



# *An open letter* from Chief Superintendent Richard Johnson

BASSETLAW, NEWARK AND SHERWOOD DIVISIONAL HQ  
Potter Street, Worksop, Notts S80 2AL. Tel: 01909 500999 ext 7000

## **BASSETLAW EDITION**

DECEMBER 2005

### **Immobilise your property this Christmas**

There have been a fifth less burglaries this year in Bassetlaw, compared to last year, which is a tremendous example of the police and public working together.

However, we still have a large problem to tackle in reducing the market for stolen goods. Stealing and selling is one of the most common 'careers' of a drug addict to fund their habit. In the run up to Christmas more people will be tempted to buy the latest mobile phone that is offered to them at a bargain price, or the latest in-car Sat Nav system or games console. You may be offered 'bargain' items on a car boot sale, at a market, on your doorstep or even in your local pub. But think before you buy – is the bargain too good to be true? It probably is and by buying it you could be contributing to a criminal network.

This month a countywide campaign has been launched to reduce the sale of stolen goods. One of the best ways you can help is by registering your property at a new website called [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com).

Immobilise is the only national property register officially recognised by the police service and the Home Office.

You can register anything you own with a serial number such as mobile phones, televisions, computers, laptops or digital cameras.

All you have to do is register on the site, fill in your details and the serial numbers of your property and the site will create a personal database for your belongings.

In the event of your property being lost or stolen, you can update the website and inform the police that these items are now missing.

If a police officer recovers any lost or stolen property, they can now check Immobilise and find the rightful owner.

This will help to reduce the hundreds of unclaimed items we currently have in storage.

It will also mean we can prove immediately that something has been stolen and use the information as evidence to charge the individual in possession of it.

I understand that many of you may not have access to the Internet, particularly the elderly. I am urging all parish councils that have Internet access to offer this service to your community. Why not hold a session before or after your monthly meeting for residents to register their property?

Thank you for your continued support in reducing and detecting crime. If you require any further advice on Immobilise please contact Crime Reduction Manager Janet Newton on 01909 500999 extension 3283.



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
**POLICE**

### New licensing laws

The new licensing laws are now in place, which give pubs and nightclubs the flexibility for earlier or later opening times.

To monitor the effect of the new laws, police and licensing officers have carried out random visits to licensed premises to check they are abiding with the new regulations.

On Friday 2 December a test purchase operation was carried out in Retford, in conjunction with Trading Standards.

Two teenagers, under the age of 18, attempted to buy alcohol in 13 Retford pubs and were served in 11.

This is unacceptable. The members of bar staff who served the test purchasers will be fined and the licensees will receive a warning letter about serving alcohol to under 18s.

We have not seen an increase in violence or alcohol-related crime since the onset of the new laws but we will continue to monitor the situation.

### Anti-drugs campaign launched in Harworth and Bircotes

An anti-drugs campaign urging people to supply information about drug dealers is being launched in Harworth and Bircotes.

Rat On A Rat is a well-known campaign, which has been used all over the country to encourage people to pass information to the police about drug misuse and dealing in their community.

The initiative promotes the free and confidential Crimestoppers number 0800 555 111 which allows people to give information without giving their name, having to make a statement or appear in court.

The Rat On A Rat campaign van will be driving around Harworth and Bircotes. Posters and leaflets are also being distributed around the estates.

Nottinghamshire Police has already seen a dramatic increase in the numbers of calls to Crimestoppers.

Between January and May this year one in four calls to Crimestoppers made in the Bassetlaw area led to an arrest.

### Bassetlaw crime figures

It takes time to validate our crime figures, therefore November's numbers are not yet ready. Please find below the figures for October.

#### **West Bassetlaw (Worksop area)**

Crime type	Reported incidents in October 05	Reported incidents in October 04
All Crime	440	511
Violence	97	114
House burglary	14	17
Shed burglary	31	12
Theft from vehicle	51	81
Theft of vehicle	12	21



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
**POLICE**

**East Bassetlaw (Retford area)**

Crime type	Reported incidents in October <b>05</b>	Reported incidents in October <b>04</b>
All Crime	473	549
Violence	100	129
House burglary	22	20
Shed burglary	32	36
Theft from vehicle	48	67
Theft of vehicle	26	32

**May I wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas and all the best for the New Year.**

**Divisional Commander for Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood  
Chief Superintendent Richard Johnson**

