



## - FOREWORD -

As the Community Safety Partnership reaches the end of another successful year it gives me great satisfaction to look back at the joint working that has taken place over the previous 12 months. This last year has seen further reductions in crime with a reduction of over 142 crimes on the same period compared to last year, and a massive reduction of over 1280 crimes compared to 2003/4. These reductions mean that fewer people are likely to become victims of crime within Hyndburn. Add to this the

recent assessment of the local Authority which produced a 4 star rating shows that progress is been made in key areas.

We will continue to develop strong links within the community in the coming year which will give the partnership greater opportunities to improve the quality of life in Hyndburn. It is always pleasing to attend partnership meetings where attendance is high and people are so willing to help and contribute. Many of the schemes discussed and put into practice are simple and straight forward yet so effective on so

many fronts. Recently Hyndburn Homes, the Fire Service and the Partnership have had a 'Ban the Pan' scheme where local residents hand in their old chip pans for a brand new deep fat fryer, free of charge, thus making their home and community safer. One relatively minor burn can cost the PCT thousands of pounds and result in that person not being able to attend work and so the list goes on!

We are not complacent about the work that needs to continue, but we are excited about the prospects that

lie ahead. Equally if your organisation is not a member of the partnership but wishes to contribute please contact us.



MICK FRANKLAND (VICE CHAIR)  
HYNDBURN COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

## You'd be lost without it... Never leave valuables in your car!



Many people will have received the gift of a portable Satellite Navigation (Sat-Nav) system for Christmas or Birthdays. However you may not be aware that these devices are the latest targets for car thieves.

Thieves have always seen cars as easy targets, and car manufacturers have done a huge amount of work to protect the valuable items within, such as audio equipment that thieves have traditionally found so attractive, forcing them to look for other items of value and portable Sat-Navs fit the bill for a number of reasons.

- They are valuable and they are 'in demand'

- They are often left in vehicles on open view.
- They are loose fitted and are quickly and easily removed.
- They are small and easily concealed.

These are the same reasons that car audio equipment used to be so attractive to thieves, and so it is understandable that Sat-Nav is taking over as the prized pickings of those who prey on unattended vehicles.

So what can you do to protect your equipment? To keep things simple, there is only one rule:

**NEVER LEAVE YOUR SAT-NAV UNATTENDED IN YOUR CAR**

Many people hide their device in the car, thieves are well aware of this and look out for the tell tale signs such as:

- Mounting devices left on the dashboard or windscreen.
- Suction ring marks on the windscreen where the mounting device has been.
- Charging cables left on sight.
- Sat-Nav packaging left on sight.

**THIEVES WILL STILL BREAK INTO YOUR CAR JUST BECAUSE THEY THINK A SAT-NAV IS INSIDE.**

Avoiding the tell tale signs may save you the trouble and

## SAFENAV

cost of repairing the damage that they cause. Remove from sight everything that shows you own a Sat-Nav – even wiping the suction marks off the windscreen. As with all property, mark it with your postcode using a UV Marker and keep a note of the serial number.

Police in Hyndburn will be carrying out a Sat-Nav Campaign during April & May. Drivers of vehicles with portable Sat-Nav systems will be stopped and the device checked against the database of stolen equipment. Once the equipment has been satisfactorily checked, drivers will be issued with FREE CRIME PREVENTION PACKS. In addition, Police will be stepping up patrols of car parks and identifying vehicles which may be at risk and issuing crime prevention packs in partnership with the car park operators, including retail premises.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT  
PS 1226 SIMON HOLDERNESS ON  
(01254) 353103

# HYNDBURN CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU



## WHAT WE DO

The Bureau provides a professional service of advice, information, practical assistance, negotiation with third parties and representation to anyone needing help. Whilst protecting confidentiality we aim to use our clients' experiences to prevent problems recurring through what we call "social policy work" by liaising with policy makers both locally and nationally.

