

North Warwickshire West Safer Neighbourhood Team Newsletter



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October 2020



Catalytic Converter Thefts



The North Warwickshire West beat area has continued to see a number of catalytic converter thefts. Thieves are predominately targeting hybrid cars as the value of the converter is higher and they can be easily accessed.

Parked vehicles, usually owned by staff members have been parked up car parks on industrial estates and in hotel car parks and owners have returned to find their vehicle has been targeted. Catalytic converters are stolen for the value of the precious metals in them or to be sold illegally. It only takes a matter of minutes for someone to steal a catalytic converter if they know what they are doing.

We are asking for you to be vigilant and keep an eye out for suspicious behaviour in the locations already mentioned and to protect your own vehicle by considering the following things:

- Buy and fit a protection device designed to cover the converter
- Park in a well-lit area
- Use the factory fitted alarm on your vehicle that should activate if the vehicle is lifted or tilted
- Use alarms, lighting and CCTV to deter thefts
- Mark your catalytic converter to make it harder to sell and for police to trace it back to you if it is recovered

If you see a theft in progress call 999 immediately providing as much information as possible. Do not confront thieves or put yourself in any danger.

If you have any information that could help us catch offenders or recover stolen catalytic converters call 101. Alternatively, information can be provided anonymously to the independent charity, Crimestoppers, on 0800 555 111

Illegal Off-Road Motorbikes



Your local safer Neighbourhood Teams are aware of issues and problems caused by off-road motorbikes in the area. We have had calls from residents and walkers stating that nuisance motorbikes have been in areas showing no regards to the safety of others.

The calls that we receive and the information we obtain allows us to target proactive patrols of problem areas. The police off-road team have been out and about in Hurley, Wood End, Kingsbury, Piccadilly, Arley, Daw Mill and even the Ladywalk nature reserve after listening to the concerns of residents.

PCSO Peter Beale of the North Warwickshire West Safer Neighbourhood Team also works as part of the off-road team and knows the areas to target on his patch.

Pete says "the use of off-road motorbikes on areas of land where you do not have the permission of the landowner is illegal. If you are caught committing an offence then you may be prosecuted for a number of road traffic offences and could even have your motorbike seized. The actions of a few inconsiderate people are spoiling it for the majority of the public and their actions could lead to accidents involving innocent members of the public"

School Parking



School parking has always been an emotive issue and it is probably the most complained about issue that Safer Neighbourhood Teams deal with.

We have also recently worked in conjunction with the Fire Service to evidence the dangers and problems that can be caused when people park inconsiderately.

Since the schools re-opened and pupils were allowed to return back to schools, your local team have been patrolling schools at the appropriate times to try and educate drivers to park legally and safely around schools. Even with a police presence there are still drivers who feel that they can park their cars where they wish causing a danger for other road users, pedestrians and most importantly, the children who go to school.

Vehicles that are seen to be parked illegally, causing an obstruction or parking on zigzag lines near to the school are photographed and drivers receive a fine in the post.

Members of the public can also take photographs of vehicles causing an obstruction or those parked on zigzag lines and upload them to <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/operationsnap> where upon they will be assessed and if the evidence is there the driver will be prosecuted.

If you are aware of problems at any particular schools then report this on 101 or contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team on nws.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk or nws.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Great Drugs Arrest Following Collision



It may well have been a slightly fortunate way to come across it, however, due to the diligent work of police officers, a male was arrested on suspicion of supplying drugs following collision on the M6.

Police were called to reports of a road traffic collision on the M6 near to Corley Services and after they smelt cannabis coming from one of the cars they conducted a search of the vehicle.

From the boot of the car they seized a quantity of cannabis, scales, around 6000 canisters of nitrous oxide and paraphernalia to inhale nitrous oxide. Officers from the Warwickshire Police Roads Policing Unit attending the two vehicle collision arrested a man on suspicion of possession of drugs with intent to supply.

A further warrant carried out a storage unit in Birmingham uncovered a further 15,000 canisters of nitrous oxide.

This is a great example of the work that officers on the Roads Policing Unit do to combat and target criminals using the roads system within our North Warwickshire beat area.

Enquires are ongoing. Anyone with information can call 101 quoting incident 310 of 22 September 2020. Alternatively, information can be provided anonymously to the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Look After Elderly Relatives and Neighbours



Warwickshire Police urges the public to remain vigilant against door-step scams as criminals prey on vulnerable members of the community. Door-step scams are when people turn up at peoples' homes offering goods or services in exchange for money, but don't fulfil their promise in providing the items or services offered, or give items that are poor quality or value for money.

At 11:00hrs on the 16th September in the Watton Lane area of Water Orton, North Warwickshire whereby rogue traders have targeted an elderly female.

The victim was a 91 year old female who reported being the victim of a scam. The suspects convinced her that her garden needed some work and quoted her £60 for the work. Once the work was completed they changed the price and stood over her until she had written cheques totaling £2000. Once the suspects had left the property the victim had the good sense to contact her Bank, who cancelled the cheque as it had been written under duress.

The suspects have been described as white males. The first male was aged in his late 40s to early 50s of stocky build and quite tall. The second male was in his 30s and of stocky build. Neither had a noticeable accent. The males left the area in a white van with no markings upon it.

Please keep an eye on elderly relatives and neighbours and advise them to be wary when dealing with visitors knocking on doors offering services.

If you have any information in regards to this please contact Warwickshire police by telephoning 101 quoting incident number 102 of 17/09/2020 or information can be provided anonymously to the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



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Simon Ackroyd



PC 826
Shane Bird



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North Warwickshire West and South Safer Neighbourhood Teams



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