



Name		
Horse/s name		
Address where your horse/s are kept		
	Postcode	Grid
Tel		
Email		

www.derbyshirehorsewatch.org.uk



 **101**

in an emergency always call 999

Derbyshire Horse Watch

Reducing crime, disorder and fear

Introduction

Derbyshire Horse Watch was set up to work in partnership with Derbyshire Police to prevent, reduce and detect equine related crime. Derbyshire Horse Watch is part of the national Horse Watch Scheme.

Horse Watch connects all horse owners and riders with the intention of improving our security and communication. We aim to reduce rural and equine crime and, just like Neighbourhood Watch, much can be achieved through general awareness and a little effort from each individual. The scheme is nationwide and supported by most Police Forces. Areas have local groups, run by a co-ordinator who acts as your first point of contact, our County

Co-ordinator is Lesley Manger telephone 01773 831251 email: lesley.kenstud@gmail.com

Secretary Helen email: helen.develop@breathe.com

If you are not already a member of Horse Watch an application form is available to be downloaded from www.derbyshire.police.uk or www.derbyshirehorsewatch.org.uk or email your name and address to

email: deborah.hall.14181@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk

email: naomi.biggin.16619@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk where an application form can be requested.

Don't worry if you live outside the area, we will pass your details on to your local group.

The success of any Horse Watch Scheme revolves around the dedication of its members. Their commitment to their horses provides a basis on which to build a range of measures which can help to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime. In many cases, dedication alone will not be sufficient. A range of proven security measures have therefore been developed to help support the horse owner and prevent the theft of horses and tack.

If you think your horse has been stolen:

- Make sure your horse has not strayed. Check fencing and gates are still in place.

- Report any theft to the police. Derbyshire Police 101
- Ensure you are given a crime reference number and note it down.
- Inform your local Horse Watch co-ordinator/ the County co-ordinator.
- Stolen horses can be added to the national Stolen Horse Register - www.stolenhorseregister.com
- Horse Watch will circulate details of stolen horses, property and trailers/lorries.
- Contact the local press for their help with publicity.
- Use this pack together with your horse passport to describe missing equines.

You must remember that if your horse and property cannot be identified they are unlikely to be returned to you. Make sure your horse/s are freeze branded and all tack, rugs, tools, trailers and lorries are postcoded. Microchipping is a good confirmation of ownership but not a visible identification.

SmartWater is a recent development in property marking - please ask at your local police station for information and product availability (a charge will apply).

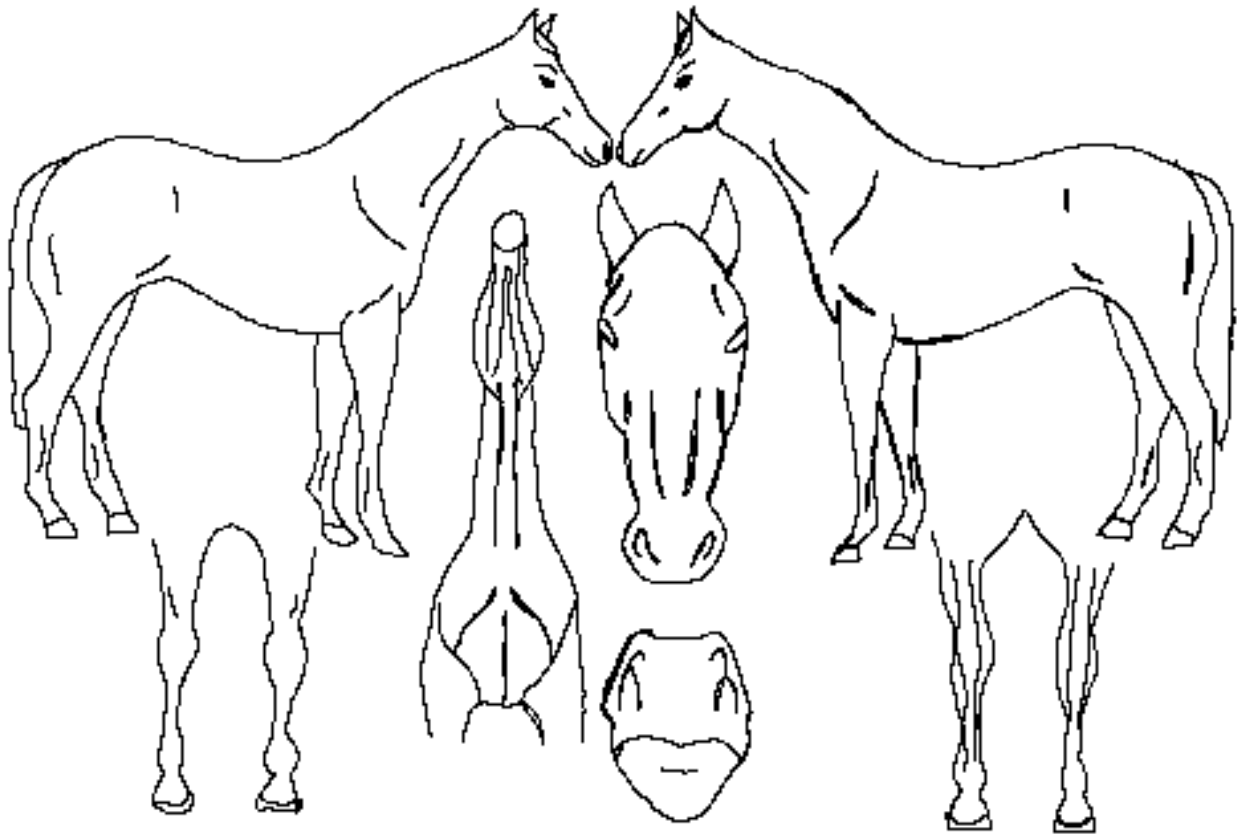
The following information gives general guidance on a whole range of security measures covering horses, tack, trailers, horseboxes and stables.