People seek our advice about consumer rights, employment problems, welfare benefits matters, housing difficulties, debt problems, family issues and much more besides. We aim to help no matter what

the problem. We do not discriminate on grounds of gender, ethnicity, nationality, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age or religion. This position is based on a number of guiding principles.

## OUR PRINCIPLES

Our service is

- FREE,
- CONFIDENTIAL,
- INDEPENDENT
- and IMPARTIAL.

We will not judge you and we will do what we can to help you. The fact of your contact with us is private between you and us alone, and we will not speak to any other person or organisation without your agreement.

Whilst we respect you, we ask you to have consideration for our staff whose work is frequently difficult and stressful.

## BACKGROUND

The Bureau moved to the New Era Centre in November 2000 from older town centre premises to enable us to improve accessibility, comfort and service quality for the community using our service. We took the opportunity to respond to demand to provide appointments rather than the usual "drop-in and wait" sessions common in many agencies. We first opened to the public in the 1960's sponsored by the former Accrington District Council, and in 1994 we won a legal aid franchise from the Legal Services Commission (then Legal Aid Board).

We are a registered charity and we are grateful for financial support from Hyndburn Borough Council.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Hyndburn Citizens Advice Bureau

New Era Centre,  
Paradise Street,  
Accrington BB5 1PB

## Appointments:

Monday:  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday:  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday:  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday:  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday:  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Appointments Line

01254 304114

Advice  
01254-394210

Fax  
01254-304111

Email  
mail@hyndburncab.com

## CSP ACHIEVE 22% REDUCTION IN CRIME

Over the past 3 years the CSP's performance in Hyndburn has been measured against the British Crime Survey Comparator Crime (BCSC) baseline from 2003/04. There has been a requirement to reduce BCSC crime by -15% (Public Service Agreement PSA 1) crimes by March 2008, this equates to a reduction of 847 crimes.

At the end of 2007/08 Hyndburn recorded 4,382

BCSC crimes, which is a -11.2% reduction on last year, this equates to 551 fewer victims of crime in the last year. There has also been a 22.4% reduction in all BCSC crimes from the baseline year, this has meant a reduction of 1,266 crimes on the baseline year.

There have been consecutive annual reductions in the number of BCSC crimes recorded in Hyndburn since 2003/04.



In addition to this, each quarter total in 2007/08 and the last quarter of the previous year 2006/07 have been the lowest quarter figures since April 2003. Quarter 2 (July to September) 2007/08 was the lowest quarterly figure

with 1,045 crimes recorded.

The top five volume crime categories in 2007/08 were:

- Damage to Vehicles
- Other Wounding,
- Damage to Dwellings
- Theft from a vehicle
- Burglary Dwelling.

These 5 crime categories accounted for 66.6% of all BCSC crime, within Hyndburn.

The aim of the CSP is to reduce these figures even further over the coming years.

## Offenders Paying Back into the Community

Is there an eyesore in your community which you would like to see cleaned up? Is there a church hall or community centre in need of redecorating? Is there a luncheon club in need



**NATIONAL  
PROBATION  
SERVICE**

## LANCASHIRE

of volunteers?

Then Community Payback could be the answer.

The Probation Service in Lancashire supervises offenders who have been ordered to carry out unpaid work in the community as part of their sentence. The work they do gives them the chance to pay back directly into the local community to help make amends for the crimes that they have committed.



Each year in Lancashire, offenders carry out around 200,000 hours of unpaid work to payback to the community and you have the chance to choose the type of work that they carry out.

Projects undertaken by offenders that have been of benefit to local communities in East Lancashire include graffiti removal, litter clearance, repairing and redecorating community centres and environmental work such as maintaining public open spaces and churchyards.

All the projects combine hard work and the chance for the offender to develop important life skills. They help to reduce the risk of re-offending and so make our communities safer.

