

Kenilworth Update

June 2013

www.kenilworthnwatch.wordpress.com



WELCOME! to the **June 2013** edition of **Kenilworth Update**. We set things out so you can find things as easy as possible when you read your monthly digest of what is taking place in the town in relation to crime prevention, police performance and crime alerts. Our aim is to help you protect yourself and your property and by doing so help us make Kenilworth a great and safe place to live and enjoy.

There are five sections for **Kenilworth Update** so you can find the information/advice easily. These will appear each month and in each section we will provide the most up to date information we can to help you.



The Sections that appear in Kenilworth Update

Safer Neighbourhood Team Update

Crime Update

Advice Update

General Update

Live Update

Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Update

This section will provide information on the objectives you want the police to be concentrating on within the Kenilworth area. These objectives are discussed, agreed and set at the Kenilworth Community Forum, which is a public meeting all residents are encouraged to attend. The section will also provide news and updates on other activities that Kenilworth SNT are involved in together with elements on police performance.

Crime Update

This section will provide the latest news related to crime affecting Kenilworth, what it might mean to you and what you can do to lower the risk of being a victim of crime

General Update

Information about things that are considered to be useful or important for residents to be aware of.

Advice Update

Each month we will concentrate in more detail on specific issues and give advice to residents as to how they can protect themselves and their property.

Live Update

Information about how you can contact your Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) and the options you have to keep up to date with what is going on in and around Kenilworth with Neighbourhood Watch and your SNT



Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Update

Kenilworth – June 2013



Kenilworth's SNT - Left to right:
PCSO Carl Whitehouse, PC Pete King (Beat Manager) & PCSO Craig Ricardo

Greater Smartwater Coverage

Working with Terry Heyes and John Levett of Burton Green Neighbourhood Watch, Kenilworth's SNT have extended the coverage of Smartwater.

Signs now display Smartwater coverage on all approaches to Burton Green. Smartwater is considered as a major deterrent to criminals because it's traceable back to individual properties and it cannot be removed from items treated with it.

Next **Burton Green** SNT Surgeries at Village
Hall in the Green Room
Tuesday 25th June 6.30pm to 7.30pm
Monday 22nd July 6.30pm to 7.30pm

June Horsefair and Kenilworth Carnival approach

Kenilworth **CARNIVAL** is due to take place on Saturday 6th July. There will be procession as usual and this will mean that some streets and roads are temporarily affected with some congestion and delays. Residents are advised that this will apply to periods from 11am to 5pm in different places close to the town centre and adjacent roads.

The next **HORSEFAIR** near the A46/A452 Thickthorn Island is due on 21 July, the weekend of the 20th/21st July will therefore be busy and some congestion maybe experienced on the A452/A46. Please try and avoid the area and take an alternative route.



GYPSY LANE

Great news that the allotments have now got an "Allotment Watch" up and running following Jemma Butler working with the SNT to protect the site from the unwanted of attention of would be criminals. The area had suffered from several shed break ins.

The move to this proactive and engaged approach shows what can be done by residents in conjunction with their SNT and reduce the risk of crime.

Help Yourself – Summer Bargains!

It's an unusual headline to find in Kenilworth Update but it's borne out of a sense of frustration arising from the work we do.

In May's edition the issue of leaving garage doors open and property left on view inside motor vehicles was covered. The SNT team have come across more examples and in some instances have experienced hostility from residents when they have sought to point out they are placing themselves at risk of being a victim of crime.

For Kenilworth to keep crime low means we all have a part to play. The police, without the active support of the community, cannot protect property and prevent crime as effectively as they can when folk follow simple advice.

Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) Update

Kenilworth June 2013 continued...



Friday Night Youth Facility – Heart of England Church

Hot drinks, toast and lollipops are just some of the things available at the Heart of England Church, Farmer Ward Road on alternate Fridays between 7pm and 9.30pm .

The SNT welcome this active support to and facility for the town's youth community.

PARKING PROBLEMS – SOLUTION

The most effective way for parking problems to be resolved is for drivers to **THINK** before they park.

If you are visiting the **Greenway** at **Burton Green** you need to consider where you are leaving your vehicle so as not to restrict the width of the carriageway for passing vehicles or block drives.

Next Kenilworth Community Forum is at The Wardens Cricket Club on Monday 1st July at 7pm

Gone fishing...

