



IWERNE MINSTER NEWS

July/August 2011

Up and Coming Events

- Sunday 7 August - Big Breakfast @ Abingdon Hall.
- Wednesday 10 August - SWIM WI Garden Party & demonstration of Regency Dances.
- Friday 12 August - Organ Recital @ St Mary's.
- Saturday 20 August - IMPHA Summer Show.
- Monday 29th August - Family Fun Sports Day @ the Parish Field.
- Thursday 8 September - Treasure Hunt @ the Village Club.
- Saturday 10 September - annual Ride & Stride.
- Sunday 11 September - Boot Sale @ the Parish Field.
- Wednesday 14 September - Friendly Coffee Morning @ Abingdon Hall.
- Wednesday 21 September - SWIM meeting @ Sutton Waldron.
- Sunday 25 September - Harvest Festival Service & Lunch.
- Monday 26 September - IMPHA visit to Sherborne Castle Gardens.

See village notice boards for further details.

Parish Council Web Site

The Parish Council Web Site can be found on - www.iwerneminster.info

Village Club

Despite a dreadful day when the heavens opened, a strong turn out came to our Coffee Morning in July. We raised well over £200 for the club's on-going refurbishments.

Future events in September to put in your diary are 8th when we are having a Treasure Hunt and 11th, which is the date for our late summer Boot Sale. Both are being held at the Parish Field and everyone is welcome.

If any newcomers to the village want to join and partake of the various events which lead up to Christmas, please contact Mervyn on 811339.

Theatre Night in Iwerne

A beautiful July evening and the sound of laughter and enthusiastic applause filtered through the village when for a few hours Abingdon Hall was cleverly transformed into the vicarage at St. Michael and All Angels for a performance of Alan Bennett's "Bed Among the Lentils"

To a full house Jan Wyld opened with a short selection of poems - an eclectic mix of the amusing, the thought provoking and two written by Blandford poet Mary Woods who was in the audience. After a short break to allow everyone to enjoy a glass of complimentary wine, Jan continued her one woman show with this extremely funny piece of vintage Bennett in which she skilfully portrayed 'Susan' - the droll and poignant 'Mrs Vicar'. A role created by Maggie Smith in the much acclaimed BBC TV series "Talking Heads".

This all resulted from a chance conversation between our roving reporter who made this excellent night's entertainment possible. More! they all cried.

Diamond Jubilee

Remember to put this one in your diaries for next year 2012. the first meeting of the planning committee is about to be held and you will get updates regularly with your Newsletter. The Jubilee Weekend is from 2nd - 5th of June.

IMPHA

Have you put your entries in yet for the Summer Show on **Saturday 20 August**. The Show's Schedule has been circulated to every house in the village. Please come and support us.

There is still space for anyone who would like to have a stall. We need donations for both the Raffle and Tombola. If you intended to sponsor a category please contact Paul Le Prevost [812173]. Anyone offering to help should contact either Jill Major [811632] or Sue Le Prevost [812173].

For further information, contact the Show Secretary, Trish Neale [812372].

* * * * *

Since the last Newsletter we have had two very good meetings. The first was a talk by Diana Guy who amazed us with her accounts of "A Tale of Two gardens". This is the second time that Diana has come to talk to us and it is not surprising that she won the BBC Gardener of the Year in 2004. Our second event was the summer garden visit and this year we went to Stanbridge Mill. This is a private garden owned by James Fairfax and lies in 55 acres of meadows and grassland on the River Allen. A wonderful experience and well worth another visit.

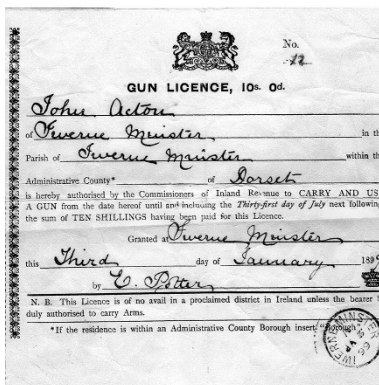
Villagers' Corner

Not so much a new villager but a very interesting story about some of our present Canon's predecessors at St Mary's. The story begins when our present Parish Clerk, Tony Gibb, received an email from, we believe America, asking for details about a John Acton of Iwerne Minster, who had obtained a Gun Licence, dated 3rd January 1899. As the new owner of a Webley revolver Mr. Tom Baugher had also acquired the Gun Licence, No 12 which had been issued at the princely sum of 10 shillings.