**To suggest a project for offenders to work on, please visit**

[www.probation-lancashire.org.uk](http://www.probation-lancashire.org.uk)

or contact Placement Co-ordinator Lynne Nolan at

**Accrington Probation Office on  
01254 232516**

## Community Payback in Hyndburn

The Probation Service has been carrying out community payback projects with many different groups in the Hyndburn area. Some of our recent projects have included:

**Mercer Park** – removing shrubs, putting down woodchip in preparation for replanting, painting the youth shelter and litter bins.

**Gatty Park** – removing shrubs prior to replanting and repainting over 50 benches and picnic tables

**Milnshaw Park** – Removed large privet hedges and areas of shrubs to reduce the number of places people could potentially hide in to make the park safer.



## About Unpaid Work

- It is a requirement that can be imposed as part of a community order – a sentence given by the court that has to be served by the offender in the community. It used to be known as community service
- The Court can order at the offender to work at least 40 hours and up to a maximum 300 hours. An offender must work at least 5 hours each week.



**The Friends of Milnshaw Park** - a community group set up to help improve the park's appearance – have thanked the offenders and the probation service for the work that has been done there over the past few months. The group secretary said: "This is a truly worthwhile scheme which we as an organisation would not have been able to perform. The difference to the outlook of the park is truly wonderful, being much brighter and less menacing. I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone on behalf of the residents of the Milnshaw area for the work that has been carried out and I hope that the offenders got something from the hard work they put in."

- The Probation Service enforces the sentence. If an offender does not meet their sentence conditions we will return them to court.
- We plan and arrange work for offenders to do. We select work that promotes community safety, prevents crime, and lessens fear of crime, for example making safer footpaths
- Unpaid Work provides the opportunity for offenders to payback to the community but we also try to arrange placements which can enable offenders to learn work skills to improve their employability and guide them away from crime.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERS

Working together seems to be an obvious way to develop when looking to make improvements in a neighbourhood. So why does it often feel like hard work to make it happen?

Neighbourhood Management (NM) in Hyndburn, operating in the Church, Central & Milnshaw; Clayton; Peel & Barnfield, and now Scaitcliffe & Spring Hill areas, has been working hard recently to make partnership working a reality in these areas. In Clayton the neighbourhood police team now have a Police Base in the Neighbourhood Management Office. As well as providing a location for local residents to report issues or discuss concerns with the police this has also led to improved joint working with the police and NM staff regularly discussing local issues. Through funding from the Community Safety Partnership additional security measures such as CCTV have been installed at the office making it safer both for residents accessing the facilities and for NM Staff and police officers, who often work late at the offices for meetings.

Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service work closely with NM staff in the delivery of home safety checks, with NM staff delivering leaflets and co-ordinating the replies and Fire Service staff then carry out the safety inspections.

One key piece of work will be the development of a range of diversionary activities for young people, especially linked to the school holiday periods. A wide range of partners have already expressed interest in being involved and it is hoped that this year to be able to offer not only sport, but creative arts and drama as activities to encourage young people away from anti-social behaviour.

Although working together can be hard work, it can also be very effective and very rewarding. Neighbourhood Management in Hyndburn is committed to working with others and especially with the local communities where they operate.

**For more information about Neighbourhood Management in Hyndburn contact:**

**Robert Ruston – Neighbourhood Management Co-ordinator**

**Tel: 01254 380609**

**E: [neighbourhoodmanagement@hyndburnbc.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodmanagement@hyndburnbc.gov.uk)**



L-R: Melanie Martin (Neighbourhood Management Officer who took the initiative to Eaves Brook) CBM Leonna Hopkinson, Chief Inspector Richard Morgan, Cllr Jean Battle (Chair of Neighbourhood Management Board), Paul Stanners, Eaves Brook Housing

**A practical demonstration of partnership working took place recently with the official launch of a police vehicle, sponsored by Eaves Brook Housing, for use by the neighbourhood policing team in one of Hyndburn's Neighbourhood Management areas.**

