

Vehicle crime prevention advice – switch off Bluetooth on your sat nav

Wiltshire Police has received a number of reports of vehicle crime across the county including the theft of possessions from vehicles and thefts of number plates and catalytic converters.

Often the theft of possessions is by an opportunistic thief who notices that a car has been left insecure and decides to break in. However, the latest technique adopted by thieves is to use Bluetooth on their mobile phones to identify sat navs that have been hidden away but are still on, with their Bluetooth enabled. Therefore, if you don't take your sat nav with you, conceal it in a place that is secure and out of sight, disable its Bluetooth and switch it off.

You can also follow the advice below to help prevent the theft of possessions from vehicles:

- Clean sat nav suction marks from your windscreen, as this is an immediate advert to thieves that a sat nav is in the vehicle
- Make sure car doors, windows and sun roofs are properly closed and locked
- Remove your stereo if you can – mark it with the vehicle registration number if you can't
- Don't leave laptops, mobile phones, handbags, credit cards, cheque books or vehicle documents in your car. If it is unavoidable – place them in the boot and ensure equipment is completely switched off
- Leave your glove box open to show there is nothing in it
- Leave nothing on show – you may know that there is no wallet in your jacket, but a thief will break a window just to check
- If you own a van, make sure you remove tools overnight and display an appropriate sign in the rear window making this clear

Criminals will often steal number plates in order to conceal the identity of their vehicle and commit crime. This can range from the theft of fuel from petrol stations to more serious offences such as robberies, burglaries and drug dealing. To replace a number plate normally costs around £30. However, anti-tamper number plate screws are available from major retailers such and only cost about £5.

The high price of scrap metal has also led to a spate of catalytic converter thefts. For companies that own a fleet of vehicles it can be extremely expensive to replace these, with one catalytic converter costing around £2,500. In order to prevent these thefts from occurring, anti-theft devices can be ordered over the internet and range in price from £80 to £200.

Parents' internet guide to help with children surfing the world wide web

A TV-style show created by the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre, **The Parents' and Carers' Guide to the Internet**, has been created online exploring the challenges of parenting in an online age.

While the risks to children may be different to those of the 1950s, parenting skills are still as relevant as they ever were.

Talking to children about their online lives is one of the best things parents can do to protect them so they can enjoy the opportunities offered by the internet.

The show sets out simple practical ideas for parents to make sure their children are protected from risks – which range from cyberbullying to grooming by those who wish them harm – as well as a few surprises about what children get up to online.

Visit www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents to view the **The Parents' and Carers' Guide to the Internet**.

Devizes Neighbourhood Policing Team

April – June 2012

Quarterly newsletter

**Your neighbourhood priorities****New priorities – April to June 2012****Anti-social behaviour - The Green, Devizes**

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) conducted a door to door consultation in the area in March asking residents what issues concerned them.

The areas of concern were the illegal consumption of alcohol on the Green by young people and the related drunken behaviour.

The team will be visiting the area during the next three months and will be working with the town council to see what improvements can be made.

Speeding - High Street, Erlestoke

The team conducted a door to door consultation in the area in March asking residents what issues or concerns they had.

The main issue was with speeding vehicles through the village day and evening, and also concern with the heavy volume of large HGV lorries.

The team will be conducting on the spot speed checks. They will also liaise with the local highways agency to see if road signs can be improved.

Dog fouling - Springfield Road, Rowde

The NPT have received a number of complaints regarding dog fouling in the Springfield Road area. The amount of excrement has raised concerns as this is route heavily used by children walking to and from school.

The team will work with Wiltshire Council enforcement officers (as it is the lead agency) in trying to reduce these issues under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act. Members of the community are encouraged to report issues of dog fouling to Wiltshire Council for the attention of their Area Board.

Parking obstructions - The Street, junction with Bourton Road, Bishop Cannings

Residents have raised concerns regarding inconsiderate parking of vehicles in the area of the primary school.

The main concerns are vehicles parking in the bus stops during restricted hours and obstructions to the junction. The team will continue to patrol the area and issue fixed penalty notices (fines) to motorists found to be committing offences. They will also continue to work with the parish council in an attempt to improve the quality of life to residents and visitors to the village.