Prevention measures

Horse Identification

Take colour photographs of your horse in summer and winter. Ensure that it is standing correctly as shown in the horse passport. Take photographs from the side as well as the front and behind. If the horse has a peculiar mark or scar photograph that as well and make sure you can identify where on the animal the mark or scar is. Have several prints ready, ideally saved onto a computer, so that you can circulate them quickly if your horse is stolen. Keep the negatives safe. Ensure that any marks, whorls etc. are shown on a suitable diagram. If in doubt have the drawing completed by a veterinary surgeon.

Sample diagram



Security Marking

Have your horse security marked. Experience has proven that marking your horse, as well as your tack, does deter thieves. Ensure that you check your horse at least twice daily and vary your times. Do not set up a pattern for the thief to use to their advantage. If your horses are grass kept do not leave a headcollar or lead rope dangling at the gate because this could help the thief take your horse. Present recognised methods of security marking for equines are:

- Freeze marking
- Hoof Branding
- Micro-chip implant

Freeze marking: This is humanely done by freeze marking a number on the horses body (usually on the saddle patch) with chilled irons. If the company's instructions are followed it leaves a unique number for life. Records of freeze marked horses are kept and registration papers are issued to owners.

Hoof branding: This involves having your post code branded on your horse's hooves you purchase the branding irons and have your farrier apply the brand. It requires periodic renewal as the hoof grows.

Microchip Implant: This is implanted in the horse's neck. The RSPCA and certain other organisations have transceivers which can detect the signal from the microchip if the horse is stolen.

Horse Watch contacts:

PC Debbie Holmes 14181

email:

deborah.holmes.14181@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk

 **101**

Saddlery

All saddlery should be security marked.

You can have your tack post coded which is done with a metal punch or an engraving tool. It is not advisable to stamp your code on reins and thin bits of leather. Your post code can be engraved on a stirrup bar of your saddle. Do not be tempted to engrave your post code on any bits - this could leave you with a vet's bill. Property marking equipment may be available through your Horse Watch area co-ordinator. Also photograph your saddlery especially if it is unusual. This is a valuable aid towards the detection of stolen goods. Ensure you have a comprehensive list of all your tack. Please make sure you complete all the necessary details on the identification as it is very difficult to trace stolen tack without knowing the saddle's make or identifying number.



Identifying Horse Tack

Where to find postcode identification

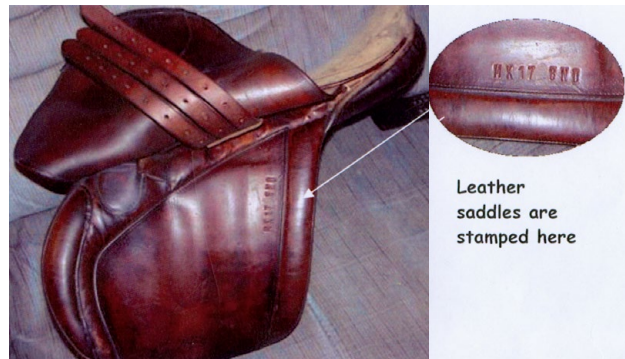
It is possible that items will be security marked. Generally, Horse Watch recommends postcoding as it is easily recognisable and quick to trace. There may however be other types of mark, stampings, ultra violet pen, microchips, tags etc.

Your local Horse Watch representative can help you with tack identification as can the police.

www.derbyshirehorsethatch.org.uk

Saddles will either be made of leather or a synthetic material.

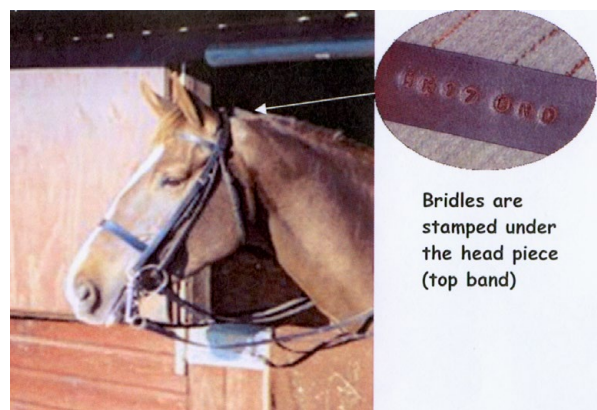
Leather saddles should be marked (stamped with a postcode) on the nearside under the big flap. There may also be maker's marks on this side.