It's important that the police have the time to get on with the things they need and we expect them to do. One thing that is **NOT** a matter for police is fishing! Despite this the police (including the SNT) continue to take calls from people wishing to report people fishing.

The Environment Agency (EA) are the enforcement agency for all forms of fishing activity on lakes, rivers and streams. People fishing are required to obtain a rod licence from the EA. So please **DON'T** call the police. The EA can be contacted on 03708 506 506 (Mon to Fri 8am to 6pm).

For more information about the EA and fishing visit their website at;
<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/recreation/fishing>



Crime Prevention Resources

We are pleased to highlight that **Town & Country Furniture** at Abbey End continue to provide an area where Kenilworth residents can obtain crime prevention resources and advice.



**Get yours
now**

**Protect
yourself and
your home!**

We would like to see many more residents consider Smartwater and purchase a kit for their home. Simply, the more homes we can get covered by Smartwater the more **UNATTRACTIVE** Kenilworth becomes generally as a destination for criminals, particularly burglars and offenders who commit opportunist acts of theft.

Have **YOU** ordered your Smartwater kit ?

See

General Update

Rhododendron
Thickthorn Wood
1 June 2013





Crime Update

Kenilworth - June 2013



Creeper Burglaries

Two recent burglaries in Kenilworth have highlighted the need to keep windows and doors secure and this extends to warm weather and at night. At one home offenders entered the house through an insecure door and carried out a search of the premises. The resident of the house woke up in the early hours of the morning, saw two offenders in the bedroom and then discovered that the offenders had made off with a quantity of cash from a purse, and a gold bracelet.

The offenders are described as males aged between 30 and 40 years. They had light hair and were wearing light coloured tops.

Also during the same night which was 1st June - The same night offenders forced open a window at another home in **Ashdene Gardens** but failed to get into the house and nothing was stolen.

Then at just after 4am on 1 June the elderly resident of a home in **Ash Drive**, Kenilworth woke up to find an offender in his bedroom. The offender made off through a rear window with several items.

Please see a special feature in

Advice Update

that sets out what you can do to protect your home from this type of crime.

Another Car Key Burglary!

Last month we stressed the importance of not leaving car keys near to the front door or even hung up nearby to it. Early in June another car was stolen in the early hours off a residential drive. Significant damage was done to the property frontage to gain access to the home for the simple aim of obtaining keys to the motor vehicle. The keys were just inside and the vehicle was stolen.

DON'T MAKE IT EASY FOR THEM – PUT YOUR CAR KEYS AWAY

See **Advice Update** in our May edition of Update

Busy Night in Kenilworth reinforces worth of following SNT's advice

Incident 356 of 23 May

At some point before 9.30pm on 23 May, offenders smashed the cat flap at the rear of a home in Woodland Road, Kenilworth in an attempt to get into the house. The offenders failed to get in and nothing was stolen.

Incident 27 of 27 May

At just after 2am on 27 May offenders smashed the window in the rear door of a home in Crackley Hill, Kenilworth. The resident of the house then disturbed the offenders who quickly made off.

Incident 208 of 27 May

At some point before 4.30pm on 27 May offenders attempted to get in to another home in Crackley Hill, Kenilworth through a rear door. The door and frame were damaged in the incident but the offenders failed to get into the house and nothing was stolen.

Incident 57 of 27 May

During the night of 26 into 27 May offenders broke a window in the lounge of a home in Bullimore Grove, Kenilworth and entered the house to steal a handbag. The handbag contained the keys to a Mercedes vehicle which was then stolen from outside.



Advice Update

Kenilworth - June 2013



Last month we focused on ourselves, that's each one of us that lives in or around Kenilworth. All manner and volume of advice is meaningless unless we each STOP and think this could be ME! We are probably all guilty of thinking crime is what happens to others, ask anyone that's been the victim of crime and they are likely to say they thought the same! They seldom think the same again though!

Again this month our Safer Neighbourhood Team have spotted a number of examples of "Help Yourself" invites to criminals. We each need to ask are we helping ourselves or helping criminals?

Car Key Burglaries

Put Car Keys Away – Don't leave them on show or within reach

The temptation is to put your keys down once you get inside your home somewhere you can easily pick them up when you need them next. Often this means a table or shelf near the entrance to your home.

