

Vehicle safety checks and driving tips in the winter weather:

The first thing to do is to check the tread on your tyres:-

The legal limit is no less than 1.6 millimetres across the central ¾ of the tread, around the complete circumference of the tyre. Remember this is the minimum tread allowed. At 1.6mm on wet roads it takes an extra car length (8 metres) to stop at 50 mph than if your tread was 3 millimetres. Do not reduce tyre pressures to get more grip – this is a myth; it doesn't work and reduces stability. Bear in mind, if you are involved in an accident where serious injury occurs to either yourself or someone else, it is normal procedure for your vehicle to be removed from the road and every part of it examined thoroughly.

Keep the windscreen and other windows clear – If your vision is obscured through dirt or snow whilst you are driving or have an accident, you could receive a fine but most importantly it will make your journey to yourself & others dangerous. Ensure your windscreen washer bottle is kept topped up with the correct level of recommended solution strength for winter.

Keep a small bag or shoe-box size plastic container of salt in the boot in case you get stuck on a slope/hill. It would be considered luck getting stuck adjacent to a street grit bin! Don't forget to also have a trowel sized implement in the boot to distribute the salt or clear snow in front of your tyres. Keep a warm jacket & gloves in the car, a pair of waterproof shoes and wellies and a torch in-case you have to abandon your car. Consider joining a recovery Agency in-case you break down. With no cover in place, an independent call-out is very expensive. Give yourself an extra 10 minutes to clear your vehicle before leaving home, plan your route to include main roads as these are more likely to have been gritted.

Driving on Snow & Ice - Slow manoeuvres and braking gently is the key to safe driving and stopping. Allow yourself extra distance from the car in front. Ensure there is no snow on your shoes as they may slip off the driving pedals. If you have to drive up a hill, avoid stopping part way up by waiting until it is clear of other cars ahead or by leaving plenty of room from the car in front. Keep a constant slow steady speed, choose the most suitable gear well in advance to avoid having to change gear on the hill. When travelling downhill reduce your speed before the descent, use a low gear and try to avoid using the brakes. Again leave as much room as possible between you & the car in front. If your car gets stuck at any time, straighten the steering, clear the snow from the wheels and sprinkle some salt from your carry container in front of the wheels.

A lot of drivers get stuck in the snow and ice because they have left home poorly prepared. Read the road – keep your distance – be prepared to take action if the car in front of you or the car in front of them gets into difficulty – don't become complacent and never assume you will always be able to see ice on the road surface.

Your vehicle and your welfare is your responsibility.

PCC Crime Plan 2013:

The newly elected Police and Crime Commissioner for Wiltshire and Swindon, Mr Angus Macpherson, is writing his Police and Crime Plan for Wiltshire, which will be published by the end of March. The five year plan will be based on local priorities and will set the strategic direction of policing in Wiltshire and Swindon. The plan will determine local objectives for policing and reducing crime and disorder in the area outline how policing resources will be allocated and funding agreements. It will also outline how he will be held to account by both the public and the Police and Crime Panel. The plan will be published on the PCC's official website www.wiltshire-pcc.gov.uk

Marlborough Neighbourhood Policing Team

January – March 2013

Quarterly newsletter

**Your neighbourhood priorities**

Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) priorities are set in consultation with the community. We set these so we can focus on tackling important issues in your area.

Open priorities:**Vehicle Crime, The common, Marlborough:**

Extra foot and Mobile patrols are being carried out to deter offenders and reassure drivers.

Speeding in Baydon:

Officers from the NPT supported by response officers are carrying out extra patrols and speed checks.

Anti Social Behaviour at Kennet Valley Hall car park:

Targeted patrols and visits made to the car park to engage and advise drivers and prosecute where applicable.

Closed priorities:

Marlborough Town Theft: Closed as a partial success due to a reduction in reported shoplifting.

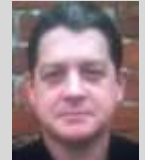
Baydon Speeding: This priority has now been rolled over.

Ogbournes Non Dwelling Burglaries: Closed as a success.

Patrols have been completed by response, specialist response and local NPT units which provided confidence to the affected villages. Patrols have also been conducted in unmarked cars. All theft and non-dwelling burglaries have been attended by CBM or PCSOs with security advice being provided. A number of farms have been added to the Farm Watch scheme and a quantity of shed alarms have been purchased.