Synthetic saddles are difficult to stamp so may have a postcode engraved on the nearside stirrup bar. Note that a number beginning BS is a British Standard and not an identifier.



Bridles should have a postcode stamped underneath the head piece, the wider leather strap at the top.



Other leather items may be similarly stamped, although sometimes on the reverse side.

Metal items such as stirrups and bits may also be engraved. On difficult to mark property look out for engraving on rings or buckles.

Horseboxes & trailers



As with other equipment photograph your horsebox/trailer. Ensure it is immobilised when parked, but that it can be brought into use quickly in the event of an emergency. Use wheel clamps, hitch locks, car alarms/immobilisers.

Consider having your trailer security marked with your post code. Personalise your vehicle(s). Park them where you can see them, preferably in an area which is lit up at night or has intruder security lighting. Thefts of horseboxes and trailers have presented more of a problem over the past few years but with modern security devices fitted they are certainly a lot harder for the thief to steal.

- **Wheel clamp**
- **Hitchlock with chain**
- **Car Alarm**
- **Security markings**

Stables & Paddocks



Contact your area's Safer Neighbourhood team who will be able to give you free professional advice on all aspects of building security. Consider installing burglar alarms and security lighting. Do not mark which door is the entrance to the tack room - don't make it easy for the thief. Openly display signs and advertise that all your property has been security marked. Secure all doors with substantial padlocks (never padlock a stable). Gates should also be secured with padlocks and should have hinges fitted so that the gate cannot be lifted off. Ensure that your fences and hedges are in a good state of repair and do not provide easy access for the thief. Have a look around your premises and ask yourself if it could be made more secure.

When your horse/tack has been security marked you should display signs on fences to show that this has been done to help deter potential thieves.

If you see anything suspicious report it to the police. In an emergency always dial 999. You should also alert other Horse Watch members - the thief may decide to move on to their premises.

- **Security lighting and burglary alarm**
- **Gates should be padlocked**
- **Secure doors with padlocks**
- **Display sign to show your property is marked**

Horse & Rider Safety

Don't be a dark horse

Always try and ride with someone else. Tell a friend where you are riding and how long you will be. If possible take a mobile phone with you. Please stress to your children not to speak to strangers.

Be seen - Be Safe

Wear fluorescent or reflective clothing and equipment and give motorists those valuable seconds to see you.

Do not ride after dark unless absolutely necessary.

Equipment Details

Saddles

Type		
Maker		
Leather/Synthetic		
Colour		
Size		
Postcode		
Other Identification		

Bridles

Type		
Maker		
Leather/Synthetic		
Colour		
Size		
Postcode		
Type of Bit		

Horsebox - Trailer Details

Horsebox

Registration Mark		Living type	
Make		Horse Capacity	
Colours		Engine Number	
Sign Writing		Chassis Number	
Vehicle Weight		Body Number	

Please note that lorries often have bodies swapped or are re-sprayed to hide their original identity. Owners should security mark fixtures and fittings inside and out with their postcode in case separate items are

recovered. Engine and chassis numbers can be found on the vehicle registration document. The body number should be on the makers' plate