Chris Nadin, who has at long last found his true vocation, got to work and amazingly found that we had two John Actons, father and son, Chris' findings were quite interesting.

- It appears that John Acton the father was born on the 15th March in 1823 to Edward and Louisa Acton of Shillingstone, North Dorset where Edward was first Curate and subsequently Minister.
- John followed his father into the church after graduating from Exeter College Oxford (MA Oxon) and became curate of Margaret Marsh and East Orchard in North Dorset in 1848 at the young age of 25.
- He subsequently married Eliza and had four children Louisa, Edward, Eliza and John.
- On the death by suicide of the vicar of St Mary's, Iwerne Minster (William Blennerhassett in 1860 at the age of 59), John Acton aged 37 was instituted as vicar on the 16th August 1860.
- He remained vicar of St Mary's until his death on April 12th 1899, when his son Edward was instituted as vicar and remained as the incumbent until 10th June 1917 when he moved to another benefice.
- Why he had a revolver – who knows? I cannot find any other John Acton other than his youngest son who was born in 1867 and would have been 32 in 1899. He may well, as the youngest, have served in the military, have had a revolver and needed to licence it, particularly if he was serving in one of the local militia.

You will be pleased to know that Chris has become known as a professional sleuth by certain members of the rather shady group known as "the Tuesday Club".



Welcome

A welcome to Mark [our new Curate] and Hannah, Jenny and Steve at Brookmans Cottages and Maxine, Conti and CJ at the Old Co-op. We hope that you all enjoy the village as much as the rest of us.

Angus Campbell elected as South West Councils leader

Well done Angus, I thought you were winding down and now you take on the biggest job in the South West. I think it was Lucille Ball who said "If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it". Never a truer thing was said. Iwerne wishes you well.

Hot off the Press: The Child Okeford Surgery is planning to deliver prescriptions to the Village Shop. The final arrangements are yet to be agreed but it should be the same as for the Abbey Vine Surgery at Shaftesbury, i.e. for patients who are either over 60 or under 16 years of age.

Have you sponsored Joyce yet for her Midnight Walk in aid of Joseph Weld Hospice on 20th August? Forms can be found at the Village Shop.



Family Fun Sports Day

Old fashioned races for all ages and a great day for the family

All Welcome

Iwerne Minster, Fontmell Magna,
Shroton, Ashmore, Sutton Waldron
& surrounding hamlets

Monday 29th August 2011

**BBQ & Bar 12:00 • Races 1:00
At the Parish Field, Iwerne Minster**

BBQ available - Bar & Drinks available - Marquee Provided
Race Ribbons awarded

Don't miss joining in with a great family day

For further details please contact Emma Lewis 01747 811891
or Marlene Little 01747 811163

News from St Mary's

A week after the magical concert given by Bryony Purdue and her gifted friends, the Benefice Pentecost Service was held in the Tithe Barn at Home Farm. It is a real boon for a village to have hospitable people living in beautiful properties who are prepared to share them with us for community events like this. Tim and Christine Ingram have been particularly helpful on many occasions, and we are most grateful to them. The service was accompanied by an instrumental group playing from the balcony, and a congregation of 80 enjoyed a memorable occasion.

June ended on the joyous note of two village weddings: those of Sarah Le Prevost and Darren Parker, a Naval couple, and Edward Brown and May Palmer, of Redcot. We wish the couples and their families fulfilment and happiness. By the way, the church looked fantastic with summer flowers everywhere.



The month of July was brought to a fitting conclusion with the Baptism of Theo Zane Logan on 31st July and for those who are interested in stories about the village, Theo is the Great-Grandson of Tom Brookes who lives in Valley View (off Tower Hill). Tom is a "true" villager - sadly a dwindling band.

A **Family Breakfast** will be held in the Abingdon Hall at 10 am on **Sunday 7th August**. These occasions have proved to be popular, when families can get together and socialise over a well cooked, old fashioned English Breakfast. They last about an hour (though some people choose to stay talking longer) and include some shared thoughts, one or two prayers and usually a hymn. Everyone of any age is welcome, though you are asked to book a place so the appropriate amount of food can be prepared in advance. Please notify either Sue Le Prevost (812173) or Sheelagh Duly (811463) if you would like to join this.

On **Friday 12th August** Tobias Rihm, who lives in Iwerne, will be giving an **Organ Recital** in the Church at 7 pm. Admission will be free, and donations will be invited for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance, for which Tobias works as a paramedic.

