



VILLAGE WATCH



Newsletter of South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch
in conjunction with South Yorkshire Police
Edition 266 – November 2018

➤ SCAMS EXPLOSION

Many will be aware of the Nigerian '419' scam letter (and its variations) that purported to have discovered a large amount of money that can be shared with you if you help them to transfer it out of the country; or that the money belonged to a deceased individual with no traceable relatives, but who had the same surname as you, so they could help you to make a claim to be a relative. Paper letters are much rarer now, but telephone, e-mail and other types of on-line scams are booming. Here are just a few of the more recent:

- **“Your Apple ID Has Been Disabled” - E-mail**

This claims that your Apple ID has been disabled and you will need to click a link to unlock your account. This will take you to an Apple-look-alike page where you are asked to log into your Apple account. Don't.

- **“Remove Your Account From Yahoo” - E-mail**

This claims that your account will soon be deactivated “as you requested”. But it says that if you did not request the deactivation, you must reply to the email. This is a phishing attempt to get your Yahoo account details. If you comply, the scammers will hijack your Yahoo account and use it to send scam and spam emails in your name. They can also take control of any linked services that use the same login details.

- **“Fake Sextortion” - - E-mail**

This email claims that the sender has used a “computer worm” to create a video of you looking at porn websites, or has acquired “indiscreet” pictures of you. The sender also claims to possess a copy of your contact list and threatens to post the compromising material to all of your contacts if you do not pay them in bitcoin. If criminals really had harvested your personal information, and recorded video, then they would certainly use some of this information to convince you that their threats were real. Scammers send out thousands of such emails in the hope of netting at least a few victims. If you receive one of these emails, do not respond to it. Just delete it. Some of these scam emails include a valid password associated with one of the recipient's accounts. Because of this some may believe that the scammer has infiltrated their computer. Criminals may have obtained passwords and email addresses from old data breaches.

- **“Win a Toyota Yaris” - WhatsApp**

A message from WhatsApp says you can win a 2018 Toyota Yaris. It urges you to take action quickly because there are only 150 cars left to give away. If you follow the link, you will be taken to a website and asked to fill in a short survey. No matter what answers you provide you will always be declared a winner and you will be redirected to other dodgy websites that promise the chance to win further prizes in exchange for registering your details – see **Pizza Hut** below. Some WhatsApp scam posts may try to trick you into downloading and installing an app that may contain malware or may harvest your personal information.

- **“HMRC Pending Payment” - Text Message**

A fake message about a supposed pending payment from HM Revenue and Customs urges you to follow a link and fill in a form to claim your payment. However, the message is not from HMRC and there is no pending payment. It is a phishing scam to steal your personal and financial information.

- **“Pizza Hut Free Pizza” Facebook Giveaway**

A Facebook post says that Pizza Hut is giving away pizzas. Through a fake survey (see **Toyota Yaris** above) the scam tricks you into spamming your Facebook friends. It then goes on with promises of the chance to win further prizes in exchange for filling in surveys, registering and providing your personal details. The information you provide will be shared with “site sponsors” and marketing companies who will inundate you with phone calls, emails and text messages that try to sell you a range of dodgy products and services.

- **“Got Another Friend Request From You” Facebook Cloning**

A pointless message on Facebook that claims the sender received “another friend request” from you and urges you to check your account as it could be an indication that your account has been cloned. It also instructs you to send the same post to all your other Facebook friends. You should check to see if your account really has been cloned, but do not send it to your friends. And let the person who sent it know that the message they sent on to you is a load of annoying rubbish.

➤ **BOB CANNINGS**

It is with the greatest of sadness to have to write of the passing away of Bob Cannings. He was a well-known and very much liked resident of South Anston and had been an enthusiastic member of Neighbourhood Watch from its beginning. His passing was very sudden and leaves so many with memories of a kind and generous man who enjoyed helping others.

➤ **CONTACTS**

- ❖ **SY Police:** for non-emergency calls, to report a crime, or give information: 101 or from the main SYP web page (www.southyorks.police.uk) in the Contact Details tab under Report a crime.
Local contacts: Police Sergeant Mark Worrall and Inspector Caroline Bakewell; also on Twitter @RothSouthNHP and Facebook at Rotherham South NHP.
Weekly drop in sessions: meet team members and discuss the issues that are important to you: Dinnington Resource Centre, 131 Laughton Road, Dinnington; every Wednesday 1.30 – 3 pm.
- ❖ **Crimestoppers:** To give information about crime: (you don't have to give your name) 0800 555 111 Monday-Friday 08:00-22:00; Saturday and Sunday 10:00-16:00 <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>
- ❖ **Crime Prevention - police site:** <https://www.police.uk/crime-prevention-advice>
SYP: <https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk> - under **Useful links**
Crime Prevention - independent Crime Prevention and Home Security advice: <https://thecrimepreventionwebsite.com>
Action Fraud: To make a report contact the Action Fraud contact centre on 0300 123 2040. You may make the report anonymously. Text phone users can ring 0300 123 2050. Specialist fraud advisers are available: Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm; Saturday 9am to 5pm; Sunday 10am to 5pm
Report fraud online at www.actionfraud.police.uk
Personal fraud: <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/personal-fraud/>
Advice about fraud and cybercrime: <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/useful-contacts-for-fraud-cybercrime-advice/>
- ❖ **Rotherham & District Citizens Advice**
The Rain Building, Market Hall, Eastwood Lane, Rotherham, S65 1EQ
Advice Line: 03444 111 444 open Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm
<http://www.citizensadvicerotherham.org.uk>
- ❖ **South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Bryan Saunby: 01909 565194

CRIMES REPORTED IN AUGUST IN SOUTH ANSTON

Crime on or near	Crime Category	Crime on or near	Crime Category
Bank Street	Violence offences x 2	Manor Farm Gdns	Vehicle crime
Crowgate	Violence offences x 2	Petrol Station	Other theft
Laurel Close	Violence offences	Sheffield Road	Violence offences x 2
Lockwood Avenue	Burglary	Sports/Rec Area	Violence offences
Manor Farm Gardens	Anti-social behaviour	Yeoman's Way	Other theft

CRIMES REPORTED IN AUGUST IN NORTH ANSTON

Crime on or near	Crime Category	Crime on or near	Crime Category
Ambleside Walk	Anti-social behaviour	Shopping Area	Anti-social behaviour
B6060	Violence offences	Sikes Road	Anti-social behaviour
Bennett Croft	Criminal damage/arson	Sikes Road	Vehicle crime
Brook Mews	Anti-social behaviour	The Green	Criminal damage/arson
Buttermere Close	Violence offences x 2	The Green	Theft from the person
Caperns Road	Bicycle theft	Warwick Way	Anti-social behaviour
Caperns Road	Criminal damage/arson	White Gate	Burglary
Caperns Road	Violence offences	Winberry Avenue	Vehicle crime
Cramfit Road	Anti-social behaviour	Windmill Road	Burglary
Elder Avenue	Vehicle crime	Windmill Road	Violence offences
Hanging Bank Court	Public order	Woodland Avenue	Anti-social behaviour
Houghton Road	Burglary x 2	Woodland Avenue	Criminal damage/arson
Houghton Road	Violence offences	Woodland Drive	Anti-social behaviour
Patterdale Way	Anti-social behaviour	Woodland Drive	Burglary
Ryton Road	Violence offences	Woodland Drive	Criminal damage/arson