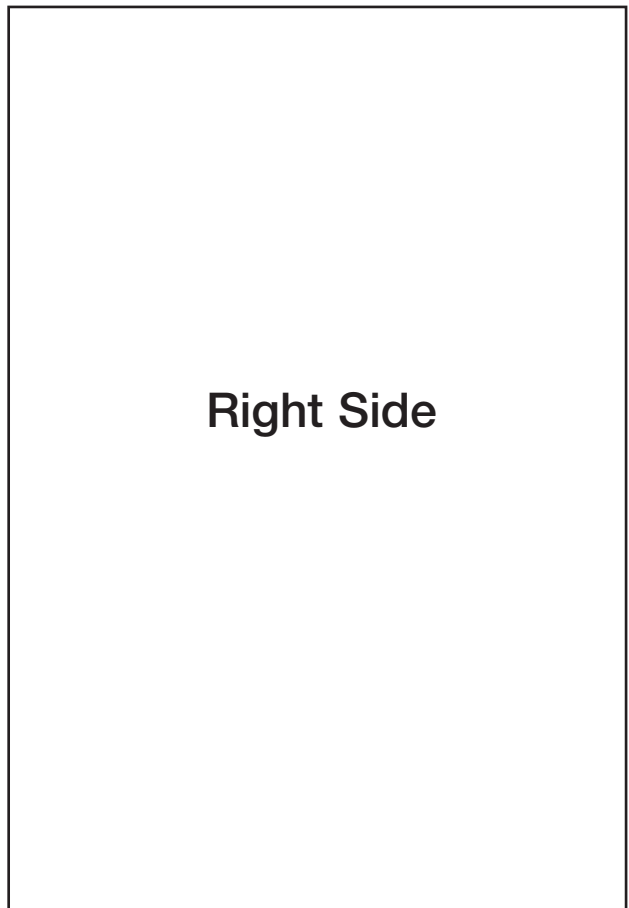
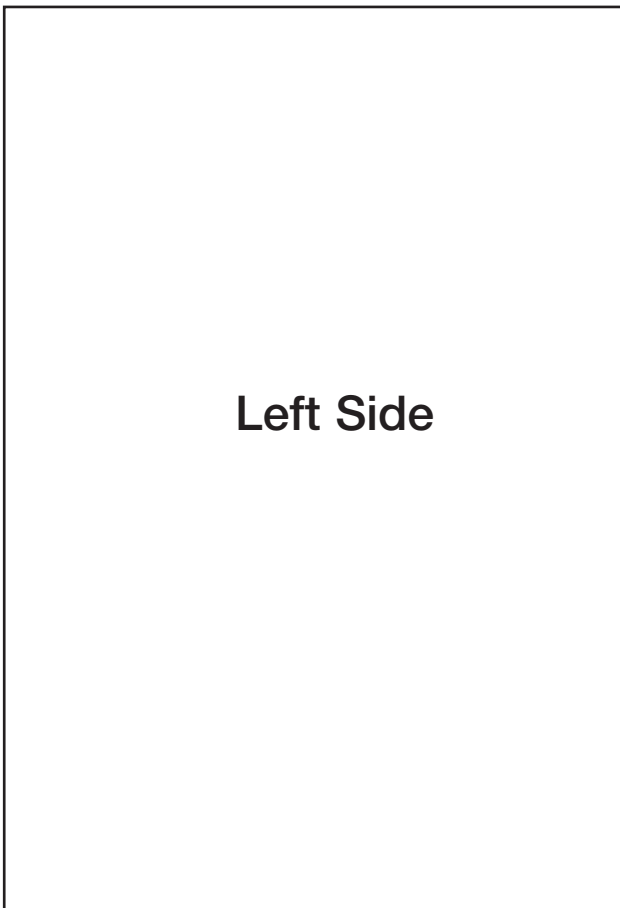
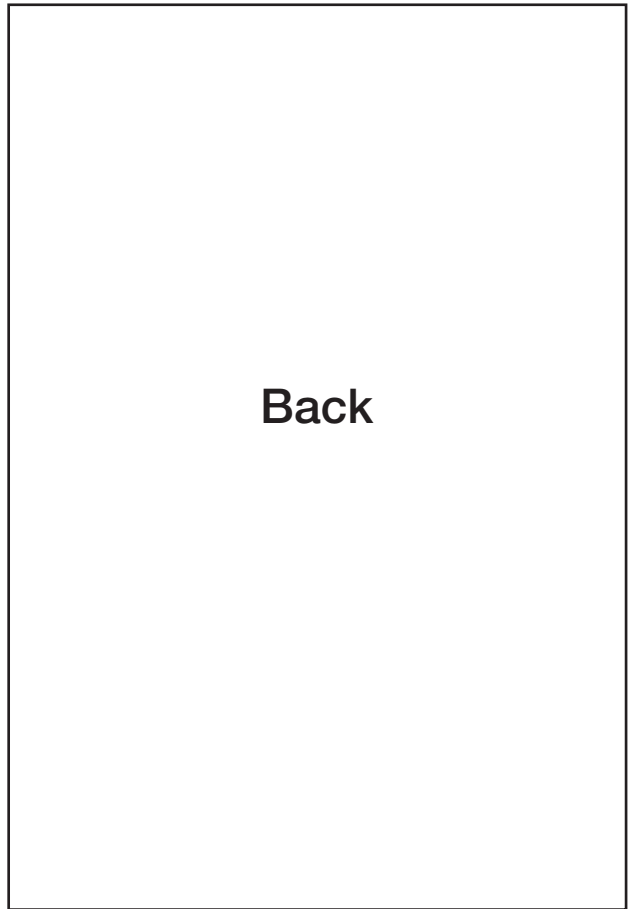
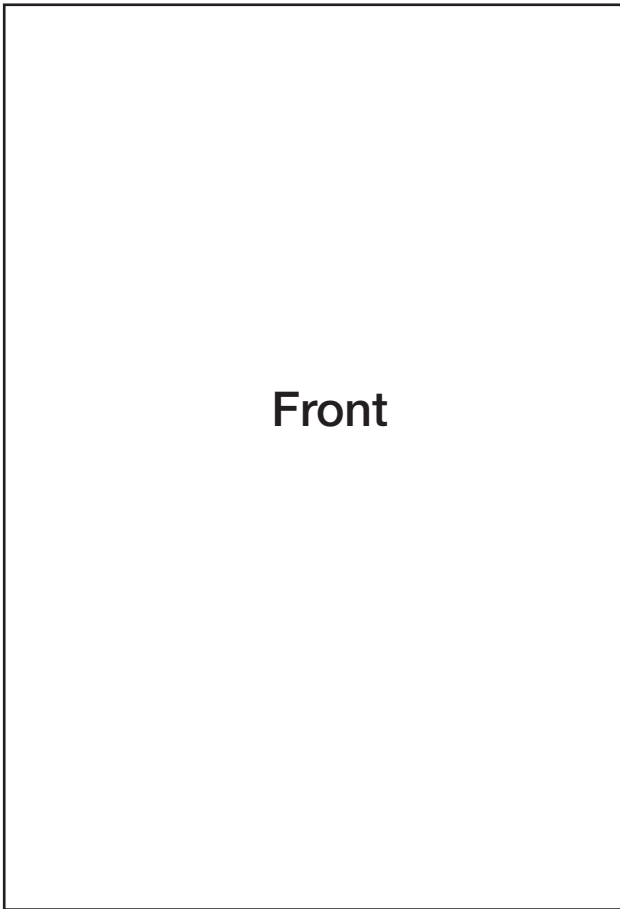
Interior Marks / Radio / Living etc.	Exterior Marks / Previous colours