Strong links with Lancashire Police, both at strategic and 'grass roots' levels ensured the support of the police with this initiative from the very outset. **Melanie Martin from Eaves Brook** and one of the Church, Central & Milnshaw neighbourhood management staff area came up with the idea of a car in conversation with neighbourhood policing team. The concept was then forwarded to senior staff at Eaves Brook Housing. "I am delighted that we have been able to deliver on this initiative" commented Paul Stanners, Eaves Brook's Neighbourhood Manager for the area, "especially as it originated from a conversation between one of our staff and the local police team. This is an excellent demonstration of the good working relationship that neighbourhood management has with Lancashire Police."

**Steve Glover, Regional Manager for Eaves Brook** said, "This initiative shows the commitment that Eaves Brook has to the area and its willingness to support projects of this nature which go above and beyond the day to day routine of delivering neighbourhood management. We are very pleased to have been able to sponsor this car and hope that it will make a contribution to the reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour in this area."

**Chief Inspector Richard Morgan**, who was present at the launch event, said "I am absolutely delighted that through our partnership work with neighbourhood management we have been able to secure this additional resource for our neighbourhood policing team. We are very grateful to Eaves Brook Housing for their willingness to sponsor this car which I know is very much appreciated by our team working in this area."

As well as staff from Lancashire Police, Eaves Brook Housing and Hyndburn Borough Council, Councillors and community members of the Church, Central & Milnshaw Neighbourhood Management Board were also invited to the launch event which aptly took place in the premises of a former car showroom, soon to become the new area offices for Eaves Brook Housing and Church, Central & Milnshaw Neighbourhood Management

# A GUIDE TO THE SAFER TRAVEL UNIT

## WHAT DO WE DO?

The Safer Travel Unit (STU) aims to make public transport safe and enjoyable for the people of Lancashire. Regional and national strategies have been developed to:

### • Provide a 'hotline' number – 0845 053 0040 –

for people to report anti-social behaviour on buses, at bus stops and bus stations

- Deliver education programmes in schools to reduce anti-social behaviour, crime and bullying on buses and to help young people use public transport more safely and responsibly
- Work closely with young people (who have either offended, or display early signs of offending) their families and other agencies to improve behaviour

Multi-agency gateway checks (spot-checking buses whilst carrying passengers) introduced to the bus network –

DNA swab testing kits issued to all Lancashire bus drivers –

Information sharing –

STU participation in Operation Summer Nights (tackling alcohol related anti-social behaviour) –

Marketing initiatives to reduce criminal damage and anti-social behaviour

## GENERAL SAFETY ADVICE

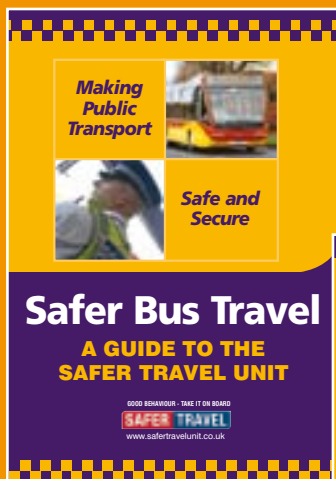
The bus network across Lancashire remains one of the safest in the UK.

However, there are always things that you can do to further ensure your safety.