Other events coming up include:

- **10th September: The annual Ride and Stride** in aid of the Dorset Historic Churches Trust. This begins at 10am. Anyone wishing to have details can get in touch with Mike Deeming (812264).
- **14th September: 'Friendly' Coffee Morning** in the Abingdon Hall from 10.30 to 12 noon.
- **25th September: Harvest Festival Service** in Church and **Lunch in the Tithe Barn** at Home Farm. Produce will be donated to Alabaré Christian Care and should be delivered to the Church during the previous week.
- **1st October: Macmillan Coffee Morning** in Abingdon Hall from 10.30 to 12 noon.

Do not hesitate to get in touch with me (811913) or Simon Everett if you would like to use St Mary's for a meeting or a community event. Our ancient church has been at the heart of the village and its activities for centuries, and it is right that it should remain so.

Malcolm Green
Church Warden



Darren & Sarah's confetti moment

Edward & May



July Nature Notes

Wildflowers, lots more than usual it seems. Is it the rain? Or the heat wave we had earlier in the year? But maybe I am just noticing them more.

Perhaps the extremes of weather are making everything rush through their life cycles more quickly. My runner beans have started their onslaught much earlier this year, and spinach planted this season is already bolting.

I walked (or tried to walk) the footpath to Sutton Waldron and had to fight my way through grass, nettles, and wild parsnip as tall as myself (though that is not saying a great deal considering my height!) I felt like a jungle explorer.

While cycling to Child Okeford, I noticed the hedgerows filled with great masses of purple vetch, meadowsweet, rose bay willow herb, knapweed as well as the usual convulvulus clothing the hedge in its lovely white bells, and a froth of pale pink blossom of bramble which augers well for blackberries in the autumn.

Up the track behind our cottage, the hedges are so overgrown it is hard to see the fields and as you approach the beech woods, the banks of nettles would serve well as fortifications: they must be five or six feet high and eight or ten feet thick. Surprisingly, towering over these, forming a spiky backdrop, are ranks of Great Mullein filling the pasture behind in between the new trees that have been planted. Many are six feet high and their silvery rosettes of leaves feel

like soft warm blankets. The hazels are well stocked with nuts for the birds, and every tree seems overburdened with foliage.

As I opened my door this morning a pair of bullfinches flew off in alarm from the Herb Robert which I allow to flourish in the path which skirts our front wall. This is much to our gardening help's disapproval; he regards them as weeds, but I love their delicacy and their fragrance. Besides, this is not the first time I have seen them provide food for the bullfinch. I was told that very rare white Herb Robert have been seen on Fontmell Down.

Fontmell Down of course is one of our national rich habitats for butterflies. This year there have been sightings of scarlet tiger moths, gatekeepers and ringlets as well as the adonis blue. In my garden I have seen the odd orange tip, red admiral, the cabbage white and very handsomely - a peacock. I kept a few nettles to encourage this last, and now I have them all over the garden. I think they would be there anyway, as so many grow up against the netting of our back fence on the farm side. It seems to me always a difficult balance to manage: the control of our environmental pests be they animal or vegetable, and our need to safeguard the natural world. It has been reported that chemical sprays and weed killers have played a significant part in the decline of our bees, for example. This is a problem for us all as both

individuals and collectively, and it is encouraging to see how our awareness has increased and how energetic many of us are in finding ways to resolve our conflicting needs. We are, at least some of us are, finally trying to take responsibility for our impact on our world.

This spring I broadcast a packet of wildflower seeds in a patch in front of our swing. Food for the bees and butterflies I thought, and it would be nice to look across a carpet of cornflowers and poppies etc to the hills, listening to the drone of insects. Hah! Little did I imagine I would be looking at a wall of green punctuated with scarlet poppies, yellow corn marigolds and blue cornflowers. Marvellous!!

Kath Littler,
Swiss Cottage

Highways Dept

Whatever you think of the NDDC Highways Dept., you have to take your hat off to their grass cutting team. Across the area I have noticed that when they find protected plants, etc. they make sure that they are left undisturbed. These pictures of Common Spotted and a Pyramid Orchid were taken on June 20th in Oakwood Drive. Well done NDDC.



Clerk's Corner

(Notes from the Parish Council)

Dog Signs. The Parish Council has been forced to spend money on dog signs in an effort to make owners more aware of their responsibilities. The council has decided that dogs are not permitted in the Children's Play Area or the Recreation Ground at any time.