Trailer

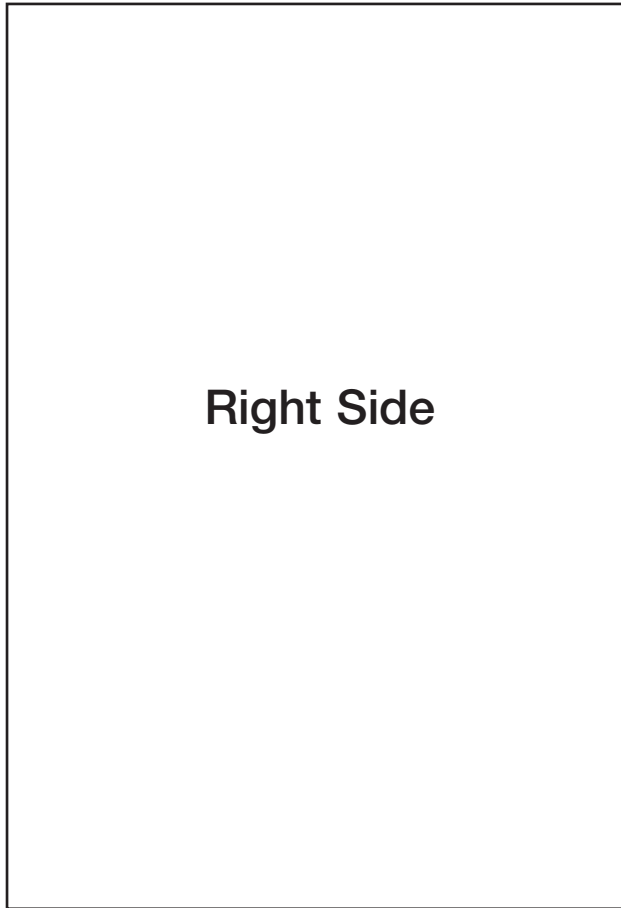
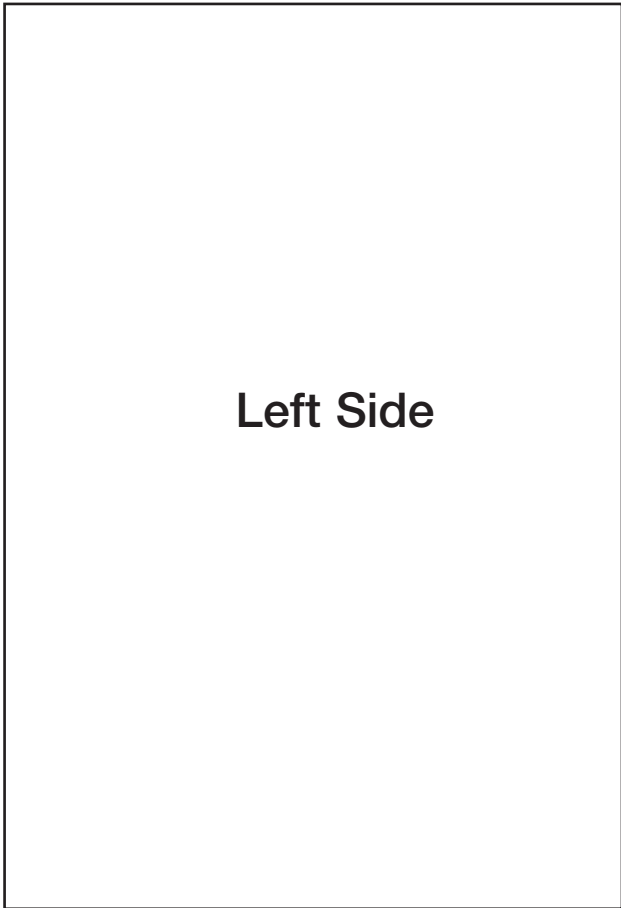
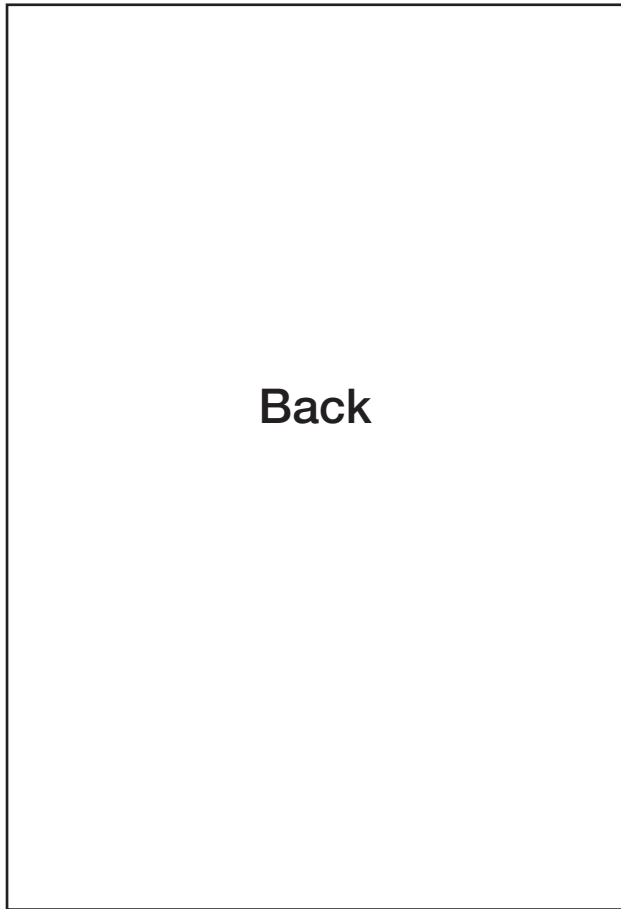
