



BLUSTERETTE

The Watermead Village Newsletter



Spring 1994

FORMAL NOTICE

WVRA Annual General Meeting - Thursday 21st April 1994 in the Village Hall.
Full details are given elsewhere in this Newsletter.

A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME FOR WATERMEAD!

On a very cold wintry night at the end of February, a goodly number of Watermead residents attended a meeting at Aylesbury Football Club. This had been arranged by Mike and Sandra Gowling with the Community Liaison Officers at Aylesbury Police Station to talk about Neighbourhood Watch.

We were first introduced to Inspector Tony Everitt, PC Frank Yabsley and PC Phil Gee, and our Area Beat Officer Kevin Isaacs. These Officers gave us an introduction to Neighbourhood Watch in general and talked about policing in the Aylesbury Area over recent years and how a Watch can become the 'eyes and ears' on which they depend. It was pointed out that a Watch not only looks out for possible crimes in the area, but also provides "care in the community" by us looking out for each other.

A "man from the Pru" gave us a brief introduction to the insurance side, indicating that most companies now give reduced premiums for house insurances to those involved in a Watch.

Part of the evening was given over to a frightening video showing a day in the life of a typical burglar! We also were shown slides of the right types of locks etc we should fit in our house and simple precautions we can take to keep ourselves safe. This will all be passed on to residents once the Watch is set up.

In view of the good turn out, the Police have agreed to the formation of a Neighbourhood Watch for Watermead. Sandra Gowling, who will become the Village Coordinator, will need residents to volunteer as Coordinators for the nine or so areas into which Watermead will be split; subsequently each street will also require one or more "sub" coordinators (ideally on a ratio of 1 for about every 10 houses). Mike has been in touch with the various builders and they have agreed to finance the cost of signing the Village, and we will also be asked to contribute about £1 per household to pay for administrative costs.

We all felt by the end of the evening that it had been a worthwhile exercise to attend and came away much more enthusiastic about and committed to the project. Since the meeting the Police have agreed to hold another one for those who were unable to attend the first time. Please contact Mike Gowling on 20956 so that a suitable date can be arranged. We still need more volunteers as coordinators, so again please call Mike or Sandra if you can help.

Jill Humphreys