Dogs owners must not leave their neatly collected poo bags lying beside the path; please take it home or leave it in a proper rubbish bin.

Park Farm Solar Farm. This project is online and feeding the national grid. Admittedly it is only phase One and the majority has yet to follow on. This project will be of direct benefit to the community as the developer will be paying funds to the council for the next 25 years.

Diamond Jubilee. Plans for a village celebration in 2012 are already starting; a committee is being formed and all households will be receiving a letter in due course.

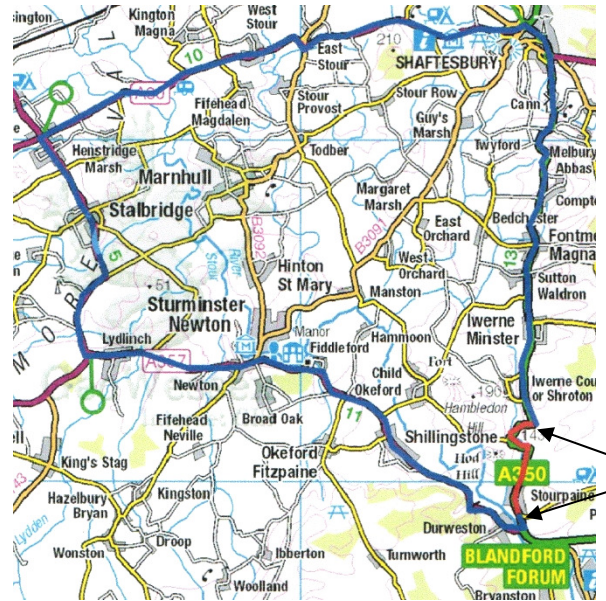
Village Design Statement. This has now completed its consultation within NDDC and will shortly be presented to the council for approval.

Tony Gibb Clerk to IM Parish Council

07818 047617 or 01725 552704

Road Closure

Whatever you may have read in the Blackmore Vale, the A350 between Stourpane and Steepleton is being closed on 12th September for 5 weeks. The closure is to enable bridgework and carriageway resurfacing. If there are any further enquiries regarding this please contact Dorset Direct on 01305 221020.



Cricketer Results

The season continues well with the last fixture ending in another win. The Club is at the present 2nd in the league.

I. & F.C.C. 152 runs for 2 wickets Sherborne 151 all out.

Late News: Since the above, the team has lost a couple of games, which has seen them go down the league.

Another Tip re Highways

Especially for those newcomers to the village. NDDC has just cleared our main drains, which is normal for this time of the year. We now have to watch the drains nearest to our homes because, as the weather changes, we start to get the autumn leaf drop and flash showers. These both tend to cause flooding down our lanes. Please help by keeping the drains clear!!!

Bus Times - Routes 83 (Damory Service) *There will be some variations on school days and sometimes on Saturdays, check the timetable which can be found in the bus shelters. New times from July 2011.*

Shaftesbury - Blandford

Monday to Saturday

Town Hall, Shaftesbury	7.00	9.00	11.00	13.00	15.00	17.00
The Talbot Hotel, Iwerne Minster	7.18	9.18	11.18	13.18	15.18	17.18
Market Place, Blandford	7.40	9.40	10.40	13.40	15.40	17.40

Blandford - Shaftesbury

Monday to Saturday

Crown Hotel, Blandford	7.37	9.52	11.52	13.52	15.52	17.52
The Talbot Hotel, Iwerne Minster	7.58	10.13	12.13	14.13	16.13	18.13
Town Hall, Shaftesbury	8.16	10.31	12.31	14.31	16.31	18.31

SWIM WI

On June 15th a timely and very interesting talk entitled 'History of Wimbledon' was given by Shirley Critchely. She spoke enthusiastically and knowledgeably on a subject obviously close to her heart through her long family connection to the Lawn Tennis Association - she herself plays for the British Senior team. Armed with a number of slides and books of interesting facts and photographs she recalled amusing anecdotes of the legendary players and many personal observations.

The biannual SWIM WI show at Sutton Waldron Village Hall on July 6th owed its success to much enthusiastic support and a total of 136 entries! A number of visitors called in throughout the afternoon to admire the skills and crafts on show and to enjoy the traditional tea and cakes.

