

Alcester - Bidford on Avon - Welford on Avon - Kinwarton - Aston Cantlow - Temple Grafton - Salford Priors

INCIDENT OVERVIEW

Incidents recorded for the Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team for February 2011:

<i>Incident Type</i>	<i>FEB 2010</i>	<i>FEB 2011</i>	<i>LAST MONTH</i>
Anti Social Behaviour	39	28	19
Burglary Dwelling (Houses)	6	1	5
Burglary Other (Out buildings)	7	7	11
Criminal Damage	18	13	20
Theft from Motor Vehicle	2	2	4
Theft of Motor Vehicle	2	8	2
Violence	15	13	7

* FIGURES CORRECT AS OF WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH 2011.

CRIME IN YOUR AREA

This section looks at the crimes of public interest that have occurred on the Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team policing beat, crimes such as burglary, theft, auto crime and criminal damage:



BURGLARY.

- House break-ins down considerably on the previous month and down on the same period last year. As are the figures for out buildings which are comparable with last year. The community priority of proactive patrols to tackle this type of crime appears to have worked.
- A café on the Industrial Estate in Bidford was broken into overnight of the 2nd February where offenders stole £400 in cash, cans of drink and chocolate bars, as well as causing damage to the café itself by spraying ketchup about the place. Inc 64 of 3rd Feb 2011.



AUTOCRIME.

- Thefts from vehicles up slightly again this month, although the taking of vehicles appears static.
- A catalytic converter was taken from a Sangyong parked at a garage showroom in Alcester sometime overnight of the 3rd Feb 2011. Inc 268 of 4th Feb.
- A catalytic converter was also taken from a Mitsubishi parked around Moorfield Park, Alcester overnight of the 23rd Feb. Inc 262 of 24th Feb.

- The same night, also in Alcester another catalytic converter was taken, again from a Mitsubishi. Inc 80 of 24th Feb.
- A set of number plates was taken early evening from a vehicle parked outside and address in Dunnington on 21st Feb.



THEFT.

- Diesel and heating oil thefts continue to be an issue. Please keep your eyes peeled for yours and any neighbours' tanks. For info on how to help protect your fuels reserves check out...<http://www.bidfordonavon-pc.gov.uk/pdfs/leaflet-oiltheft.pdf>
- Also, metal thefts continue to be a problem, so again please be vigilant.



CRIMINAL DAMAGE.

- An improvement of previous months with nothing much of note to report.

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

Medication stolen in Alcester

Incident 110, February 20

Police in Alcester are asking people to be on the look out for discarded medication, which was stolen from a car yesterday morning, Sunday February 20, as it could be dangerous if taken by someone it is not prescribed for.

The tablets - which include diazepam, dihydrocodeine, dexamphetamine and temazepam - were in a handbag, which was stolen from the front seat of a car, parked in Beacon Close at about 09.45hrs.

If found they should be taken to a chemist for disposal or contact made with a police officer by visiting a public enquiry desk - in Alcester this is at Globe House in Priory Road - or dialling 01926 415000.

Anyone with information about the theft is asked to contact Warwickshire Police on 01926 415000 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

Mobile Phones & Driving!



Research demonstrates that reaction times for drivers using a handheld phone are 30 per cent worse than for driving under the influence of alcohol at the legal limit. Research shows that using a mobile phone while driving means you are four times more likely to crash.

What does the law say about mobile phones whilst driving??

It's illegal to drive a vehicle or ride a motorbike while using a handheld mobile phone or similar device. It is also illegal to supervise a learner and use a handheld phone.

Hands-free phones are also a distraction, and you risk prosecution for not having proper control of a vehicle if the police see you driving poorly while using one.

Legal definitions

- ❖ A 'handheld device' is something that is or must be held at some point during the course of making or receiving a call or performing any other interactive communication function.
- ❖ A 'device similar to a mobile phone' includes one that can be used for sending or receiving spoken or written messages, sending or receiving still or moving images or providing Internet access.

What counts as 'driving'?

Driving is using a motor vehicle on the road and can include when a vehicle is stopped at traffic lights or during a traffic hold-up. Therefore you should not use that time to make or receive a call. Park safely (but not on the motorway hard shoulder) and then use the phone. A road is legally defined as any road to which the public have access - this includes car parks.



What are the penalties?

If you receive a roadside fixed penalty notice, you will get 3 points on your licence and a fine of £60. If a case goes to court, in addition to the points, you could face discretionary disqualification on top of a maximum fine of £1,000 (or £2,500 for drivers of buses/coaches and goods vehicles).

Why don't you just make it illegal to use all mobiles, handsfree and handheld, when driving?

Using a handsfree phone or other equipment is not specifically prohibited because it is difficult for police to see it in use. But driving poorly because you are distracted by using a phone (or for any other reason) means the police can prosecute you for failing to have proper control of the vehicle. The same penalty applies as for handheld phones. If there is an incident or a crash, the use of any phone could be justification for charges of careless or dangerous driving. The penalties on conviction for such offences include heavy fines, endorsement, disqualification and, in serious cases, imprisonment. Courts are taking a serious view in such cases.

How can a police officer prove that I was on the phone?

If you drive poorly a police officer can stop you and seek a reason for the poor driving. If it goes to court, in some cases your phone records can be checked to determine whether you were using your phone.

Can I ever use a handheld phone while driving?

There is an exception for calls to 999 or 112 in a genuine emergency where it would be unsafe or impractical to stop. Using two-way radio equipment when driving is not a specific offence. Remember that a conversation could still distract from the concentration needed to drive safely. If you do not have proper control, then the police can still take action.

