

Not Sure? Don't Open The Door

A national campaign to promote the risks posed by distraction burglars is being launched by the Association of Chief Police Officers on 4th March 2010. Under the banner of Operation Liberal, an initiative that police forces across the UK started a few years ago, a series of four posters will be in evidence at key locations.

Each poster carries a positive message depicting how elderly people kept out distraction burglars who were using different types of modus operandi: water, energy supplier, police officer and lost ball in the garden.

John (shown) called police when a bogus meter reader did not give the password that John had pre-arranged his electricity company. John refused the man entry and called the police.

Jean called police when two men said they were from the "Water Board" which, of course, no longer exists. Water company officials always have ID with them, which these two did not. Police arrested them and they are now behind bars.

Harbans had two men at his door claiming to be police officers wanting to come in. He was suspicious and made them wait outside whilst he checked with his local police station who informed him they were bogus. They decided to leave the scene when Harbans made them wait.

Mary was the quick-witted neighbour who saw a suspicious couple calling at her neighbour's house, claiming they were looking for a ball in the garden. Mary noted their car's registration number and called the police. It turns out they were known distraction burglars.

We can all play our part in thwarting the activities of distraction burglars - being vigilant and watching out for neighbours, recording registration numbers of suspicious vehicles, always asking for ID from callers that you do not know, checking who out who callers say they are with their company and agreeing pre-arranged passwords with utility companies. Above all, there is a simple message to remember - if you're not sure, don't open the door.

John
Burglar Buster!

John's quick call to police helped stop a bogus caller pretending to be a meter reader from an energy supplier. John had signed up to the Priority Service Register password scheme and the caller didn't know the password. John rightly, refused to open his door.

John kept out distraction burglars.
Make sure you do too!

Always call your local police.

EnergySure

Supported by all the major energy suppliers
Confidence in face-to-face energy sales

Every police force in the UK working together to fight distraction burglary

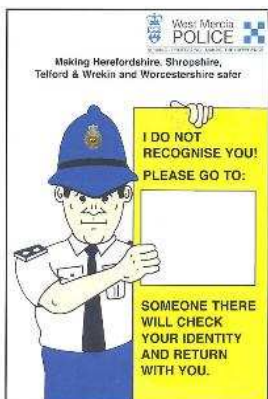
OPERATION Liberal

Not sure? Don't open the door!

In an emergency call 999

Nominated Neighbour Scheme To Expand

Police in Bromyard are looking to expand their Nominated Neighbour schemes in the town, and across the county. The scheme works by elderly or vulnerable householders asking a neighbour to deal with unexpected callers at the door for them. Callers are met with a sign in the window stating that they are not known and should go to their neighbours address to present their credentials. The neighbour then returns with the caller to supervise the visit, if appropriate. CSO Pete Knight from Bromyard said, "The scheme is common-sensed and gives considerable reassurance to the householder, allowing good neighbours to do their bit for the community as well. If you'd like to know more about the free scheme, contact CSO Pete Knight at Bromyard or your local policing team on 0300 333 3000.



All Change At The Top Of The Local Policing Ladder

Several changes have been made to the management of local policing in the Division. For the next six months, Inspector Jim McLaughlin will join the Command Team as Temporary Chief Inspector in charge of the local policing portfolio. Replacing him at Ross-on-Wye for that period will be Inspector Damian Sowrey, who moves down from Hereford to cover the South Herefordshire area. Both these changes have been made for career development purposes. A more permanent move has been made in the north of the county where Inspector Martin Taylor takes up the local policing reins in charge of North Herefordshire. He replaces Inspector Jason Hutcherson who has moved back to Hereford as a response shift inspector.



T/C/Insp Jim McLaughlin
(Hereford)



Insp Damian Sowrey
(Ross-on-Wye)



Insp Martin Taylor
(Leominster)

Results

A 39yr old male from Much Dewchurch has been convicted of drink/drive. He was given a 4 yr driving ban and will have to do 150hrs community unpaid work.

A 44yr old female from Haywood lane was arrested for harassment. She has been released on police bail pending further enquiries.

A 45yr old male from Kilpeck was arrested, charged and bailed to court for breaching a restraining order. Two 29yr old males and a 28yr old female were charged with criminal damage that occurred at premises in Holme Lacy.

PACT

PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER



HAVE YOUR SAY!

PACT stands for Partners and Communities Together. It gives you the chance to tell your local policing team and partners about the issues that are causing concern within your neighbourhood and which ones you want us to deal with as a priority.

The current priorities for your area are:

- HGV's using Holme Lacy causeway.
- Persons driving whilst using mobile phone

Local Police Officer

PC 799

Andrew Bundy

Mobile **07855 385 844**

Community Support Officers

CSO 6173

Fiona Witcher

Mobile **07779 141 232**

CSO 6993

Kevin Powell

Mobile **07779 141 232**

E-mail

herefordruralsouth.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Answer phone

01432 346756

Crime Trends

- Catalytic converters have been stolen from vehicles at garages in Callow. It is believed that two offenders were involved and were at the premises in the early hours of the morning. Please report any suspicious activity.
- Heating oil has been stolen from premises in Haywood Lane.
- Commercial vehicles at Pontrilas had fuel stolen. With the price of fuel steadily increasing there may be an increase in this type of theft. This may be a good time to check on the security of both your vehicle and heating oil. If you require advice, please contact your local police team.
- Hydraulic rams were stolen from farm machinery in Haywood Lane.

www.westmercia.police.uk

0300 333 3000



West Mercia
POLICE



SERVING - PROTECTING - MAKING THE DIFFERENCE