



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

***Royston Rural
Watch, February
2020***

PC Mark Ellwood 371 & PCSO 6531 Penny Tomsett,
PCSO Chris Brabrook 6522

Sgt Lee Jessup 560



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

On the Beat –

Crime prevention officers attend Weston during Village Hall Week

- Officers visited Weston for Village Hall Week
- They were handing out crime prevention goodies and advice



Hertfordshire Constabulary officers visited Weston on Saturday 25 January for an event celebrating Village Hall Week.

Crime Prevention Officer Darren Cowell said: “This event was a great opportunity to meet people in the local community and give them some tips on keeping their homes and property safe.

Village Hall Week is all about celebrating local communities and we wanted to speak to people about how being a good neighbour can help protect towns and villages from crime.

We signed lots of people up to Neighbourhood Watch schemes, which is a great way to look out for one another and make communities safer and deter criminals.”

These are some easy things you can do to keep your home secure this winter:

- Use timer switches on a lamp, radio or tv set so that they turn on as it gets dark in the afternoons.
- Make a habit of checking that ground floor windows and doors are closed and locked when you leave the house or go to bed. Upstairs windows should be locked when the house is unoccupied.
- PVCu doors must be locked by lifting the handle and turning the key to ensure all the security features are in place.
- Car and house keys should be kept out of sight in a safe place. Don't leave them on display on window sills, in porches, hallways or kitchens.
- Secure your rear garden by shutting and locking any gates. Burglars can use garden tools, like ladders to break in, so make sure you securely lock away any tools after use.



For more crime prevention advice visit:

www.herts.police.uk/protectyourhome

Warning to residents after increase in Amazon phone scams

- Residents warned of fraudulent phone messages.
- Messages claiming to be from Amazon Prime.
- Fraudsters are sending messages to obtain banking details.

Hertfordshire Constabulary is warning residents to stay vigilant following an increase in reports of people receiving fraudulent phone messages across the county.

Victims are receiving voicemail messages saying that they are going to be billed for an Amazon Prime subscription. The message directs the victims to press '1' on their keypad to speak to an account manager, after which they are connected to a fraudster who then demands the victim's bank details to cancel the subscription.

The scammers have also been asking the victims to download an app called 'Team Viewer'. Once this has been installed on a device, the scammers gain remote access to the device and all the personal data that is stored on it.

Action Fraud Case Manager, Elaine Crate, from Hertfordshire Constabulary's Victim Fraud Hub, said: "Amazon will never contact its customers via a phone message and ask you to divulge personal and bank details in this way.

"We advise never to click on any links or download apps under these circumstances. Inform your bank immediately if you think you have downloaded a suspect app and do not use your device until it has been analysed by a security professional.

"If you do think you have may have given bank details to a fraudster then please contact your bank immediately to advise them what has happened. You can report the incident to Action Fraud either by telephone on 0300 123 2040 or online at: www.actionfraud.police.uk. Action Fraud is the UK's national reporting centre for fraud. Alternatively if you consider yourself vulnerable please dial 101 to be connected to Hertfordshire Constabulary.

"Please help us to raise awareness by sharing this warning with your friends and family, especially if they are vulnerable or elderly."

Hertfordshire Constabulary offers the following crime prevention advice:

- Be sceptical of callers, even those who claim to be officials.
- Don't be afraid to put the phone down with a brief 'No, thank you'.

- NEVER give personal information, such as your date of birth or bank details, to unexpected callers.
- Remember that the police or your bank would NEVER unexpectedly call you and ask you to withdraw cash or move your money to another account, as a result of fraud or any other reason.
- If callers suggest you call your local police or bank to check who they are, use another phone or ensure the line has been fully disconnected by phoning a friend or relative first, or by waiting at least five minutes, otherwise you may think you've phoned a number, but you're simply talking to the fraudsters again. This is a common fraudsters' tactic.
- If a caller asks you to type your bank PIN number into your telephone handset - do not do this, as fraudsters can use technology to identify the numbers.
- You can opt out of many cold calls by registering for free with the Telephone Preference Service on 0845 070 0707.

Local Crime Information

G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

Shed Burglary, Ashwell – Between 1st and 10th January a shed was targeted in Lucas Lane, Ashwell. The owner checked her shed and discovered a Lawnmower and a bag of scrap metal missing. 41/2785/20

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

Theft, Therfield – On 5th January ladders that were stored in garden were stolen from Church Lane, Therfield. The ladders had the value of £300. Ref-41/1258/20

Criminal Damage, Barkway – Between 8am on 13th January to 8.30am on 14th January a gate was damaged at the side of a property in Townsend Close, Barkway. The gate was damaged along with a lock that secured it. Believed to have been an attempt to gain entry to the garden. 41/3925/20 Refers

Criminal Damage, Therfield – At 5pm on 24th January a vehicle was parked in Church Lane, Therfield. The offenders have used a crowbar or similar and attempted to open the rear doors of a work van parked at the location. Entry was unsuccessful and the offenders left the area. 41/7270/20

G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston

Theft of Heating Oil, Rushden – Between 20th December and 3rd January heating oil was stolen from a property in Redhill, Rushden. The victim discovered the cap removed and heating oil missing, no damaged caused.
41/767/20

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