

WILTSHIRE POLICE

Tidworth Neighbourhood Policing Team



Ludgershall and Rural Beat - The Collingbournes and Everleigh

Horse Thefts

I have taken a report about the use of plaits in horse theft preparations:

“Owners need to be keeping an eye out for evidence of their horses being marked by the thieves. They do this in advance of the actual theft by twisting 1 or 2 sections of the mane and then tying it securely with a couple of knots. This makes it easier for the rest of the thieves to come back at night and determine which horses are to be taken. To some it would look like the animal just had a tangled mane but the knots give it away. They favour coloured horses/ponies Piebalds and Skewbalds. They also favour cobs which are a heavier sturdier breed. Sometimes they mark buildings like stables and tack rooms so when they come back at night to commit the crimes they know exactly where to go. Owners may also notice that their horses are slightly spooked and may have sweated up due to strangers hanging around or trying to approach them in their fields.” In two local cases this month the plaits were found and removed, the horses were moved and the thefts were thwarted.

Metal Theft

As the price of metal remains buoyant, so thefts of metal continue. If you can, lock all metals away, or keep them away from public scrutiny. The money that the thief makes from the stolen metal is often a tiny sum in comparison with the inconvenience and cost of repairing the damage caused when the thief takes the metal. Nothing is spared, a Victorian mission hall bell was recently stolen from Netheravon, it will probably be melted down. I remember my sense of outrage in Iraq, when I saw a line of upended electricity pylons in a useless row in the desert; they had been pulled down by thieves stealing copper. The result of this action was that several villages suffered power cuts, causing a problem that took several years to rectify.

Recent Crimes

Crimes have included theft from a parked car by a tank crossing in Everleigh, in Collingbourne Kingston two horse blankets were stolen, and in Collingbourne Ducis there was a burglary of a house in Cadley Road while the occupiers were away, abusive texts received by victims in two locations, verbal abuse by an ex-employee, and TWOC of a car in Tidworth Road, the car was recovered badly damaged – the victim’s lodger has been arrested.

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Police Constable 1250

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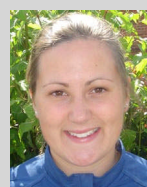
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Community Beat Manager
PC Michael Bayliss



Police Community Support Officer
Maria Downham



Police Community Support Officer
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