

Based at Alcester Police Station, The Safer Neighbourhood team's primary roles are around crime prevention, problem solving both long standing or emerging issues of community concern and community engagement. We are supported at Alcester by colleagues from Patrol teams whose role is to respond to incidents and investigate crimes that occur in the

Accester by colleagues from Partor teams whose fole is to respond to incidents and investigate clinics that occur in the area 24/7. The SNT is supervised by Inspector Hembry who leads on Neighbourhood Policing for Stratford District and Sgt Ebbs who also oversees neighbourhood Policing in the Shipston on Stour area. The Alcester SNT currently consists of 2 Police officers and 5 Police Community Support Officers, and our contact details are shown above.
Hello all.
This is our latest combined weekly report and prompt to see if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns for the Alcester Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Thank you to those that have contacted the Teams this week. If you would like to be removed from this local email circulation list, please let me know asap. This report will also be sent out on the Warwickshire Connected alert system.
For operational and privacy reasons not all the incidents that occur on the Alcester area are listed in this report, although they are recorded on police systems. Please remember to report any anti-social behaviour, suspicious activity or crimes to us as soon as possible - this can be done via the suggestions or concerns for the Alcester Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams. Thank you to those that have contacted the Teams this week. If you would like to be removed from this local email

in this report, although they are recorded on police systems. Please remember to report any antisocial behaviour, suspicious activity or crimes to us as soon as possible - this can be done via the 101 and 999 telephone numbers or if not an emergency via our online reporting forms that can be found on our website. If you have any information or cctv footage that may relate to the incidents listed, please contact us.

Incidents of a public interest from the last week: -

STRATFORD BORDERS (These are areas of Stratford, mainly on the West side that fall into the boundaries of the Alcester SNT)

Suspicious Circumstances. The Ridgeway. Group of about 10 males dressed in black and with face coverings seen trying to stop traffic on the road. Area search made by police - nothing untoward found at the time. 11.20pm Friday 14th February. 0404 14/02/2025

This newsletter is not intended to record a comprehensive list of every reported crime in the area but includes crimes and incidents that the local community should be aware of. Staying vigilant and working together with the police and your local community keep crime out of your area.

Stratford Borders continues.....

• Burglaries. Mayfly Close. Six new builds entered, and items stolen including boilers and pipes. This has then resulted in considerable damage by water. Between the 8th and 10th February. 0054 10/02/2025

ARDENS GRAFTON

• ASB. Ardens Grafton. About 7 quad bikes came through the area at speed causing a nuisance and danger. Some of the riders were stood up on their bikes as they passed through the village. 2pm Saturday 8th February. 0208 09/02/2025

STUDLEY

 Burglary. Greys Road. Gate and fence to property damaged. Electric meter and wires also damaged at the rear. Items moved in the house but unsure if anything stolen at the time of the report. Between 10am and 12.30pm Thursday 13th February. 0198 13/02/2025

 Theft. Store, Alcester Road. Several items stolen by known shoplifter. Two males that were with him remained outside. They all walked off towards the Redditch Road. 9.40pm Wednesday 12th February. 0415 12/02/2025

 Suspicious Circumstances / Drone. Stapleton Road. Drone seen hovering over back gardens. It descended to about 1 to 2 feet over child's head. Caller concerned for safety reasons.
 3.30pm Thursday 6th February. 0114 10/02/2025

EARLSWOOD

 Suspicious Circumstances. Earlswood Common. Male wearing balaclava seen to walk around outside of a couple of premises. Entry not gained. 7.30pm Tuesday 11th February. 0221 13/02/2025

A Safer Internet for children and young people

Over the last week we have taken the opportunity to raise awareness of online safety and wellbeing amongst children and young people. This aims to highlight common themes experienced by young people online, with this year's theme focusing on 'too good to be true?'.

We are signposting to a range of resources to help with different aspects of cyber safety and are encouraging parents, teachers, carers and the wider community to share these resources and have open discussions with children and young people, to help them stay safe online. Cybercrime covers all crimes that take place online, are committed using computers, or are assisted by online technology.