Measurement Evaluation Learning (MEL) Survey 2013:

During January and February 2013 Wiltshire Police will be undertaking the second stage of the Measurement Evaluation Learning (MEL) Survey. This survey will be conducted via telephone and seeks to explore quality of life, reassurance and fear of crime across Wiltshire and Swindon.

Sergeant Vincent Logue

I hope you all had a happy and safe Christmas period.

As we enter the New Year, the work continues to reduce crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). As elsewhere in the public Sector, Policing budgets have been cut but the NPT and frontline strength has been maintained and we are still able to provide a strong presence dealing with local issues.

East Wiltshire Sector, which Marlborough is a part of has a new Area Commander, Inspector Ron Peach has moved to Headquarters and in November, Inspector Matthew Armstrong took up the post.

**101**marlboroughnpt
@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

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See page 2 for details of meetings/consultations

What's been happening?

Special Constable Mike Tupman awarded an MBE

It was with absolute delight that we learned that our very own Mike Tupman has been awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours.

Mike has become somewhat of a local celebrity over the last three decades patrolling the streets of Marlborough and surrounding areas, putting himself at risk for others, detecting and preventing crime, and being an approachable and visible presence providing reassurance. Mike has done all this in his own time and for no reward. We are all so very proud of him, the award is richly deserved.

Other news: Over three nights in November and December, rural crime operations were conducted each involving around 34 officers in Wiltshire with simultaneous operations in Thames Valley, Hampshire, Dorset and Sussex Police areas. The operation was put together to try to detect and prevent rural crime such as thefts of plant, fuel, quad bikes etc. Successes including stopping a stolen vehicle from Gloucestershire and arresting four males from it as well as gathering useful intelligence. There were no rural crime incidents during the times of the operations. I am determined to catch those responsible for these offences and we are already planning more of these operations.

Stay our Stranger

Stay out Stranger: Bogus Callers

Always be cautious when someone you don't know calls at your door, as bogus callers often pretend to be someone they are not. They frequently claim to be from the water board, the council, police and health organizations or from gas and electricity companies.

If there is a stranger at your door stop, think and remember 'SOS'- STAY OUT STRANGER and always:

- Keep your door shut and locked and use a spy-hole or window to check who is outside
- Do NOT open the door if you don't recognise or are not expecting a caller
- Avoid keeping large amounts of cash at home.

If you see anything suspicious please dial 999.

If you have information about bogus callers, phone Wiltshire Police on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 where information may be left anonymously if preferred.

Bluez 'n' Zuz award

In November the monthly Bluez 'n' Zuz police supported disco received the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS) at Azuza in Marlborough, the birthplace of the project.

Over 11,000 children attended Bluez 'n' Zuz events in 2011 across the county.

Volunteers are always welcome and we would really like to hear from you if you work for Wiltshire Police or know a relative or friend in an occupation with current CRB clearance who would like to spend some time each month supporting the local Neighbourhood Policing Teams with the discos.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer can email Blueznzuz@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk or place a message on our Facebook page at facebook.com/blueznzuz.

Consultations

Our consultations are carried out throughout the area at post-offices, village halls, doctors' surgeries etc.

Consultations are advertised in advance on our website and are updated on a regular basis:

www.wiltshire.police.uk

WILTSHIRE POLICE

Marlborough Neighbourhood Policing Team

marlboroughnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



NPT map



The aim of neighbourhood policing is to have a dedicated policing team in your local community. We are here to work **with you** to tackle local concerns raised **by you**. We work with residents and local agencies to improve your quality of life.

To contact Wiltshire Police or to report a crime or an incident call **101**. Only call **999** in an emergency when a crime is in progress.

If you want to give information anonymously about a crime call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

For other non crime matters contact Wiltshire Council on 0300 456 0100.



101



marlboroughnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



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Marlborough Town Beat



Community Beat Manager
PC Stan Boardman



Police Community Support Officer
Mark Braithwaite

Marlborough Rural East Beat



Community Beat Manager
PC Jeremy Batchelor



Police Community Support Officer
Jonathan Mills

Marlborough Rural West Beat



Community Beat Manager
PC David Tippetts



Police Community Support Officer
Pauline Ritchie