



VILLAGE WATCH



Newsletter of South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch
in conjunction with South Yorkshire Police
Edition 256 – December 2017

➤ HOW TO SHOP ONLINE SAFELY

- If it's a new site to you, check the web address to make sure it is the real website. Criminals can set up fake websites that look amazingly like the genuine one. Where did you get the web address from? Can you trust the source? Can you find it another way e.g. in the press, from a genuine letter or statement, or do you have a phone number you can use to check? Carefully compare the two addresses. Fake web addresses can look almost identical to the real thing, but with just one or two letters changed.
- Is it a secure connection? Web pages you enter personal or financial details into should display a locked padlock sign and have a web address that starts with **https** not **http**. This means your connection to the website should be secure – but it can't be guaranteed. Some web browsers may report that they cannot verify a web site's certificate. This doesn't necessarily mean it's a fake; it's because the site's security certificate isn't in the browsers list. Once you have sent your personal details to an organisation, they are only as secure as the processes of that organisation.
- Phishing. Don't click on links or attachments within unsolicited e-mails. The number of online shopping related phishing emails increases significantly at this time of year.
- Bank transfers. 65% of Action Fraud reports during the 2016 Christmas period were linked to online auction sites. Don't pay for goods or services by bank transfer unless you know the recipient is trustworthy. Payments via bank transfer offer you no protection if you become a victim of fraud.

➤ HOW TO BANK SAFELY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE

- If you bank online and have a mobile device with an internet browser you should be able to access your bank's website just as you would if you were accessing it on a desktop computer. You can usually download a dedicated application provided by your bank. However, if you use this method, only use the official app provided by your bank. If in doubt, contact your bank to check.
- Only download apps from official app stores, such as Apple iTunes, Android Marketplace, Google, Play Store and BlackBerry App World. Free apps are great but downloading them from unofficial or unknown sources could lead to your device becoming infected with a virus.

➤ PROTECTING YOUR COMPUTER

- Whatever you use the internet for it is vital that you take a few basic steps to ensure that your computer is protected against the latest threats. Just as you protect your house with locks on windows and doors and maybe also a burglar alarm, it is essential that you protect your computer by using up-to-date anti-virus software, doing regular scans of your computer to check for viruses, installing a personal firewall as well as downloading the latest security updates for your web browser and operating system. The three essential steps to protect your computer are:
 - ❖ Use anti-virus software and keep it up-to-date
 - ❖ Install and learn how to use a personal firewall
 - ❖ Download the latest security updates for your web browser and operating system

➤ WHAT'S HOT?

FAKE ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE SCAM

Beware of anti-virus scare ware. This scam uses fake security pop-ups warning you of an infection on your computer. This is done to trick you into downloading malicious software which prevents your computer from running properly. You are then asked to make a card payment to have it fixed. The fake pop-ups can look very genuine and may contain familiar wording to real anti-virus software. If you come across one of these but are unsure whether it is genuine or not, don't click on

the pop-up. Run a full scan on your computer using the anti-virus software you purchased.

➤ **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.
- ❖ **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 www.crimestoppers-uk.org
- ❖ **Crime Prevention - police site:** <https://www.police.uk/crime-prevention-advice>
- ❖ **Crime Prevention - independent Crime Prevention and Home Security advice:** website <https://thecrimepreventionwebsite.com>
- ❖ **SYP:** www.southyorks.police.uk under **Help and Advice**
- ❖ **Citizens Advice:** information and advice on a wide range of topics, including; debt, benefits, housing, legal, discrimination, employment, education, relationship and family matters, welfare benefits, immigration, consumer and other problems. Advice is available to everyone regardless of race, gender, sexuality, age, nationality, disability or religion.
- ❖ Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 03454 04 05 06 Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
The website of the national organisation: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>
The helpline will provide you with advice on your rights and pass details of your complaint on to Trading Standards where appropriate. Trading Standards may then contact you directly if they are able to offer you help or if they need further information from you. Even if Trading Standards do not contact you directly about your case, they use the information they receive from the helpline to make sure that businesses are behaving fairly and not breaking the law.
- ❖ **Rotherham & District Citizens Advice:** Advice Line 03444 111 444 Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm
The Rain Building, Market Hall, Eastwood Lane, Rotherham, S65 1EQ
website: rotherhamcab.org.uk
- ❖ **Action Fraud:** the national fraud-reporting centre. 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
- ❖ **South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Bryan Saunby: 01909 565194
- ❖ **Rother Valley South Area Assembly Meetings 2017:**
 - Thursday 7 December, 2pm, Anston Parish Hall

CRIMES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER IN SOUTH ANSTON

Crime on or near	Crime Category	Crime on or near	Crime Category
A57	Anti-social behaviour	Petrol Station	Other theft x 2
Bank Street	Anti-social behaviour x 2	Petrol Station	Violence offences
Begonia Close	Public order	Wilberforce Road	Violence offences
Orchid Way	Anti-social behaviour	Windsor Walk	Criminal damage/arson
Orchid Way	Violence offences x 2		

CRIMES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER IN NORTH ANSTON

Crime on or near	Crime Category	Crime on or near	Crime Category
Bedford Close	Anti-social behaviour	Nursery Road	Vehicle crime
Buttermere Close	Burglary	Oakdale Road	Vehicle crime
Buttermere Close	Violence offences	Oakdale Road	Violence offences
Caperns Road	Anti-social behaviour	Patterdale Way	Anti-social behaviour
Caperns Road	Burglary	Plantation Avenue	Burglary
Caperns Road	Violence offences	Plantation Avenue	Criminal damage/arson
Granary Court	Shoplifting	Plantation Avenue	Other theft
Hanging Bank Ct	Public order	Plantation Avenue	Public order
Hanging Bank Ct	Violence offences	Ryton Road	Anti-social behaviour
Newcastle Close	Anti-social behaviour	Ryton Road	Violence offences
Newcastle Close	Public order	Sunnyside Close	Criminal damage/arson
Newcastle Close	Violence offences	The Rise	Anti-social behaviour
Nursery Road	Anti-social behaviour		