Warwickshire County Council's Community Safety Team, in conjunction with Safer Warwickshire partners and Child Friendly Warwickshire, have recently produced a short, animated film to encourage younger children to take care when on the internet. It is hoped that schools, parents and carers will share the video with children and prompt discussions about how they can protect themselves online.

Alongside this, the UK Safer Internet Centre has issued a range of advice for young people, parents and carers, which can be found here:

This newsletter is not intended to record a comprehensive list of every reported crime in the area but includes crimes and incidents that the local community should be aware of. Staying vigilant and working together with the police and your local community keep crime out of your area.

Tips for Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre - <u>https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-parents-and-carers</u>

Tips for 7-11 year olds - UK Safer Internet Centre - <u>https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-7-11-year-olds</u>

Tips for 11-14s - UK Safer Internet Centre - <u>https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-11-14s</u>

Tips for 14-18s - UK Safer Internet Centre - <u>https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025/tips-for-14-18s</u>

Our Cybercrime and Fraud Co-Ordinator James Squire said: "Safer Internet Day is a great reminder to engage in open conversations with our families and communities about online issues.

"Today's generation of children are growing up using the internet from a young age, and it's important we help them to use the online world in a safe and positive way.

"Ask your child to share with you their favourite apps, games, or websites, and regularly check with them if they've seen anything online, they are not comfortable with. Please use this as an opportunity to review your family's online security and make any changes needed."

Further information about staying safe online can also be found on our website here: Staying safe online | Warwickshire Police - <u>https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/police-forces/warwickshire-police/areas/warwickshire-police/campaigns/campaigns/2022/staying-safe-online/</u>



This newsletter is not intended to record a comprehensive list of every reported crime in the area but includes crimes and incidents that the local communit should be aware of. Staying vigilant and working together with the police and your local community keep crime out of your area.



What is Keyless Car Theft?

Keyless car theft (aka Relay Theft/Relay Crime) is where the signal from a key for a so-called "Keyless entry" car is captured by somebody standing outside the victim's house using a device.

Keyless Car Theft – How It Works

Step 1 – The device transmits the signal to somebody else standing by the victim's car.

Step 2– This then fools the car into thinking the key is near it, and so it allows the doors to be opened and ignition to be started.

How far do thieves need to be away from my car keys? - Keyless Car Theft happens when thieves are only within a few metres from your car keys to capture the signal.

How Long Does Keyless Car Theft Take to Happen? - Keyless car theft can take only 20-30 seconds.

What device is used in Keyless Car Theft? - Relay crime is when a certain type of specialist electronic equipment captures the signal from the Key and transmits it to a receiver that somebody standing next to the car has.

Prevent Keyless Car Theft (Quick Tips) - To protect your keyless entry car from being a victim of relay theft, here some are some quick tips:

Use a Signal blocking pouch (Faraday Bag) – Keep your car keys safe. Car key burglaries are on the increase, why not keep your car keys in a safe! If you have a 'keyless entry' car, then make sure your keys are kept well away from doors and windows. Keep your car key in a screened box/tin/bag so that the signal can't be 'grabbed' from the outside and used to open your car - and don't forget to do the same with any spare set! Signal Blocking pouches can stop access to your vehicle by blocking your car key fob from transmitting its code to the vehicle, as the pouches are lined with layers of metallic material. The pouch which has a metallic lining, which prevents signals from the remote key fob being intercepted by unwanted individuals. Putting your keys in a signal blocking pouch will stop any thieves from being able to amplify the signal used in relay theft.

Turn off Keyless Fob's Wireless Signal - Do you have a keyless fob? Wireless signals on some keyless fobs can be switched off. To turn off your wireless signal, you should look in your car's manual to see if you can do this. If you can't find anything in your manual about turning off your fob, you should contact the vehicle's manufacturer.

