

Alcester - Bidford on Avon - Welford on Avon - Kinwarton - Aston Cantlow - Temple & Ardens Grafton - Salford Priors - Great & Little Alne - Wilmcote - Haselor - Dunnington - Billseley - Weethley - Rushford

**INCIDENT OVERVIEW**

Incidents recorded on the Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team area for October 2013:

<i>Incident Type</i>		<i>September 2013</i>	<i>October 2013</i>
Anti Social Behaviour (Persons and Vehicles)		15	12
Burglary Dwelling (Houses)		5	5
Burglary Other (Out buildings)		12	8
Criminal Damage		6	12
Theft from Motor Vehicle		8	7
Theft of Motor Vehicle		1	1
Violence		6	4
Theft (general theft and shoplifting)		23	24

\* Figures correct as of the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013. DETAILS ARE TAKEN FROM THE POLICE COMPUTER AND SHOW HOW THE INCIDENTS WERE CLASSIFIED WHEN THE ORIGINAL CALL WAS RECEIVED. AFTER INVESTIGATION THE RESULT MAY HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT AND WILL NOT BE REFLECTED ABOVE.

**CRIME IN OUR AREA**

**BURGLARY**

- Thefts from outbuildings and sheds are down from last month, although burglaries of dwellings remain the same. Garden equipment is still being targeted. Security for outbuildings and sheds is improving all the time and some very useful lights and padlocks can be purchased.
- Burglary other offences occurred in Bidford x 3, Broom x 3, Billesley and Kings Coughton.
- Burglaries of dwellings remain steady. Recorded offences were in Great Alne, Kings Coughton, Ragley Estate, Exhall and Marcliff. As with sheds there is a multitude of actions you can take to protect your house when you are not there. If you want further advice visit Warwickshire Police's website or contact us direct.

**CRIMINAL DAMAGE**

- The number of offences of criminal damage has doubled from last month. Bidford x 4, Exhall, Welford, Clifford Chambers, Marcliff, Wildmoor, Pathlow and Alcester.

## **THEFTS FROM MOTOR VEHICLES**

- We have had 7 reported cases of thefts from motor vehicles in October. Areas targeted were Arrow, Aston Cantlow, Alcester, Broom, Temple Grafton, Redhill and Billesley.
- Many of these offences relate to items that were left on show in cars and have been targeted by passing criminals. Simple crime prevention would stop this type of offence from happening. Please do not leave items of value on show - lock them away.

## **THEFT**

- Like September, shoplifting is still prevalent on our area. Steps are being taken to try and encourage better awareness of retail crime. Many offences have been caught on CCTV and the footage is being analysed to identify the offenders.
- Theft from shops occurred at Waitrose x 8, Tesco Express, Guys Menswear and Lloyds Chemist - all in Alcester.
- We recorded 13 other offences of theft on our patch. Alcester x 3, Wood Bevington, Shelfield x 2, Welford x 2, Kings Coughton, Broom and Dunnington.
- Many of these thefts relate to the theft of Kerosene / heating oil. Thankfully a recent police stop check resulted in the arrest of several offenders on suspicion of theft of Oil. Enquiries are on-going.

## **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (PERSONS AND VEHICLES)**

- We had two incidents of vehicles being used in an anti social behaviour in October. 1 in Wilmcote and 1 in Bidford.
- Incidents relating to persons acting in an anti social way totalled 10. 5 in Alcester and 2 in Bidford.

## **VIOLENCE**

- We had 4 incidents of Violence reported to us in October. Bidford x 2, Alcester and Oversley Mill. As in previous months reports of violence often relate to people who are intoxicated.

## **Theft of Motor Vehicle**

- Just 1 case of a theft of motor vehicle was reported to us this month. The offence took place in Alcester.

**CONTACTING US:**

Alcester Police Mobile - 07979704373 Only switched on when officers are on duty  
Bidford Police Mobile - 07823533488 Only switched on when officers are on duty.

**The above mobile phone numbers should only be used for routine contact. If you see anything suspicious or need to report an incident, always call 101 first.**

Alcester Police Station - 01789 762207  
Alcester SNT Voicemail - 01789 444816  
Reporting non urgent incidents - 101

Beat Sergeant - Sgt Bob Shaw - [Robert.shaw@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Robert.shaw@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Beat Manager - PC Peter Essex - [peter.essex@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:peter.essex@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)  
PCSO Andy Hyman - [Andrew.hyman@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Andrew.hyman@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)  
PCSO Ally Streatfield - [alice.streatfield@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:alice.streatfield@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)  
PCSO Rebecca Morris - [Rebecca.morris@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Rebecca.morris@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)  
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Follow the Team on Twitter and Warwickshire Police on Facebook.