- Check your bus route and destination before you set off
- Keep valuables like mobile phones, cash and jewellery out of sight
- Keep your bag closed and close to you
- Don't leave your bag on the floor or on the seat beside you
- Loop handles of bags around your wrist if possible

- Don't leave valuables in the luggage rack
- Keep keys separate from anything with your address on it
- Be aware of your immediate surroundings and who's sitting near to you, next to you or behind you
- Pickpockets like crowds so keep bags to the front, closed with the fastening towards the body, be particularly careful with rucksacks

- Register valuable mobile equipment like mobile phones, mp3 players, ipods and laptops on the national database [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com) If they are stolen or lost then later recovered, registering on the database will help the police to reunite you with your property
- Switch your mobile phone from ring to vibrate in public places and be discreet when using it
- Sit on the lower deck in view of the driver and CCTV if necessary on late night journeys



- Use digital closed circuit television (CCTV) in buses and bus shelters to identify offenders
- Deploy the Safer Travel Unit's mobile CCTV unit to deter and detect antisocial behaviour and crime
- Provide a nationally accredited bus driver training program
- Coordinate a network of over 600 bus monitors who act as our 'eyes and ears' on bus services across the county
- Participate in OPERATION BUSWATCH with Lancashire Constabulary which has seen: –



Always be aware that the bus driver is carrying out his duties, checking mirrors, issuing tickets, looking at bus passes, negotiating traffic, assessing road conditions - he may not be aware that incidents are occurring.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you travel on bus services you can greatly assist us by reporting the following types of behaviour to our anti-social behaviour hotline

**0845 053 0040.**

- Loud music
- Placing feet on seats
- Bullying
- Throwing missiles
- Littering
- Smoking
- Shouting
- Swearing
- Inappropriate language
- General rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour
- Anything else you find anti-social  
This type of information ensures that we can direct resources to where they are needed most.

It's that time of year again where you get out the mower, spade and electric hedge trimmers and try your best to tidy the garden, and it's also that time of year when thieves will be on the look out for easy portable items such as power tools stored in old insecure sheds and outbuildings, that they can steal to sell on for a fraction of their replacement costs. So don't let them walk away with your belongings, here are some tips from PC Andy Liptrot (Crime Prevention Officer) to deter any would be thieves.

## Garden Sheds, Outbuildings & Garages

Are popular targets with burglars as valuable items are often stored in them. Power tools, lawnmowers, cycles, golf clubs, etc., are all attractive to thieves and are very expensive to replace. The normal garden shed is not designed or constructed to be a strong room or vault. It is what it is - a garden shed. Likewise garages and outbuildings were designed for a specific purpose but most householders tend to use them for storage.

### Here are a few tips and suggestions in making your property more secure.

- Shed doors are notoriously easy to break into, so strengthen the door and frame if you can. Outside door hinges should be fitted with coach bolts or non-return screws. If you are strengthening the door and frame consider replacing the hinges with a heavy duty type. Use strong pad-bars and close-shackle padlocks.
- Are the windows secured? Most garden shed window glass is normally only held in place by thin timber

battens that are nailed into position. Consider replacing these battens with either a stronger timber section or steel then secure both types with coach bolts or non-return screws. Does the glass need replacing? You could use Perspex, polycarbonate sheets or wired glass as a more secure alternative. Use a window lock on any windows which can be opened - a simple snap lock is ideal as it automatically locks when window is shut. Consider fitting a strong grille or heavy wire mesh panels to both opening and non-opening windows. Also consider using net curtains so people cannot see inside.

- Look at the roof of the shed. Ensure that it is still sound in construction. Consider fixing heavy duty brackets between the roof frames and the wall frames. Burglars have been known to gain access via the roof panels.
- Garage and outbuilding windows are usually more substantial but opening windows still need to be fitted with locks. Timber framed windows can be fitted with snap locks,



metal Crittall-type windows can be fitted with metal locks and transom locks. Again if you are using these buildings to store valuable equipment then consider fitting metal grilles or wire mesh frames.

- Up and over garage doors can be secured by putting padlocks through the inside runners or by fitting padlocks with a hasp and staple on either side of the door. Five-lever mortise locks are the best thing to use on normal solid doors - some lock manufacturers also supply kits with a pair of locks, one for each side of the door, with a common key.
- Battery operated alarms may act as a deterrent. If you have a house alarm, you can have it upgraded to include your shed or garage. If the garage is an integral part of your house, make sure the alarm conforms to BS 4737. You also need to protect everything you keep in your shed, garage and outbuildings.
- Does your insurance policy cover the shed, garage and outbuildings together with all the equipment stored in them? Check that you have both Home Contents and Buildings cover. You may need to ensure that some of the more valuable items are listed separately in the policy.
- Is everything marked with your postcode or personal identification mark? These

are essential so that you can positively identify them if they are stolen.