Unfortunately, it's very easy and convenient for 'fishing thieves' who can easily hook the keys up through the letterbox and be away in your cherished motor before you even know your car is no longer outside. If you own a high performance car some thieves are prepared to break in to your home to get keys so don't make it easy for them.

Summer Crime Warning from Beat Manager PC Pete King & Sergeant Dave Kettle of Warwick District Rural Safer Neighbourhood Teams

The two police officers with responsibility for Kenilworth have issued a warning to residents about the need to protect ourselves from crime and heed police advice.

Beat Manager for Kenilworth, PC Pete King said "Kenilworth's Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) is doing all it can by working with all sections of the community to help prevent crime. Over the past few weeks, whilst on patrol members of SNT have noticed insecure premises, garage doors left open with property on view and valuable items such as sat nav devices left on show in vehicles. We need people to respond to our advice and avoid helping criminals making them the next victim of crime."

Sergeant Kettle added "The message around keeping properties secure in the summer months is a perennial one, however this year it is more pertinent than ever. Recent burglaries in Kenilworth and surrounding villages clearly show that currently there are burglars solely targeting houses which are not left secure - be it through unlocked doors and patios or open ground floor windows. Whilst concerted efforts are being made to identify and arrest these offenders it is far preferable to not become a victim in the first place. The advice is simple but worth repeating, please make sure your property is secure when going out, no matter how short the period, or when retiring to bed."



Advice Update

Kenilworth - June 2013



Recent events in Kenilworth remind us why the burglar sees summer as his friend. It's a time when everybody is enjoying their gardens. The doors are left wide open and the hot sticky nights (when we get 'summer' weather!) can mean that every window in the house, which is capable of being opened, maybe opened to its full extent. At these times, even the car is not immune from lapses in security. Windows are wound down and the open sunroof never closes.

Burglars welcome summer. They are opportunists by nature. To them, hot days and warm evenings signal rich pickings. Last summer, some residential areas in the UK, suffered several 'creeper' burglaries committed in the late evenings or early mornings. On each occasion, the thief only had to reach through an open ground floor window to steal. In some instances, they went into houses through open windows and unlocked patio doors. Forget what they stole for a moment; imagine one of your family coming face to face with him in your home in the middle of the night! It doesn't bear thinking about.

By all means open your first floor windows. Turn on the fans. But at night, keep your ground floor doors and windows firmly closed and locked.

To the burglar, summer days are as welcome as summer nights and the daytime brings its own opportunities...

We all love to get out into our gardens. Our summers can be unpredictable so we have to take every chance to work in the garden when we can. For some reason, most of us feel that if we are on our property nobody is going to attack it. This false sense of security often leads us to leave doors and windows open all around the house despite the fact that we can only be in one place at one time.

In the last couple of months in Kenilworth our Police Community Support Officers have found garage doors wide open in residential streets. They have gone to point this out to home owners and have walked around the property and the open premises often filled with mountain bikes, power tools, lawn mowers and other garden tools completely unchallenged. Just think - what if they had been a burglar – talk about easy pickings! A minority have been hostile when these vulnerabilities have been pointed out. Some people seem happy to potter about in the front garden and are quite happy to leave the back door wide open. If the barbecue is in the back garden, surely it is safe to leave the front windows and even the front door open..... Well, it's not.

The thief is well aware of our habits. They can see where you are and, more to the point, they can see where you are not. It's a simple matter and a calculated risk for them to slip into your house, steal something valuable and slip out again – and remember they only need need a few seconds, most burglaries are over within 2 minutes! The burglar's ingenuity knows no bounds. For instance, a youngster knocks on your front door. He or she says "My ball has gone over into your garden", or "My rabbit has got out and I think it's got into your garden".

Being of a kind nature, you go to search for the missing item leaving the front door open. When you return, the rabbit or ball is still missing, the youngster is missing and the antique clock that was standing in your hallway is also missing or the car keys have gone and your car too. Even if you take the youngster with you to assist in the search, an accomplice will be waiting in the wings to complete the dirty deed.

The thief relies on surprise and opportunity. He feeds off the good and trusting nature of the average householder. But, if you don't provide them with simple opportunities, you are less likely to become one of this summer's victims of crime.