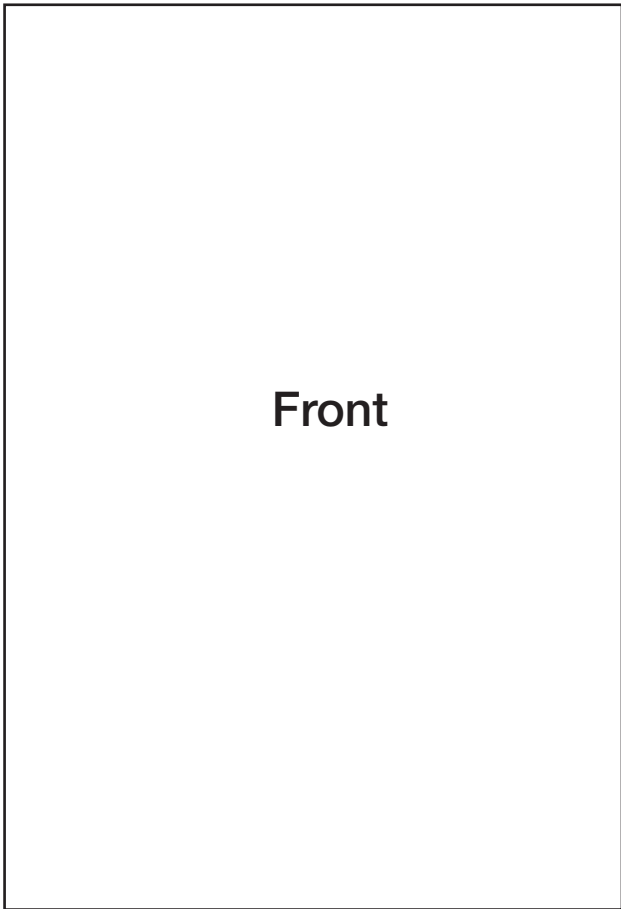
Make		Number of axles	
Model		Hitch make	
Colour		Hitch number	
Serial Number		Postcode	

