



# Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch Association



You may have read in the report of our AGM in the November issue of the Forum that the statistics indicate that Alresford District is fortunate in being a relatively low crime area. However, that is not the same as saying that we don't experience any crime, it's just that there is not very much, so we need to remain watchful to keep it that way.

We're now in the depths of winter, when the days are cold and short and the nights are long and dark and some of us may be planning a break away, to view the Northern Lights, to ski, or to find a warm sun. If so, there's a few simple things you can do to ensure you can enjoy your trip without worrying about the home you've left behind.

- Tell your neighbours you are going away and consider letting a neighbour park on your driveway.
- Leave a key and your contact details with a trusted neighbour and ask them to move post away from your letterbox – important if you have a glass pane in your front door.
- Make sure your home looks occupied. Put some lights on a timer. You can also get timer switches for a radio or TV.
- Be careful about posting on Facebook and other social media that you're away. Selfies posted from the beach are a sure-fire way to tell everyone you know that your house is empty! Make sure these posts can only be viewed by Friends and not Friends of Friends etc.
- If you're a user of 'smart' devices in the home, these can offer a range of security facilities such as being able to remotely monitor security cameras in your home from your 'smart' phone, or give the illusion that your house is occupied by using realistic audio of daily activities such as cleaning, talking, laughing, working or preparing food, to deter potential intruders.
- Lock the front door and have a great time.

Living within a Neighbourhood Watch scheme area reduces the likelihood of being a burglary victim. Households living in Neighbourhood Watch areas experience 21% fewer burglaries than similar households.

**CrimeStoppers.**  
Speak up. Stay safe.

**0800 555 111**  
100% anonymous. Always.

*If anyone has suggestions for topics that they think would be suitable for future Neighbourhood Watch articles in the Forum, please get in touch - e-mail [contact.adnwa@gmail.com](mailto:contact.adnwa@gmail.com)*

**Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch Association website-**  
[www.neighbourhood.watch.alresford.org](http://www.neighbourhood.watch.alresford.org)  
e-mail – [contact.adnwa@gmail.com](mailto:contact.adnwa@gmail.com)

**CRIME IN PROGRESS – 999**  
**NON URGENT – 101**  
**CRIMESTOPPERS – 0800 555 111**