- Items can be postcoded by a variety of methods (etching, branding, paint stencilling, UV pens, etc.) Making them easy to identify will make it more difficult for a thief to dispose of them, so they are less likely to be stolen in the first place. Warning stickers stating that the items inside have been marked also act as a deterrent.
- Keep a record of Makes, Models and Serial Numbers.
- Photograph valuable items and keep the photos somewhere safe.
- Make everything secure inside the shed, garage or outbuildings so that even if someone did break in they wouldn't be able to walk away with your valuable items.
- Chain cycles, mowers, ladders and tools to a strong anchor point, such as metal rings fixed in concrete to the floor, and use a close shackle padlock.
- Sheds are not really designed for safe storage, so it might be better to keep a strong lockable box or cage inside your shed. This can even be securely anchored to the concrete floor by expanding bolts from inside the box itself. Better still, you should secure valuable items in a more secure place.

# CRIME PREVENTION - SHEDS, GARAGES & GARDENS

- Ask your neighbours to keep an eye on your shed, garage and outbuildings as well as the house and do the same for them in return.
- If your shed, garage or outbuildings are screened from view, cut down some of the foliage so you are not providing cover for a thief.
- When you've made your garden, shed, garage or outbuildings more secure, remember to lock things away every time. It takes just a minute to pick something up and walk off, so don't be tempted to leave everything outside while you go inside for a cup of tea, and NEVER leave cycles unlocked.

## The Garden and Perimeter

Your garden should be your first line of defence against burglars. If someone can get into your back garden easily without attracting attention, it gives them more time to steal from you.

- Keep hedges and fences low at the front of the house so that an intruder has nowhere to hide - below 4ft.(1.22m).
- Gravel on paths and driveways will alert you to someone approaching either the house or garden.
- Make sure that your fences and gates are in good repair Trellis fixed to the top of your garden fence and carefully placed prickly plants will provide extra protection from intruders.
- If there is a gate at the side of your house which leads to the back garden, it should be as close to the front of the house as possible and secured by a suitable lock. If possible the gate should be fixed with the hinges, attached to the shell of the building. Its height should match the height of the adjoining fence / hedge so that any intruder attempting to climb or force the gate can be seen from the road and / or nearby houses. Make sure that the hinges are secure and that the gate cannot be simply lifted off them.
- Install security lighting. Low energy dusk to dawn lighting is environmentally friendly, cheap to run and better for home security than passive infra-red activated lighting. Good lighting also gives security to any welcome visitors to the house. Constant light, i.e. street lighting, should be provided at the front.
- Don't make a burglar's life easy by leaving tools around which can be used to force an entry. Always lock them away securely after use and consider chaining them together with a padlock attached to a hasp and staple.
- Likewise, don't leave ladders lying around as these can be used by a burglar to reach other parts of your house. Ladders should be chained and padlocked to a strong post or wall.
- Remote-movement detectors can protect costly garden furniture and valuable ornaments such as statues or stone planters. However, these are only suitable for heavy objects not affected by wind or casual vibration. Alternatively, you can

possible and secured by a suitable lock. If possible the gate should be fixed with the hinges, attached to the shell of the building. Its height should match the height of the adjoining fence / hedge so that any intruder attempting to climb or force the gate can be seen from the road and / or nearby houses. Make sure that the hinges are secure and that the gate cannot be simply lifted off them.