Use a Steering Wheel Lock or Car Alarm to stop Keyless Car Theft - Another method to prevent keyless car theft is by fitting a steering wheel lock or car alarm. Most modern car thieves are equipped with laptops rather than hand tools, so mechanical devices - such as steering wheel locks – can be a real deterrent. When purchasing a security device, look out for 3rd party approval such as Sold Secure, whereby the product is tested against tools used by criminals such as Crowbars and Angle Grinders. An alarm can reduce your car insurance. If you haven't got a

This newsletter is not intended to record a comprehensive list of every reported crime in the area but includes crimes and incidents that the local community should be aware of. Staying vigilant and working together with the police and your local community keep crime out of your area.

factory-fitted alarm, you may be able to reduce the cost of your car insurance by fitting a car alarm Check with your insurer that the alarm is approved, as the quality can differ with car alarms. And the single most cost-effective way to reduce your insurance premium is to fit an immobiliser, just make sure it's professionally fitted.

Park in a Garage at Night to Prevent Keyless Car Theft - Park your car in a garage overnight is ideal to stop keyless car theft, this increases the distance between your car and potential thieves trying intercept and amplify the signal from your car key fob. Don't have a garage or park on your driveaway? – If you're parking on your driveway, park defensively, i.e. as close to your property as you can. Extra Security to Prevent Keyless Car Theft - Consider upgrading our home security, by fitting outdoor motion detector lighting and CCTV cameras. If you park on the street, ensure it's in an area that is well lit. A local MLA master locksmith can undertake a home security check and advise on how to best to upgrade your outdoor security.

Get your windows etched (Vin Etching) - Etching the last seven digits of your Vehicle Identity Number (or registration) onto the windows, headlights and mirrors means anybody tries to steal your vehicle by keyless car theft will have a tough job when trying to alter your vehicle's identity.

Keep your vehicle tidy can prevent Car Keyless Car Theft - We've all heard it, but how many still don't follow the advice. Make sure to keep the inside of your vehicle clear of clutter, try and hide any electrical items such as Sat Navs & Mobile phones. Try to keep your glove box empty, and why not leave your glove box open to show you've got nothing to hide. Don't forget to hide any signs of high-cost equipment as well, such as the marks that Sat-Nav suction cups leave on your windscreen.

Prevent lost car keys being stolen - Should you have lost your car keys then we recommend contacting a local MLA auto locksmith, who are experts with vehicle locks and keys. They will make sure that only the keys you have cannot be used by the thief, removing all others your vehicles database, this will stop any stolen keys being used.

Re-programme your keys - If you buy a second-hand vehicle, there is a risk that you may not be given all the sets of car keys. Reprogramming your car keys can stop thieves using stolen keys. If you're unsure, get car keys reprogrammed so previous owners can't access the vehicle.



This newsletter is not intended to record a comprehensive list of every reported crime in the area but includes crimes and incidents that the local community should be aware of. Staying vigilant and working together with the police and your local community keep crime out of your area.



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Making your community a better place to live. Together.

https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/

Neighbourhood Watch is the largest volunteer-led crime prevention charity in England and Wales. With over 60,000 active volunteers and over 2 million supporter households, we work across local communities and regions to empower and educate people, as well as to bring communities together. Each regional area is divided into Force areas, which means the areas covered by the police forces and locally is as local as your street or the building you live in. In each area, whether it be nationally, regionally, or local, we all have the same vision, mission, and values.

On a national level, Neighbourhood Watch is supported by the Central Support Team and Board of Trustees. On a regional level, Associations will support Neighbourhood Watch, and these are led by local people, volunteering their time to support our movement.

On a local level, Neighbourhood Watch groups are run within communities by local volunteer Coordinators. Local Neighbourhood Watch schemes work in a variety of ways that reflect the needs of the local community. This includes sharing crime prevention advice and information; running awareness campaigns; holding social events and awards for local people and businesses;

leading community projects, such as litter picks, a community café, flood defence response, presentations in schools and work with young people and children and community messaging with the police.

Join Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbours by chance. Working together by choice. We make this a better place to live. Together.

Our different membership models offer flexibility to suit you. At the heart of each one are you, your neighbours, and your community. Once you have joined as an Individual Member, you have the option to become a Scheme Member by either joining a local scheme or starting one up.

Sign up here.

https://members.ourwatchmember.org.uk/join

This newsletter is not intended to record a comprehensive list of every reported crime in the area but includes crimes and incidents that the local commun should be aware of. Staying vigilant and working together with the police and your local community keep crime out of your area.