Sergeant Ian Thomas

Despite being recently named as the safest county in the country, we realise that there is still much work to do. We are aware of the impact which theft from motor vehicles and non-dwelling burglaries (e.g. to sheds) has on victims. These offences cause a great deal of upset and inconvenience to victims and we are committed to doing all we can to ensure that these offences are investigated robustly and offenders brought to justice. To help with this a team of dedicated officers from 'Operation Pinnacle' has been tasked with attending and investigating these offences. This has led to some significant arrests. I must remind you to take crime prevention measures to safeguard your property.

**101**devizesnpt
@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

www.wiltshire.police.uk

www.facebook.com/wiltshire.police
www.twitter.com/wiltshirepolice

See page 2 for details of meetings/consultations

What's been happening

Monthly 'Meet the Team' consultations in Devizes and villages

The team will be meeting members of the public once a month in the Market Place and in local villages:

- **Devizes Market Place** - April 19, May 24 and June 21 from 9am to 12.30pm
- **Erlestoke** - April 21 from 10am-2pm at the church car park
- **Easterton** - May 26 from 10am-2pm by The Royal Oak
- **Worton** - June 30 from 10am-2pm at the village school
- **Bishops Cannings Village Hall** - April 4 from 6pm - 7pm
- **All Cannings Village Hall** - April 23 from 6pm - 7pm
- **Rowde Marsh Lane** - April 24 6pm-7pm

Bluez 'N' Zuz Discos

The disco events have different themes. They allow young people to have a good time and enter competitions to win prizes including scooters, mountain and BMX bikes.



The next discos will be on:

- Friday 20 April - Easter
- Friday 18 May - foam party
- Thursday 28 June

Keep property in your garage and shed safe

Sheds

- Use locks at all times
- Protect glass by fitting a grille or strong wire mesh to the inside of the window and nail up or fit locks to any windows that can be opened
- Prevent anyone seeing into your shed by placing curtains or other coverings over the window or blacken them out with paint

Garages

Much of the advice for garden sheds also applies to garages. In addition you should consider fitting:

- High security garage door locks such as the 'pacri lock' obtained from DIY stores and locksmiths that can be fitted to the sides of an 'up and over' door provide excellent security
- Roller doors can also be fitted

with extra security locks such as the Police approved 'Lock'n'Roller' device obtained from www.torcanchors.com

- Fitting a simple, low cost, battery operated shed alarm to the door of your shed or garage may warn of any attempted break in to your property and can act as a deterrent

Please remember to:

- Clearly mark your property in as many places as you can with your name and postcode
- Take photographs of any valuable property. This may help to identify items and help to secure a conviction
- Secure items such as bicycles to the structure of a building or chain as many items together as possible, fastening the chain with a closed shackle padlock.

Crime trends

The team have been working with the town CCTV manager to deal with recent damage to parked cars in Longcroft Road. The team have made arrests and new CCTV warning signs have been erected in order to deter future offences.



Priority outcomes

White Street, Market Lavington - criminal damage

The south team conducted 32 patrols during the winter, including visits with the display vehicle and foot patrols.

Elm Tree Gardens - speeding

Thirteen visits were made to the area. This included three speed checks being carried out in Brickley Lane and Elm Tree Gardens. No drivers were caught speeding.

Speeding - High Street Rowde

Ten speed checks were conducted, by the police and local Speed Watch members. Thirteen motorists were stopped and issued with speeding fines.

WILTSHIRE POLICE

Devizes Neighbourhood Policing Team

devizesnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk



NPT map



The aim of neighbourhood policing is to have a dedicated policing team in your local community. We are here to work **with you** to tackle local concerns raised **by you**. We work with residents and local agencies to improve your quality of life.

To contact Wiltshire Police or to report a crime or an incident call **101**. Only call **999** in an emergency when a crime is in progress.

If you want to give information anonymously about a crime call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

For other non crime matters contact Wiltshire Council on 0300 456 0100.



101



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Devizes Town Beat



Community Beat Manager
PC Adam Hall



Police Community Support Officer
Kelly Watts



Police Community Support Officer
Lucy Sainsbury



Police Community Support Officer
Paula Yarranton

Devizes North Rural Beat



Community Beat Manager
PC Emma Reed



Police Community Support Officer
Wendy Leat



Police Community Support Officer
Fiona Marno

Devizes South Rural Beat



Community Beat Manager
PC Emma Reed



Police Community Support Officer
Fiona Marno



Police Community Support Officer
Nina Marsh