

Beckingham Bugle

January 2010



Happy New Year!

Enclosed with this Bugle is a list of useful contact details for you to keep. If we get good feedback we will probably update it annually. As a result of the insert the day in the life of the Beat Team goes over two whole pages and there is more to come! They are very busy people.

We are also changing the date and time of the Book Exchange for February to see if it suits people better. It will be the 2nd and 4th Thursday from 6pm to 8pm. Please let us know what times would make you more likely to use this service (or what else you would like added to the evenings).

This month also sees *The Wind in the Willows* at the Village Hall. If you have not yet bought your ticket then please do so quickly because the closing date is fast approaching!

Mikki

Dates for your diary.....

January

7 Beckingham Book Exchange 5-7pm ~~Cancelled due to weather conditions!~~

10 Plough Service at Rectory Farm 11.15am

12 Parish Council. Village Hall 7pm

21 Beckingham Book Exchange 5-7pm

29 *The Wind in the Willows* musical at the Village Hall 7pm

Fun for all the family - book now!

31 Holy Communion at the Willows, Hillside 11.15am

February

11 Beckingham Book Exchange 6-8pm - new time

14 Valentines Day

25 Beckingham Book Exchange 6-8pm - new time



HOME BEAT The Hykeham Rural South Police Beat Team who may be familiar to many of you is made up of a Community Beat Manager, PC Matt Roberts

nowadays referred to as a CBM but many of you would call him the local Bobby and two Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) who many of you will know are Vicky Czajkowski and Chris Boyle. Together with the CBM they form the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) or the Beat Team as it is commonly known.

It is apparent to the Beat Team that some members of our public are astounded by the array of activities and tasks that we undertake, many may wonder what we actually do when they can't see us beating the streets as perhaps they would like to see us doing!

To address this we were asked at our last Neighbourhood Panel meeting (NHP, more of that later) to produce a day in the life of the Beat Team narrative to paint a picture of what we get up to on a day to day basis. Before we do that, it is necessary to explain how the Beat Team fits into the bigger picture of the Home Office's Policing model.

The Basingham Cluster Area sits in what is known in policing circles as the South Rural Sector. Resident to the Basingham Cluster Area is the Hykeham Rural South Beat Team. The Beat Team's remit is to deal predominantly with neighbourhood issues but they will if available respond to urgent 999 calls on their area. Working alongside the Beat Team are other policing departments such as Response & Patrol Officers, Roads Policing Unit, Dog mobiles and where appropriate departments such as CID, SOCO and other specialist departments too long to list. Working in partnership with us are also our partner agencies such as NKDC.

To give a pen picture of what we do is no small task, no two days are the same. The nature of police work is extremely unpredictable. Flexibility remains key to our work whilst trying to maintain a plethora of appointments and commitments. The key to neighbourhood policing is engagement within the community. The Beat Team tends to work "daylight" hours ie 0700-2200 hrs so we can best engage and converse with our public. That isn't to say if there is a problem over night that we won't change our shifts to sort the problem as we have done on a number of occasions.

A typical day for both PCSO and CBM begins by reviewing incidents that have occurred overnight. In many cases these incidents will have been attended by Response Officers and may need follow up visits to provide reassurance, obtain statements or do door to door enquiries in daylight hours. We never really know what we will be met with when we arrive at work.

The Beat Team responds to concerns in the community. In one guise this is delivered to us via a Neighbourhood Panel. The NHP are volunteer members of the community that have set up a Panel to serve our cluster area. The NHP identifies concerns from the community and offers policing priorities for the Beat Team to address at quarterly meetings. These priorities can be found listed on village notice boards, in local shop windows and in local village magazines within our cluster area as well as the Lincolnshire Police internet site under the link of Neighbourhood Policing Teams. The Beat Team reports back to the NHP at the following meeting and gives feedback with results, conclusions and advice.

The variety of incidents that the Beat Team may get involved in is diverse. In recent months the Beat Team has responded to reports of burglary, thefts, assaults, drug dealing and drug production, illegal possession of firearms, theft of motor vehicles, theft from motor vehicles, fraud, malicious communications, criminal damage, public disorder, harassment, threatening behaviour, arson, domestic incidents, self harm and suicide, sudden deaths, road traffic collisions, bogus callers and even prostitution. The attendance of such incidents is just the start of any process. An arrest results in hours spent processing prisoners in custody, interviewing and writing up evidence to present to the CPS. Often search warrants will follow arrests in the hunt for stolen property or drugs etc. Again this is time consuming and needs lengthy documentation. The end result of an arrest and successful investigation is the compilation of court prosecution files and attendance at court. On top of these commitments are the inevitable training sessions that all members of the Beat Team have to attend to keep us up to date with ever increasing legislation and the occasional abstractions to other duties such as policing major events within the county.

All of the above is the common perception of modern police work when really it is just the tip of the iceberg. Investigations can be very time consuming, prior to and after arrest. Observations and intelligence need to be obtained, evidence gathered, that may be statement form or video recording, informants or seizure of property and evidence, all of which requires the correct legislation and documentation applying. Add the incoming incidents and reports received on the radio or beat phone and a whole host of other commitments to the mix and you will realise the working day begins to fill quite rapidly!

The Beat Team has a diary full of commitments to fulfil before the day even begins so each day is a constant assessment of sliding priorities. An engagement diary for the NPT can also be found on our web pages. This demonstrates well the diversity of activities undertaken by the team even before the spontaneous events impact upon us!

To be continued.....

The Wind in the Willows

Friday January 29th - 7pm

Just a few weeks away now - this delightful musical version of The Wind in the Willows.

Tickets are available now from Angela Matson on 626445.

Ticket prices are:

£7 for adults,

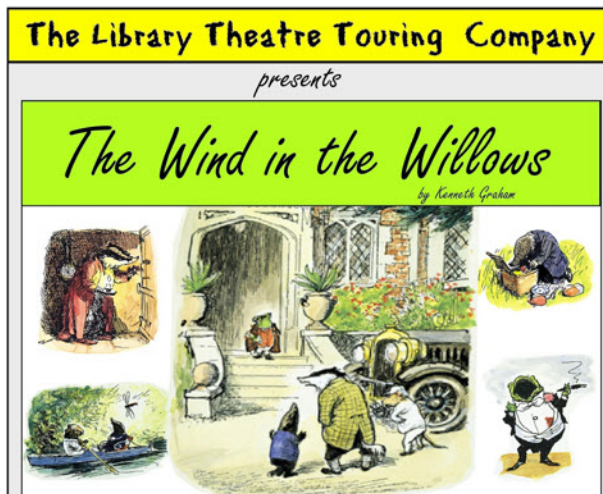
£6 for students and Senior Citizens,

£3 for Children (age 4-16) and

£19 for a family ticket for 2 adults and 2 children

This is great value for money for what promises to be a very entertaining evening for all the family.

The **closing date to buy tickets is January 21st**. If any tickets are available after this date they will cost £10.



To all those generous people - A really big thank you for giving huge amounts of windfall fruit and cuttings for our pigs, they have had a wonderful time pigging out and have now gone to piggie heaven much the better for all that delicious food!

Henrietta