voucher Scam**

The scam involves the victim receiving a call at home from a fraudster claiming to be the HMRC tax office. They tell the victim they owe an



outstanding debt of hundreds, or even thousands, of pounds, threatening that they will be arrested unless they settle the debt immediately.

They then instruct the victim to purchase iTunes vouchers at a local retailer to settle the debt.

The victims genuinely believe what they have been told by the suspect, and think that they will be arrested if they don't settle their debt. In some cases, vulnerable elderly victims have lost tens of thousands of pounds, possibly their life savings.

Recently one victim spent approximately

£2,600 on these iTunes Vouchers in four Major Stores, to pay this fraudulent demand.

Fraudsters are now moving onto iTunes gift cards to collect money from victims because they can be easily redeemed and sold on. The scammers don't need the card to redeem the value and instead get victims to read out the code on the back over the phone.

IF YOU KNOW OF A RESIDENT WHO MAY HAVE BEEN A VICTIM OF THIS TYPE OF CRIME. Please get them to contact our Police Non Emergency number 101 and report the Crime, or ring us on their behalf.

For further information about fraud and scams, please see our website:

[http://www.herts.police.uk/advice/crime\\_prevention/crime\\_prevention/protect\\_your\\_money.aspx](http://www.herts.police.uk/advice/crime_prevention/crime_prevention/protect_your_money.aspx)

HELP US TO PROTECT OUR SENIOR RESIDENTS

## Herts Health Homes

Herts Healthy Homes is a free information and support home-visit service funded by HCC and the NHS, to support vulnerable Hertfordshire residents.



A home visit can provide a range of tailored support to help keep residents warm, safe and healthy in their homes, this includes everything from -

- Information and advice on energy efficiency and ways to reduce the costs of heating homes.
- Help accessing grants for home insulation and new boilers as well as financial support to help cover energy costs.
- Installation of draught-proofing and other energy efficiency items such as radiators reflector panels, water-saving shower heads and much, much more!
- Referrals to free services available including fire and home safety visits, falls prevention, smoke free teams, community meals, gardening support and more.
- Advice on staying healthy and hydrated and information on exercise classes locally with free items including pedometers and cooling fans.

If you, or someone you know, needs help or support to stay healthy and well at home call HertsHelp on 0300 123 4044 and quote 'HOME 1'

Calls are local rate and cost no more than a national rate call to an 01 or 02 number. Lines are open Mon - Fri 8am to 6pm.

## On-Line Watch Liaison (OWL)

Owl is a messaging service that keeps you up to date with on-going crime trends and crime prevention advice. You can choose how you receive the information for example over the phone or via email. This is a useful tool as it keeps you up to date with current crime in your area and will inform you of this to look out for.

I have attached an Owl form; please take a minute to complete the form and send back to be on this email address –

[Christopher.brabrook@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Christopher.brabrook@herts.pnn.police.uk)



Local Crime Information,

## G4D – Barley, Barkway, Reed, Therfield, Kelshall and Nuthampstead

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/327	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Barkway	02/05

<b>Number plates removed from a vehicle</b>			
<b>Crime No.</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
G4/16/367	Theft	Barley	06/05
<b>Money removed from an honesty pot outside a property</b>			
<b>Crime No.</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
G4/16/368	Theft	Barley	17/05
<b>Money removed from an honesty pot outside a property</b>			

## G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

<b>Crime No.</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
G4/16/342	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Ashwell	07/05
<b>Tow bar cover stolen from a drive in Ashwell</b>			
<b>Crime No.</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
G4/16/370	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Hinxworth	17/05
<b>Number plates removed from a vehicle</b>			
<b>Crime No.</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
G4/16/373	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Hinxworth	12/05
<b>Number plates removed from vehicle</b>			
<b>Crime No.</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
G4/16/396	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Hinxworth	22/05
<b>Number plates</b>			

<b>removed from Motor Vehicle</b>

## **G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston**

**No Reported Crimes of Note In this Area for May**

### **Your local Neighbourhood Police Teams website**

<http://snt.herts.police.uk/Teams.aspx?TeamID=G01>

Useful Links

<http://www.herts.police.uk/>

<http://www.doglost.co.uk/>

<http://www.stolenhorseregister.com/>

**Royston Rural Neighbourhood Team Tel – 01438 757935**