Interior marks / Location of postcode	Exterior Marks/Stickers

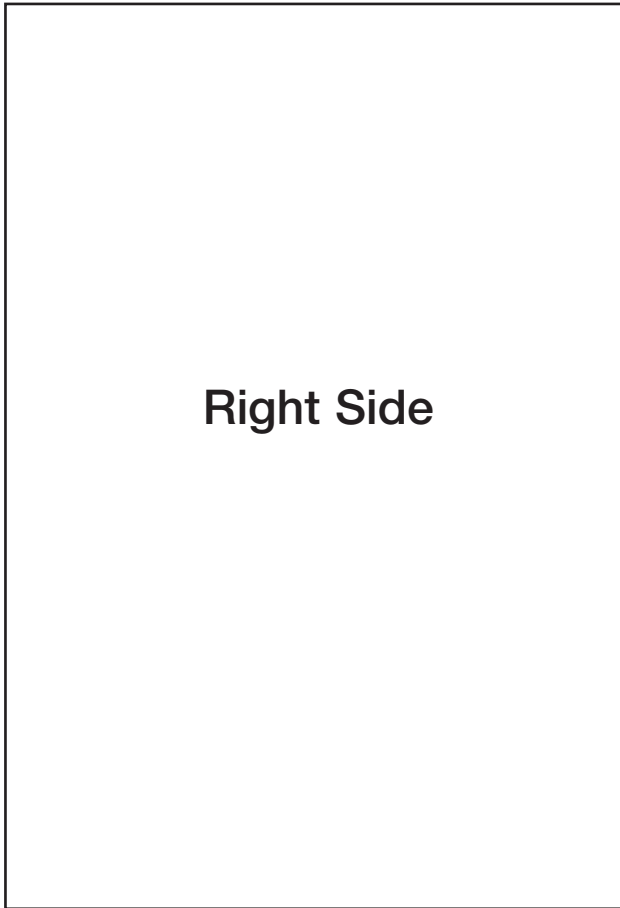
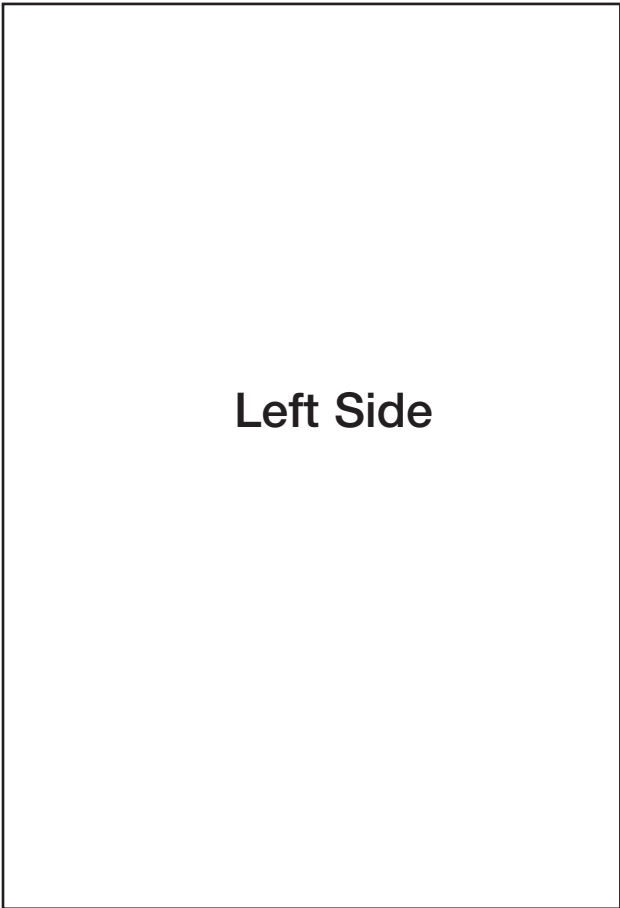
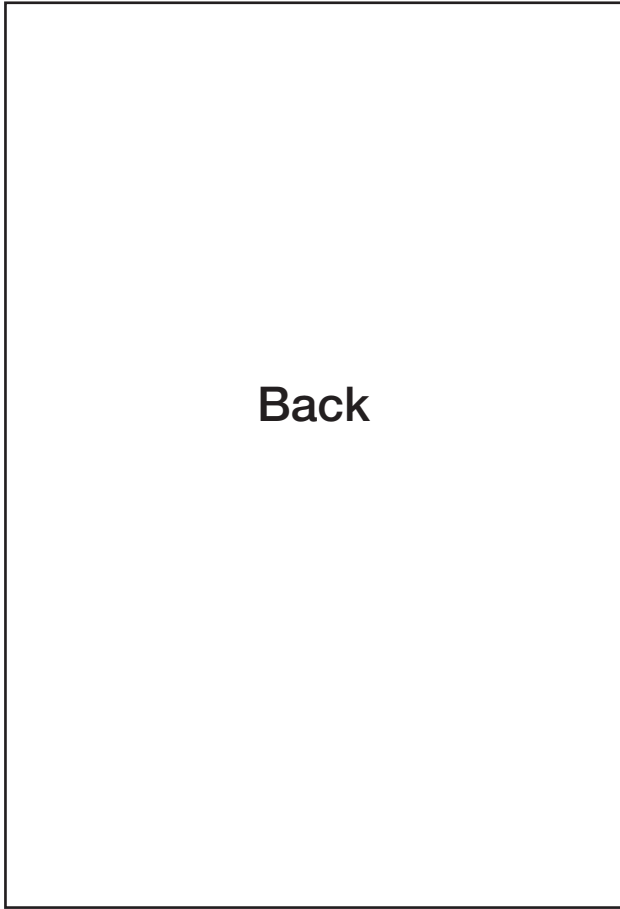
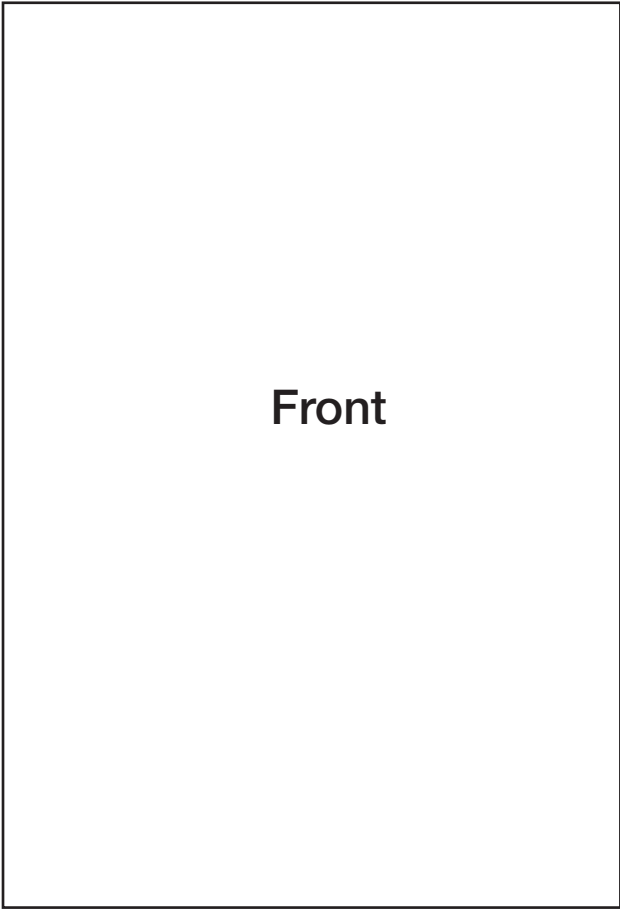
Summer Photographs of Horse/Pony