What if a mobile phone in my car rings? Or if I phone someone who is driving?

Let it ring and return the call when you are able to park in a safe place. It would be better to switch to voicemail before starting. If you phone someone who is driving, say you will phone later and hang up.

Do I have to switch off all the phones in my car?

No, because passengers may want to use a phone. If you are driving on your own, we advise that if you do not switch your phone off, you should switch it to voicemail, message service or call diversion. Ring back when you are safely parked.

What if my employer tells me I have to use the phone?

Employers should not ask their staff to make or receive calls on any mobile phone while driving. They could be liable for prosecution if they 'cause or permit' employees to use a mobile phone while driving. Employers are legally required to include driving at work risks in their health and safety policies

What about cyclists?

It is not a specific offence to cycle and use a mobile phone, but cyclists could be prosecuted by the police for careless or dangerous cycling. Cyclists need to concentrate like all other road users. They should not do anything that would affect their concentration and put themselves and other road users in danger.

For further information, please visit: www.dft.gov.uk/think/

ALCESTER SOUTH SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES

The top issues raised at the Community Forum held at Great Alne Village Hall on Tuesday 7th December 2010 were...

1. **Targeted foot patrols in known "hotspots" to tackle anti social behaviour in Alcester and Bidford on Avon.** Carry out an additional 15 patrols to target known areas where Anti Social Behaviour is an issue. 30/15 carried out so far.
2. **Proactive patrols, using crime analysis, to target instances of acquisitive crime.** To carry out 15 additional patrols across the whole area especially the villages to prevent thefts, burglaries and other such crimes. 23/15 carried out so far.

FIGURES CORRECT AS OF 04/03/11

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY 8TH MARCH 2011 AT THE CRAWFORD HALL, BIDFORD ON AVON AT 7:00PM.

GOOD NEWS

- A number of local youths were arrested and questioned in relation to a theft of a vehicle from Alcester after an incident involving a number of officers from the Alcester South Team. A number of youths are still being sought for questioning to establish their role in the theft.
- Officers and PCSO's were all involved in the recent Queens visit to Stratford on Avon, as she opened the new improved Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

MEETINGS/EVENTS

- Police Surgery at Wilmcote Village Hall, Wilmcote, with PCSO Ali Streatfield, Wednesday 9th March 2011 running 13:45 - 14:15pm.
- Police Surgery at Bidford Library, Bidford PCSO Martin Sanford, Friday 11th March 2011 running 10:00 - 12:00pm.
- Police Surgery at Waitrose, Alcester with PCSO Andy Hyman, Tuesday 22nd March 2011 running 10:00 - 11:00pm.
- Police Surgery at Waitrose, Alcester with PCSO Andy Hyman, Wednesday 23rd March 2011 running 10:00 - 11:00pm.
- Police Surgery at The Pavilions, Conway Field, Alcester with PCSO Morris, Thursday 24th March 2011 running 10:00 - 12:00pm.
- Police Surgery with PCSO Morris, Friday 25th March 2011. Great Alne Village Hall 09:30 - 10:30, Aston Cantlow Village Hall 10:45 - 12:00, and The Village Store in Wilmcote 14:00 - 15:15.

- Bidford Rural Cinema. Crawford Hall, Bidford, on Friday 25th March 2011 at 19:00hrs. "Harry Potter & The Deadly Hallow Part 1" (12a) Tickets £2.50.
- Bidford Parish Council Surgery, 10:00am - 11:30am at Budgens, Salford Rd, Bidford on Saturday 19th March 2011.
- Alcester & Bidford Community Forum. 19:00hrs at The Crawford Hall, Bidford on Tuesday 8th March 2011.
- Alcester Town Council Surgery, 10:00am - 12 noon at Church House, Butter St, Alcester on Saturday 2nd April 2011.

MONTHLY MESSAGE:

It has been a real honour for Warwickshire Police to deliver this operation for the royal visit and everyone involved can be very proud of the part they played to make this operation such an outstanding success.

**Message issued by Assistant Chief Constable Neil Brunton &
Chief Superintendent Neil Hewison**

CONTACTING US:

If you wish to speak with an officer about a non-urgent matter, please use the list of contacts below:

Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team
Alcester Police Station
Priory Road
Alcester
Warwickshire
B49 5DZ

To contact the Safer Neighbourhood Team about a non-urgent matter, please telephone:
01789 762207 or leave a Voicemail on **01789 444816** alternatively E-Mail us at:
alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.police.uk

Always remember, if it's an emergency or you can see something bad happening then call us on 999 or 112 ASAP

FOR UP TO DATE NEWS AND APPEALS, WHY NOT CHECK OUT THE ALCESTER SOUTH SNT WEBSITE??

<http://www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/your-neighbourhood/stratford-district/alcester-south>

YOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

PS 128 Andy MOSS (Team Sergeant)



Email: Andrew.moss@warwickshire.police.uk
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PC 1647 Tony HALL (Alcester, Kinwarton, Aston Cantlow, Great Alne)



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PC 094 Steve MONCKTON (Alcester, Kinwarton, Aston Cantlow, Great Alne)



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PC 885 Doug JOHNSON (Bidford, Welford, Temple Grafton, Salford Priors)



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PCSO 6060 Martin SANFORD (Bidford, Welford, Temple Grafton, Salford Priors)



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PCSO 6093 Becky MORRIS (Alcester, Kinwarton, Aston Cantlow, Great Alne)



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PCSO 6236 Andy HYMAN (Alcester, Kinwarton, Aston Cantlow, Great Alne)



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