



# VILLAGE WATCH



Newsletter of South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch  
in conjunction with South Yorkshire Police  
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View on the Anston Parish Council website: <https://www.anston.gov.uk> under **Community**

## ➤ RECENT CRIMES

A note from our PCSO Amy Whaley said there have been a few burglaries in the North and South Anston area in June. Some have resulted in cars being stolen, and some where the criminals had clearly been looking for car keys but had either been disturbed or not managed to find them. The reminder then is to keep doors and windows secure, and not to leave car keys where they can be easily found.

- ❖ Keyless entry car fobs work by emitting a signal that the car detects when it's a few feet away, allowing you to unlock the doors and start the engine. Thieves can exploit this wireless technology by getting hold of a relay amplifier and transmitter on the black market, then finding a car parked close enough to where the key is. While one criminal stands by the car with a digital transmitter, a second walks around the perimeter of the house with the amplifier, and if the key is close enough it will detect a signal and send it to the transmitter. At this point the transmitter effectively becomes the key, allowing the thieves to gain access to the car and even drive it away. The whole process can take just seconds and be completed in virtual silence. Some vehicles have developed motion sensor keys that do not emit a signal whilst the key is stationary. A Faraday pouch eliminates this concern. Lined with a layer of metal, it essentially isolates your key signal so that it isn't transmitted or copied. A Faraday pouch also works with smartphones and credit cards.
- ❖ Some cars can use a smartphone to unlock the vehicle, however, these have recently been shown to be just as vulnerable to car thieves with relay devices that can hijack a Bluetooth connection. The car shouldn't unlock unless the owner's phone is within three feet of the vehicle, but with a relay plugged into a laptop, hackers have been able to unlock cars from over 60 feet away.
- ❖ Steering locks, alarms and trackers are recommended for vehicles especially the high end type such as Land Rover, Audi, BMW. Wheel theft is also more common for the more expensive vehicles, especially if the spare wheel is attached to the rear of the vehicle. Locking wheel nuts are the simple deterrent.
- ❖ The main method of entry into houses appears to be lock snapping or drilling the locks, so a reminder about anti snap/bump locks and to make sure windows and doors are closed and locked.

## ➤ AMAZON SCAMS ARE ON THE RISE

It's not surprising that Amazon phone scams have become so common: Amazon is a retail giant. Plus, the more people who shop on the site, the more opportunities there are for criminals to con them out of their financial information. There are several versions of the Amazon call scam, but in all of them, a scammer's goal is to steal your personal and financial information. A con artist might call you to say that someone has used your Amazon account to order an expensive item and because the purchase was so large, the representative says, Amazon needs to verify that you made the order.

When you tell them that you did not make the order, the scammer will ask for your Amazon account log-in information and credit card number. The scammer will explain that this information is necessary to cancel the order and protect your account from further fraudulent activities. If you provide this information, the scammer can then access your Amazon account to run up illegal purchases in your name.

Red flags to watch for:

- It's about an order you never placed
- The caller asks for your personal information
- The caller is vague about what you ordered
- The caller is pressuring you to act quickly
- The call is a recorded message

If you've fallen victim to an Amazon call scam, act quickly to limit the financial damage. Check your bank and credit card statements. Look for any suspicious purchases that you know you didn't make, and contact your bank if there are.

Consider downloading credit reports, check them for any new loans or credit card accounts that you know you haven't opened. Report any fraudulent loans or accounts to the credit companies.

➤ **CONTACTS**

- ❖ **SY Police:** <https://www.southyorks.police.uk>
- ❖ **Emergencies: call 999:** when there is a threat to life (including traffic accidents where persons are injured, the road is blocked or a vehicle involved in the accident has failed to stop); A serious offence is actually in progress; Violence to a person or damage to property is imminent; A suspected offender is still at the scene of a crime or any delay in reporting the incident may prevent the offender being apprehended; Serious disruption to the public is currently taking place or is likely to take place.  
**Non-emergencies: call 101:** to report a crime not currently taking place, or to give information. Calls to 101 cost 15 pence per call from landlines and mobiles - no matter how long you're on the phone.  
**Report an incident online:** As an alternative to 101, you can report a non-emergency incident online at <https://www.reportingcrime.uk>, or from the main SYP web page under **Report something**
- Advice for Victims:** on the home page of SYP, information about support and useful contact details of other supporting agencies you can access. From the above page, there is a link to **Domestic Abuse: The Silent Solution**. This is when you call 999 but are unable to speak to the operator. The operator will ask you a series of questions - they may ask you to cough, or make a noise, or press a button on your phone, so they know you are listening to them. They will then ask you to press '55' on your keypad. This lets the operator know that you are in an emergency situation and require urgent help.
- ❖ **Areyouok?** Information and advice on violence and abuse: <https://www.areyouok.co.uk>
- ❖ **Crimestoppers:** report crime or suspicious activity anonymously by calling 0800 555 111 Monday-Friday 08:00-22:00; Saturday and Sunday 10:00-16:00 or online at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>
- ❖ **Action Fraud:** To report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber crime: the Action Fraud contact centre: 0300 123 2040. You may make the report anonymously. Text phone users can ring 0300 123 2050. Report fraud online at [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)
- National Cyber Security Centre NCSC:** You can report a suspicious website link or URL using the form in this link: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website>
- ❖ **Adviceguide:** (was Citizens Advice). Help with problems such as benefits, debt, work, energy, health, housing, relationships, consumer problems such as building work, energy and water supply, faulty goods, paying bills, refunds for faulty goods and poor services, rogue traders, travel, making a complaint and taking legal action: 08454 040506 (6p per minute) or local rate charge 0208 1850 710
- ❖ **Advertising Standards Authority (ASA):** Report an online scam ad at: <https://www.asa.org.uk/make-a-complaint/report-an-online-scam-ad.html>
- ❖ **South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Bryan Saunby: 01909 565194

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**CRIMES REPORTED IN SOUTH ANSTON IN APRIL**

Crime on or near	Crime Category	Crime on or near	Crime Category
Aster Close	Anti-social behaviour	Lidsters Lane	Other theft
Bank Street	Criminal damage/arson	Orchid Way	Other theft
Begonia Close	Criminal damage/arson	Orchid Way	Vehicle crime x 2
Begonia Close	Other theft	Orchid Way	Violence offences
Church Farm Ct	Vehicle crime	Petrol station	Public order
Church Farm Ct	Violence offences	The Haven	Anti-social behaviour
Holmes Field Cl	Vehicle crime	The Haven	Burglary

**CRIMES REPORTED IN NORTH ANSTON IN APRIL**

Bedford Close	Violence offences x 2	Narrow Lane	Burglary
Caperns Road	Criminal damage/arson	Penny Piece Place	Vehicle crime x 2
Common Road	Burglary x 2	Ryton Road	Violence offences
Edinburgh Drive	Vehicle crime	The Green	Shoplifting x 4
Hall Close	Vehicle crime	The Green	Violence offences
Hanging Bank Ct	Anti-social behaviour	The Rise	Violence offences x 2
Hanging Bank Ct	Public order	Windmill Road	Vehicle crime
Hawkshead Cresc	Violence offences	Woodland Avenue	Possession of weapons
Kendal Avenue	Burglary	Woodland Avenue	Public order
Keswick Way	Anti-social behaviour	Woodland Drive	Criminal damage/arson
Lodge Farm Close	Vehicle crime	Yew Tree Avenue	Vehicle crime
Memory Lane	Violence offences	Yew Tree Avenue	Violence offences

