



MARCH 2008 BULLETIN

EAST SECTOR

As ever the last month has been very busy on the East sector of Swindon. In recognition of a rise in thefts from motor vehicles, especially in the Parks, Walcot and Stratton NPTs, a number of Patrol initiatives were put into place. These have involved nearly 100 individuals being challenged about their behaviour and a number of arrests – the overall result being a reduction in offences. We cannot however be complacent – I urge persons to think about the security of their vehicles and the property contained within. Satellite navigation systems are still very popular with thieves and even if they're safely out of sight, a 'housing-unit' left on the dashboard is an open indication to the thief that the item is probably present. Let's stop the opportunities; it's a lot easier than trying to recover the items after the event! As ever however, should the unfortunate happen, use of 'UV' pens to mark your property will give the best possible chance of its return.

The misuse of drugs is, and will continue to be, a strong focus for our attention. A number of warrants were executed in the last month, which resulted in the arrest and seizure of substances. A large cannabis 'factory' was located within a dwelling house in the Stratton NPT area and those responsible, part of a massive network covering locations throughout the country, have been positively disrupted. The yield from this house alone would have netted these persons in excess of a quarter of a million pounds, and this again is an excellent example of how information from the local community really can make a difference.

Reassurance is a major aspect of community policing and it is fair to say that, despite what we may sometimes read or perceive, Wiltshire is well on the way to achieving its vision as 'the safest county in the country'. Working together - I'm sure we can keep it this way.

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