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**ADVICE REGARDING THE INCREASE IN THEFTS FROM HOME FUEL TANKS.**

**Siting Your Oil Tank**

The position of the tank can have a significant effect on how hard a target it is in the eyes of the thief. If the tank is close to the house, with one or more windows capable of giving a view of it, then the thief may consider the chances of being seen too high. If the tank is close to a road, path, drive or alleyway then it will be a far easier target. Hiding the tank behind the garage, shed or some other type of outbuilding is fairly commonplace, but it does give the thief the advantage.

**Control Switches**

Control switches that control the flow of oil should be turned off and the electricity supply isolated when the tank is not in use.

**Padlocks**

A thief will usually come equipped with a limited range of tools to attack your tank so it's worth spending a little more on good quality locks. Close shackle padlocks are the best as they offer most resistance to the most popular of burglar tools; the bolt cropper! Remember that buying a padlock is like buying a car, the more you pay the better the quality and the longer it will last.

**Good neighbour scheme**

If possible, work with your neighbours and have the heating oil delivered at the same time. This will allow you to be more vigilant outside of the oil delivery date and some heating oil companies offer a cheaper rate in these circumstances.

### **Oil Level Gauges**

Remote electronic oil level gauges are now available which will set off an audible alarm if the oil level in the tank suddenly drops or falls below a quarter full. These gauges can be located in the kitchen or perhaps a utility room to warn of any potential problem. There are two or three different versions on the market at the moment and cost between £70 and £100. Get into the habit of regularly checking oil levels so that you will know if you have lost any.

### **Security Lights**

Security lights can have a very positive effect and make any property a much harder target for the thief. It's not always necessary to floodlight the area with high power beams, as a more subtle level of lighting may be all that is needed. Low energy 'dusk till dawn' lights positioned close to the tank should, in most cases, provide sufficient light to illuminate any suspicious activity.

### **Defensive Planting**

Defensive planting is nature's way of helping to reduce crime. Thieves will not wish to force their way through or over a prickly hedge. The smallest trace of blood or shred of ripped clothing could help the police identify the offender. These shrubs can, if planted around your tank, provide an effective and decorative thief proof barrier.

### **Securing Your Oil Tank**

Following on from the defensive plant tactic, fences and walls can also make life difficult for the thief. A wooden or metal fence, trellis or wall can give significant protection to the tank, but it must be remembered that the oil tanker driver will need access to fill the tank! A metal or grill cage with a lockable access point across the top of this wall or fence can further improve security. The wall or fence should be as close to the tank and as high as possible. Of course a trellis could also be decorated with defensive planting. A product called 'Tank Guard' surrounds the existing storage tank with a metal enclosure. This sheet metal enclosure has lockable access doors to allow filling and maintenance and has internal anchorage points to fix it to the concrete base. A tank guard costs less than one tank full of oil and will last many years.

### **CCTV**

The use of CCTV as crime prevention and a crime detection tool has grown massively in recent years. It could play a part in the protection of oil tanks, but before you spend lots of money on equipment make an assessment of your needs.

Ask yourself :

1. What do I hope to achieve by using CCTV?
2. How much am I prepared to spend ?
3. Is there a reasonable level of light where the cameras will be operating or do I need to think about using cameras with low light capability? (Most thefts take place at night).
4. What am I going to record the captured images on? Digital recording is best.
5. How am I going to provide the Police with any evidence I may capture?

### **Additional Advice**

OFTEC or the 'Oil Firing Technical Association for the petroleum industry' offers advice and guidance for those who use and store oil at their premises. There are certain rules and regulations that may apply to you and OFTEC will help clarify these for you.

They can be reached at [www.oftec.org](http://www.oftec.org) or by calling 0845 6585 080. They also produce an 'easy guide to domestic oil storage'

## **GOOD NEWS FOR OCTOBER**

- Local officers attended Alcester MOP fair on 30/09 and 1/10. No issues to report
- No issues to report from Halloween night
- Male arrested on 15/10/13 for Actual Bodily Harm in Clifford Chambers
- Local male arrested on 22/10/13 for criminal damage and failing to appear in Court.
- Alan GILES arrested in Alcester by help of local citizens, CCTV and Officers.
- Local female from Alcester dealt with by way of Restorative Justice for shoplifting from Tesco's Express, Alcester
- Young male from Broom dealt with by way of Restorative Justice for shoplifting from Budgens, Bidford

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### **Take A Few Simple Steps To Avoid Becoming A Victim Of Burglary**

Set a timer switch to turn your lights on when it gets dark – unlit houses are a give away that no one is at home.

Lock your doors, patios and downstairs windows - even when you are in. Make sure you double check them again before you go to bed.

If you have a burglar alarm, make sure you set it when you got out and also when you go to bed.

Don't leave car keys, ID cards or valuables near windows, doors or letterboxes, where burglars can reach through to steal them.

Lock your garden gates and side entrances. Don't leave tools lying around in the garden which could be used to break in to your home.

If you have information about a burglary phone the police on 101