There were four classes: vegetables; flowers; cookery and preserves; and art and craft. An additional competition display to illustrate the theme 'Our Village' was open to the Beacon Group, which comprises a number of nearby WIs. Local judges included Mervyn and Penny Marsh (vegetables and flowers classes, respectively), and Ian McNeil (photography).

Sue Le Prevost was awarded 'Best in Show' with prizes in the vegetables, flowers, and cookery and preserves classes. Congratulations to all other prize winners, among whom were Pauline Peters for her Dorset apple cake. Maggie Hale's hand-knitted sweater won her a joint 1st with Jebber Whittaker for crafts, and Sandra Jelbart's winning painting of children paddling was much admired. The judges all commented on the high standard of the entries which continue to reflect the ladies' skills, hard work and commitment.

All who participated agreed both the preparation and day itself was fun – a great way to showcase the best of the WI and welcome and encourage newcomers to come along to meetings.

Also in July, David Gynes of the Dorset Family History Society gave a lively presentation of his skill in research providing many interesting and often amusing examples of his successes. Members were advised on how to trace past family members via service records, military medals of the First World War, passenger lists, etc. It is also useful to know that a lot of information is available via the internet from the websites www.freebmd.org.uk and www.findmypast.co.uk. Dorset Family History Society members are available to assist new researchers. The Society's website is www.dorsetfhs.org.uk.

SWIM WI welcomes new members: please contact Maggie Hale on 812368.

Up and Coming Events

- Wednesday 10 August – WI Garden Party, including a demonstration of Regency dancing.
- Wednesday 21 September – WI meeting, including a talk entitled 'A Bird's Eye View of Cranbourne Chase'.
- Tuesday 4 October – WI visit to Poole Lifeboat Station.
- Wednesday 19 October – WI meeting, including a talk entitled 'Inner Sanctums'.

Alwin Greder

Correction

The Valley Views this month has mistakenly advised that the WI meeting on 10th August is open to non-members. Unfortunately this is not the case, this meeting is for members only.

Also, the contact telephone no for information about the IMPHA Summer Show should read **812372** and not 811372. Our apologies to the very patient and kind lady who owns this 'wrong' number.

'Wanted' and 'For Sale'

Rentable office space in the Iwerne area please. Needed for about 6 months. Basil Purdue (on 811118) has not sold yet but will be needing an office for his work when he manages to sell.

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CHURCH PEWS FOR SALE

St Mary's, Shroton are going to sell the old pews when the refurbishment starts sometime in September/October. They can be seen at anytime in the church and would make ideal seating for halls, gardens or patios. There are five different sizes ranging from six foot to nine feet ten inches (approx) and the price is £100 for the six foot and slightly more for the longer ones, depending on demand and condition. Why not have a part of local history in your home?

Contact Ed Mulley on 01258 860328 or add your requirement to the list in the church. Pews will be available for collection from the church one week before the builders start work.

Stream Clean

Thank you to everyone who turned out on 23rd July to give our stream its usual overhaul. The merry band soon cleaned away the weeds to leave it clear and refreshing now that the summer has at long last arrived.



IWERNE VALLEY WALKING CLUB

Midsummer Evening Walk

On a warm summer evening, close to the longest day, we set off for our walk from Bedchester. We always choose a hill on which to watch the sun go down as we eat a celebratory picnic at the end of the walk.

The occasion is often chilly and overcast but this year we were lucky to have sunshine all the way.

There seemed to be a considerable number of stiles to test our agility and work up an appetite but the pleasant route made it worthwhile. In a hedge beside a path we saw a bee swarm. Hats were donned and camera's clicked but otherwise it was carefully bypassed.

Instead of the usual searching for a comfortable picnic site among country pancakes or thistles we were treated to garden chairs laid out in a semicircle facing the sunset in the Halsalls' garden on Penn Hill. A most enjoyable walk and sociable occasion, thanks to our leaders, Jim & Cathy Bird.

Linda Halsall

NB No walk in August, just the AGM and buffet in another member's garden. Members will be notified.

100 Club

Iwerne & Fontmell Cricket Club 100 Club results for May, June & July were as follows -

May:

£20 Mrs Stewart (70)
£10 T. Rees (77) & P. Stranger (25)
£5 Mrs Stickley (53)

June:

£20 Dr McArthur (64)
£10 Mr Golberg (16) & T. Payne (43)
£5 Mrs Patterson (57)

July:

£20 L Halsall (84)
£10 D Fangen (54) & B Smart (82)
£5 Mr Golberg (16)

For further information contact Diane Benfield on 811507.

