

Grindleton WI.

Grindleton WI were pleased to have Keith Sandham speak at their last meeting, Keith had been a police officer in the Ribble Valley for thirty years, he continues to work for the Lancashire Constabulary in roles that support and educate people in the community. The message being Keep your Home, Yourself and Possessions Safe, this was encapsulated in a small informative handbook called "Operation Julius" available from their website: [www.lancashire.police/intheknow](http://www.lancashire.police/intheknow). Other useful leaflets being 'Beat the Burglar' and Action Fraud, fraud and internet crime is handled by a UK national team at [actionfraud.police.uk](http://actionfraud.police.uk). They also provide information on Scams, another means of accessing personal information or money, which may not always be against the law.

Security can be as simple as locking doors and windows of your home and car, keeping valuables, mobile phones, IT equipment and keys out of sight. Keith described it like an onion 'layers of security', advertise what you have in place and 'aggressive shrubbery' is a great deterrent for the burglar out 'grafting', who is a great risk assessor and looks for easy safe options. One being the 'Contactless Debit Card' which gives the criminal easy access to purchases without question. Living in such a rural area crime involving farm machinery is rife, the use of tracking devices are encouraged.

Liz Parkinson gave a Vote of Thanks, remarking on his ability to deliver a dry and worrying topic in an amusing and educational way, without doubt community spirit and neighbourhood watch plays a big part in recognising suspicious activities.

The competition was judged by Keith ; 1<sup>st</sup> Judith Rawkins: 2<sup>nd</sup> Pamela Ward: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grace Dobson.

Ann Connell reported back from The Annual Meeting held in Liverpool, both resolutions, Alleviating Loneliness and Plastic Soup were discussed and voted upon, both topics will continue to be debated at Government level. Ann described the speakers as vibrant and motivating, she will continue to explore how we can alleviate plastic fibres entering our water systems by the use of 'Guppy Bags' for washing synthetic clothing.