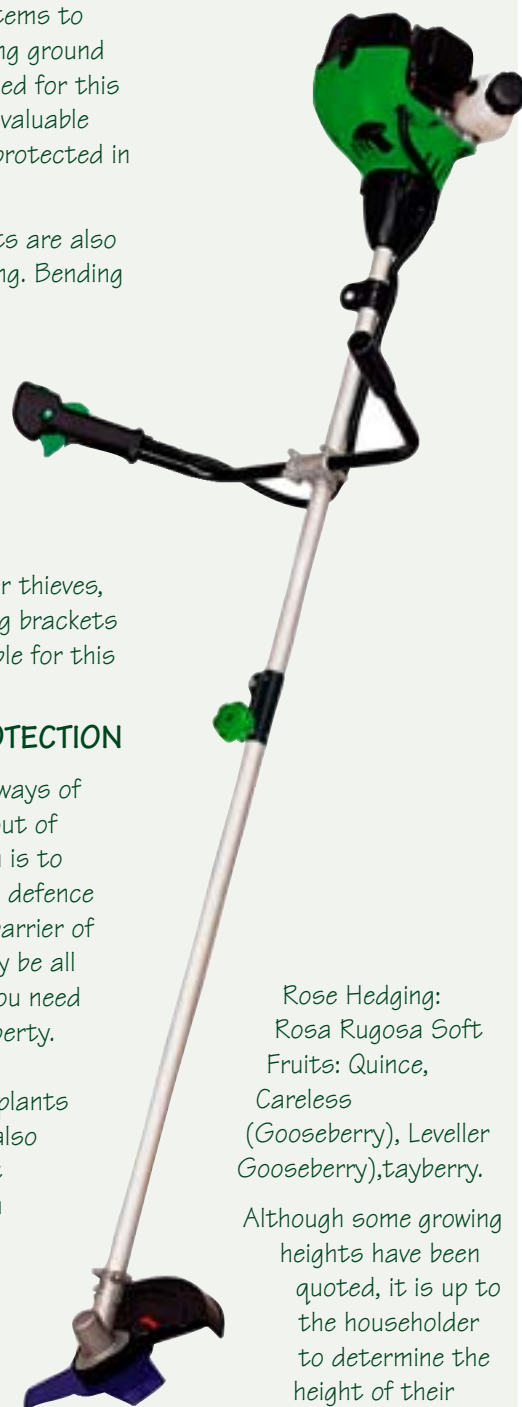
anchor these items to the ground using ground anchors designed for this purpose - even valuable plants can be protected in this way.

- Hanging baskets are also worth protecting. Bending the bracket and / or hook so that the basket cannot be removed easily may be enough to deter thieves, although locking brackets are also available for this purpose.

## NATURAL PROTECTION

One of the best ways of keeping thieves out of your back garden is to use nature's own defence mechanisms. A barrier of prickly hedge may be all the protection you need around your property. Here are some suggestions for plants to use. You can also ask for advice at your local garden centre.

Berberis: Candidula (3ft.), Darwinii (20ft.), Julianae (10ft.), Ottawensis Superba(8ft.), Steno-phylla (10ft.) Ilex (Holly): Aquifolium (Common Holly-20ft.), Agentea Marginata (15ft.), Ferox Aurea (Hedgehog Holly) Mahonia: Japonica, Charity, Winter Sun (All 6-8ft.) Pyracantha: Golden Charmer (10ft), Mohave (12-15ft.), Orangeglow (10ft.), Firethorn Thorn: Crataegus Monogyna



Rose Hedging:  
Rosa Rugosa Soft  
Fruits: Quince,  
Careless  
(Gooseberry), Leveller  
Gooseberry),tayberry.

Although some growing heights have been quoted, it is up to the householder to determine the height of their shrubs.

## And finally..., are you a member of Neighbourhood Watch?

If not, would you like to join a scheme, or perhaps even start one up yourself? For further information contact Carol Hendey (01254) 353600 at the local District Neighbourhood Watch Association.

