

Osgathorpe Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter

Winter 2018

What is NHW?

NHW is about local people working together to create safer, attractive and friendly places to live, places where crime is less likely to happen and people are less likely to turn to anti-social behaviour.

It's about you looking out for your neighbours and them looking out for you and it's about making sure that no one needs to feel alone, scared or vulnerable in the place where they live.

Crime Prevention Event

Only a handful of villagers visited the Neighbourhood Watch event, held on the 30th September at the Storey Arms.

Pictured below are Police officers Jason Underwood and Nicola Russell. Also pictured are Parish Councillor Steve Webb and landlord Phil Collin.



Crime update

On the weekend of 6th and 7th October a villager suffered a burglary. No property was taken but items were damaged.

On Wednesday 24th October a villager was in their garden, with their front door unlocked. On return a medication safe and handbag had been taken.

These were the first reported burglaries in the village since **October 2017**.

According to Police data, over the last 4 years, 79% of burglaries in Osgathorpe have taken place between October and March.

So please consider taking the following steps to help reduce the chances of being a victim of crime:

- **Lock your doors and windows.**
- **The same applies to garages and gates.**
- **Security alarm – if you have one put it on.**
- **Automatic timer-switches to turn on lights.**
- **Security lighting.**
- **Security cameras (CCTV).**
- **Don't advertise on social media you are going away.**
- **Tell a trusted neighbour if you are going away.**

Darker Nights Campaign



Leicestershire Police are again running their "Darker Nights Campaign".

Please visit www.leicspolice.uk/darkernights for more information about protecting your property and possessions.

Advice from the National Neighbourhood Watch team / Police

Software service fraud

Recently, Leicestershire Police have seen a big influx of reports of computer software service fraud, accompanied by huge financial losses.

So what is computer software service fraud? It will usually look a bit like this:

Fraudsters will cold call you using the name of some well-known service providers, such as BT, Talk Talk or Microsoft.

You might be told your computer or device has viruses, or it's been hacked and your personal information is at risk.

You'll be asked to download an application such as Team Viewer, enabling the cold caller to gain remote access to your device (control it from a different location).

You'll be asked to log into your online banking and other personal accounts to help the caller safeguard your money and information from hackers.

Your money and information will be stolen.

Computer firms and service providers will **never** make unsolicited contact with you to try and fix your computer. **Never** allow a cold caller remote access to your device and **never** give them any personal information. Remember, phone numbers, names and locations can all be spoofed easily - don't assume the stranger on the end of the phone is genuine. **Just hang up.**

Listen to your instincts, stay in control and don't be rushed or pressured into making a decision. Have the confidence to say no if you feel uncomfortable with what is being asked of you.

If you have been a victim of fraud, please report it to Action Fraud:

www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or call **0300 123 2040**.

It takes seconds to steal a bike. Don't give thieves an easy ride.

Register your bike on a national property database such as www.immobilise.com

Mark frame with your postcode in two separate locations, one of which should be hidden down and fill in a [bike passport](#).

[Please visit the following link to download the passport.](#)

www.leics.police.uk/media/uploads/pages/file/Bike_passport.pdf

Lock up your bike with a good quality lock such as a solid secure approved **D-lock**.

At home keep your bike in a locked **shed or garage**.

When out secure your bike to a **fixed object** or **bike rack** in a well-lit and busy area.

Lock your bike through the frame and both wheels, or at least the back wheel.

Remove detachable accessories such as lights, pumps, panniers and quick release saddles.

If your bike is **stolen**, call the police on 101, keep the crime reference number and inform your insurance company.