Winter Photographs of Horse/Pony



Photographs of Horsebox/Trailer



Horse Identification

Horse	Passport no.
Freeze brand	Microchip code
Horse	Passport no.
Freeze brand	Microchip code
Horse	Passport no.
Freeze brand	Microchip code
Horse	Passport no.
Freeze brand	Microchip code

Useful contact numbers	
Derbyshire Constabulary	101
Your local SNT police officer	
Local Horse Watch co-ordinator	
Vet	
Farrier	
Livery yard owner	
Horse security marking company	
Trailer security marking company	
Local Auction	
Local market/horse fair	
Hospital	
Mobile	
Friend (in case of emergency)	

Summary

If you are unfortunate to be the victim of a crime, report it to the police as soon as possible. If your horse or pony has been stolen advertise his/her description (including photographs) in the local press and radio. Contact your Derbyshire Horse Watch area co-ordinator to ensure the information is passed throughout Derbyshire to other forces. Also contact the national equine press eg Horse and Hound and organisations such as the International League for the Protection of Horses. They will be able to help with location of markets etc. Visit as many venues as you can, enlisting the help of friends when possible. Consider using the internet to circulate details of your stolen horse.

Thefts of horseboxes, trailers and tack occasionally occur throughout the Derbyshire Police Area. There is a need to protect your horses and property by being more aware of what is happening in your area. Mark all your property with a serial number and register everything on www.immobilise.com and the National property register.

You can help Horse Watch and Derbyshire Police by informing your area co-ordinator and local police of anything suspicious.

If you have any information about crime but do not want to identify yourself call crimestoppers.



Useful Websites

www.derbyshirehorsewatch.org.uk

www.ukhorsewatch.org.uk

The main website of the UK Horsewatch including crime prevention advice.

www.nfed.co.uk/horsewatch

Horsewatch

Information contained within this site has been compiled from southern forces police reports or other sources.

www.towinghorsetrailers.co.uk Advice and tips for security on trailers

www.smartwater.com

Property security

www.crimestoppers.co.uk

Tel: 0800 555 111

www.stolenhorseregister.com

A national register of stolen and missing equines

www.farmkey.com

Tel: 0870 870 7107

www.virtualbumblebee.co.uk

For recovered property  info@virtualbumblebee.co.uk


www.securedbydesign.com

Crime prevention Associations and Firms Accredited by ACPO

The Equipment Register (TER)

Tel: 01225 464599 to check that an item is not stolen

www.freeze-mark.biz

Freeze marking for horses.  mary@freeze-mark.biz

www.equinsecurity.co.uk

Dedicated to equestrian security - vehicles, tack and horses.

www.equinemarketwatch.org.uk

Equine Market Watch Welfare

www.tracingequines.co.uk

www.animalsonline.org.uk

www.icebands.org

Rider and Horse Safety

www.shetlandponyweb.com

Dedicated to Shetland Ponies ability to post pictures of stolen on to website

www.immobilise.com

National register for property