Gardeners Scratchings

General tasks for this month are water and feed plants frequently, particularly those in containers outdoors, greenhouse pot plants and the vegetable patch as well as any shrubs or perennials planted this summer.

Weed borders regularly. Dead head annuals, roses and other flowering plants, and cut back perennials after flowering.

Apply vine-weevil control to plants in containers outside and under cover, in greenhouse borders and around plants at risk in the garden.

Mow lawns regularly but do not feed or water.

Feed Camellias and Rhododendrons and water well.

Save seed from rock plants, trees and shrubs, hardy annual flowers, perennials and bulbs. Take cuttings of alpines and herbs.

Keep on top of watering, feeding and dead heading containers, which is needed more than ever this month.

Ventilate the greenhouse and damp down regularly in hot weather.

Clear out any decomposing and yellow water lily leaves from your pond, thin out excess oxygenating waterweeds and top up water levels if necessary.

Look out for - Mildew, Blight, Caterpillars, Slugs and Snails.

Stake tall brassicas to prevent them being flattened later by strong winds.

Finish summer pruning of wisteria.

Finally do not forget to get your **Show Entries in by the 15th August** in time for the IMPHA SHOW on Saturday, 20th August.

MJM

2 Dog Requests

* I have been asked AGAIN to emphasise the need to clear up after your dog and that means taking your Poop bags with you not leaving them for someone else to find. Several people seem to love ignoring this request especially on the new Clayesmore walk. This is a lovely addition to our various trails and it would be ridiculous to hear that the Headmaster had retracted his invitation to use his land. I believe that he would be within his rights to do this if he were to find that dog refuse was beginning to infect the flora and fauna of the school estate.

* Many of you might not have read the article in the Daily Telegraph (4th July) about "Dogs left at home alone are as traumatised as children". Research is showing that some dogs suffer from acute desperation and distress when left to their own devices. The article can still be found on the Telegraph's internet pages but if you don't believe these findings just speak to your neighbours who can let you know that some of these pets howl from the time you go to work until your return. Please don't presume.

JUL/AUG 2011

Iwerne Minster News
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Last Copy Day for the next issue is Sunday
7th October 2011.

Contributions for consideration should be submitted as early as possible, preferably by email.

The views expressed in this publication by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor.

Make Sense of Your Eating Problem

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Mark Benfield

Tel: 01747 828689

Mobile: 07974249287

Iwerne Minster Home Watch

I attended our Rural North bi-monthly Home Watch meeting earlier this month; it was good to see that once again, we in Iwerne Minster did not feature in any discussion. There have however been several incidents at neighbouring villages, notably Child Okford where I understand several items were stolen from insecure parked cars on one drive. Also items have been stolen from insecure garages and sheds. I have raised this before and again now with the travellers congregating for the Steam Fair, please check your security. Also mentioned many times I stock low cost security items as pointed out by the police in their last community message. Below is a list of items currently in stock, I also have the Streetwise Catalogue to view if anyone is interested and will of course be at the IMPHA Show on the 20th August; an opportunity to find out how Iwerne Home Watch works.

MA20 Shed Alarm	£15
Alarmed Padlock	£15
Window vibration alarms	£5
Purse Alarm	£5
Safe Can	£5
Warning Signs	£2.5
Dummy Alarm box	£20

Below are items which may be of interest from other police publications.

Geoff Peters

Home Watch Co-ordinator

Tel. No. 811546 or

geoff.peters@virgin.net

Junk Mail

To reduce the amount of junk you get through your letter box register with Mail Preference Service, visit <http://www.mpsonline.org.uk/> or call 0845 7034599.

Phone Calls

To reduce cold calls on your telephone register with the Telephone Preference Service, visit <http://www.tpsonline.org.uk/> or call 0845 0700707

If you need to contact our local Safer Neighbourhood Team; call PC 2201 Rich Barnes or PCSO 5412 Rich Mullins on 01202 223003 or 07825 521852.

Finally:

I have recently had an email advising that if you reversed your pin at an ATM machine it would call the police advising them that you were being forced to extract money under duress.

I challenged this with a police contact who said that this system was not in use and certainly would not call the police. She also added that further information on this hoax and many others is available on a website www.hoax-slayer.com. This website was also suggested by Consumer Direct.

It may be useful to check any incoming "hoax" emails prior to passing it on!