

Calling All Dog Walkers

By

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Do you have a dog? And, if so, are you a reluctant dog walker, or are you one of those people who will leap out of the door with their furry friend in tow, anxious to get the exercise?

Well, either way, I've got something for both you and your dog this week! It's as exciting as a brand new bone... It's as exciting as a brand new deluxe box of Bonios... Well, OK, I'm exaggerating a bit here... Well, a lot, actually!

As all dog walkers know, the thing about taking the dog out for a walk is that when we go out we usually take the same route, don't we?

I know when I take the family Labrador out, I walk (or get forcibly dragged) the same way each time: we see the same things and sometimes even see the same people. It's routine: you remember the house on the corner with the funny garden ornaments; the bloke who has the most perfect lawn this side of Wimbledon; the house with the kids' bikes always left out... I could go on.

But that's just it, isn't it: because we go the same route every time, we'd notice if something was different! Perhaps there's a door open which shouldn't be; perhaps an unusual vehicle in the street; perhaps someone who seems to be hanging around the area and who looks out of place?

In recent weeks, the Pocklington and Wolds Weighton "Vehicle Safe" campaign has been run to encourage people to consider vehicle security and, just as importantly, to ring in about suspicious incidents or people, particularly in the early hours. We have had a very good response to this and have had some success in the last couple of weeks with a call from a member of the public resulting in three arrests.

As part of the campaign message, I highlighted how dog walkers could help be our "eyes and ears", particularly those who are out in the early mornings. And this applies not just to vehicle crime, but all kinds of things, day or night, wherever we live.

You could call this "Dog Watch!"

And the good thing is you don't have to do anything special: all you need to do is simply consider your area as you walk around with your dog, and if you see anything unusual ring the Police!

You might see a suspicious vehicle; you might see a suspicious person...

If you do, let us know!

Please ring Humberside on 0845 60 60 222 (or 999 if a crime is in progress).

The only proviso is that you never put yourself at risk whilst doing this. It might be useful to take a pad and pen out with you, particularly if you're noting the registration number of a suspicious vehicle or perhaps the description of someone you've seen.

You never know, you may help prevent or detect a crime!

The more information we have, the better the Police can target their resources. Your help is important!

So, keep walking the dog!

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