

# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 22 November  
2011

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#### Ongoing Boiler Theft

Offenders potentially choosing houses advertised as being vacant. Offenders will repeatedly target successful burglary locations.

Offences peak during Friday – Sunday

Offences occur in clusters, when several houses will be targeted during a week period.

There is likely be a 2/3 week gap prior to further offences being committed.

Various methods used to gain entrance to the house including insecure, keys being found, use of scaffolding and smashing/forcing rear doors and windows.

#### Theft from Motor Vehicles

##### Olveston NHWs

Series of opportunist thefts from motor vehicles.

#### Crime Reduction Advice

- Park vehicles in secure or well lit areas
- Never leave items within irrelevant of value.

#### Dwelling Burglaries – Elderly Victims.

Offenders are targeting elderly victims for cash and jewellery. Houses may be identifiable by being in a poor state of repair. Offences occur during the hours of darkness when victims are most likely in the lounge watching TV.

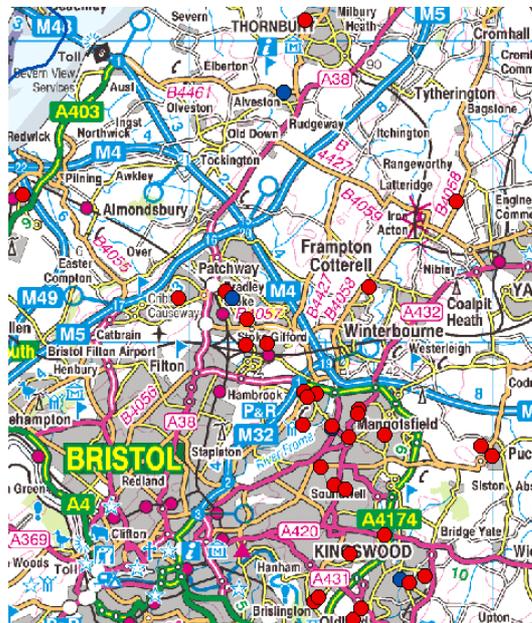
**Insecure** rear and side doors have been favoured

Distraction burglaries have involved various ruses including: **Lost kitten, lost ball, turning off water and gutter clearing.**

Stolen property has been portable items: **cash and jewellery favoured.**

Red – burglary in a dwelling

Blue – Distraction Burglary



# Beat by Beat

Covering the areas of: Yate, Chipping Sodbury, Frampton Cotterell, Charfield & Laddon, Thornbury, Severn & Alveston



## • Crime Reduction Advice

### Burglaries

The majority are opportunist; a burglar needs only to spot an open window, unlocked side gate or poorly maintained alarm to make a move.

- Check that all doors and windows are locked.
- Fit deadlocks (BS 3621 locks).
- Fit key-operated locks to all vulnerable windows.
- Install visible alarms (UKAS accredited) and ensure it is turned on!
- Do NOT hide spare keys outside under flower pots, mats or in garages and sheds.
- When going out ensure curtains are closed and lights and radios are on a timer.
- Check fences are high and a solid gate padlocked.
- Don't leave any cash or valuables lying around.
- Mark your property with your postcode and house number.
- Register your property on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
- Review garage security, "up and over" doors are vulnerable, consider the Garage Door Defender.
- Sheds, ensure they are secure and use them to lock garden implements away. Mark items within with postcode and house number and if storing bicycles ensure they are anchored, marked and registered (see bicycles).

### Vehicles

Fact – 76% of vehicle crime in South Gloucestershire occurs outside the owner's home!

- Always keep your vehicle locked
- Don't leave anything in your vehicle, irrelevant of value.
- If you have a garage, use it. Alternatively always try to park in well lit areas which are overlooked.
- Older vehicles may need additional security devices such as a steering wheel lock.

### Motorbike and Moped

- Use a steering wheel lock and a strong steel cable or D-lock to attach your machine to security rails or ground anchors.
- Get a professionally fitted combined alarm immobiliser.
- If you have a garage, use it or cover your machine up when not in use.
- Visit [www.thatcham.org](http://www.thatcham.org) and [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com)

### Bicycles

Fact – over 100,000 are stolen every year!

- Buy a good quality lock – always use Sold Secure products.
- Lock your bicycle to an immovable object.
- Locate and note your serial number and record it on [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
- Mark the frame with your postcode and house number.

Take a good quality photograph of your bike

### Notice Board

Property Marking Kits

These are available for £1.00, please contact me either by phone 01454 864404 or email [bridget.whittle@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:bridget.whittle@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Signage

NHW signs are effective, they identify your street as being part of a caring community where neighbours look out for each other, signs can be purchased through me.

**Data Forms**

If you have not sent in your data forms yet, please do so. I will be chasing outstanding forms in the coming weeks!!!



**Police Urgent Number 999**  
**Police Non-Urgent Number 101**  
**Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111**