General Update

Kenilworth - May 2013



BURGLARS HAVE GOT TALENT!

We doubt you would agree with such a statement and neither would we but remember that most burglaries are opportunist crimes, simply the more difficult it appears and actually is for someone to enter your property the more it will deter them from trying. As we have advised before, try going outside and think you have locked yourself out of your home and have no prospect of getting the keys for hours. You might be shocked how easy it might be to get into your home as you try to think of a way of doing so.

If you find gaps or ways to get in then it means a burglar most certainly will! If you've identified any gaps then take action to close them. Don't wait to get round to it because you might very well forget. Take action and take it now!

And... now you have found that gap you can see it doesn't need any talent to be a burglar just a householder providing that opportunity.

Have YOU ordered your Smartwater kit for the bargain price of £15, usually more than £50. Through Neighbourhood Watch you can obtain this product which is recommended by Warwickshire Police and Home Office.

Help us deter crime and protect your property at the same time, order your Smartwater NOW!

You can get your Smartwater by contacting Crown Watch at crownwatch@me.com



The 3 Current priorities for Kenilworth's Safer Neighbourhood Team

1. Ten Patrols to deter and check on Anti Social Behaviour at the recreational area between Ashdene Gardens, Elmdene Road and the alley between Lime Grove and Brooke Road, this is known by many as "Black Pad".
2. Ten Patrols in Burton Green, namely Red Lane, Cromwell Lane, Hodgetts Lane, and Hob Lane, in support of the force burglary initiative. Also as a response to a couple of recent burglaries thus providing reassurance.
3. Five speed/enforcement/monitoring sessions in Leyes Lane at school start and end times to prevent road traffic/pedestrian injury.

Kenilworth Update is produced by Crown Watch, one of the longest running Neighbourhood Watch schemes in Kenilworth and Warwickshire. Crown Watch serves the northern end of Windy Arbour, eastern end of Whitemoor Road and Tulip Tree Avenue. It publishes Newsletters and Crime Alerts to its Co-ordinators who circulate these to residents.

Since mid 2011 Crown Watch has been working closely with Kenilworth's Safer Neighbourhood Team to produce **Kenilworth Update**. The purpose of this is to encourage more people to set up and run their own Neighbourhood Watch schemes but also to inform people through an increasing range of channels what is going on in and around the town in terms of keeping our town safe. All of the work is done voluntarily.

Kenilworth Update is compiled by Fraser Pithie on behalf of Crown Watch.



Live Update

Kenilworth - June 2013



You can keep up to date on the Internet. We have a website that is updated 24 hours a day with the latest crime alerts. You can click on the subscribe button at the website to get immediate alerts via email. There is no catch and it's free!

We are at: www.kenilworthnwatch.wordpress.com

We are now also on Twitter. Follow us to get the latest news via tweets that will link you to our website. We also retweet any messages from Kenilworth Safer Neighbourhood Team or other organisations where we think it appropriate or useful

Follow us (Kenilworth Update) on Twitter at: **@kenilworthwatch**

Follow Kenilworth SNT at: **@SNT_Kenilworth**

How to contact Kenilworth Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)

You can call us on: **01926 684404**

You can email us at:
kenilworth.snt@warwickshire.police.uk

You can see us at **Abbey End Market** every Thursday between **10.30am and 12 midday**



Essential Services

Smell Gas
0800 111 999

No Electric
0800 056 8090

Water/Sewer
0800 783 4444

For general enquiries to the police and for non-emergency calls please dial

101

Where there is a danger to life or property or a crime is being committed please dial

999

Kenilworth finally gets funding for re-opening of railway station



The Secretary of State for Transport, Patrick McLoughlin, announced on 3 June 2013 that Kenilworth in Warwickshire is to receive £5m from the New Stations Fund for its railway station to be re-opened. This means the station re-opening, that the town has campaigned for over many years, will now go ahead with Warwickshire County Council providing additional funds. It will be constructed on the site of the original station closed in the 1960's as result of Beeching's Reshaping Report.

Network Rail are planning to integrate the station re-opening with other works on the line which include electrification (due to the route being part of a south east north west freight "spine") as well as general works to improve capacity (doubling the line from its current single status which may involve a second overbridge on the nearby A46).

The plans for the station will include two 100m platforms that will take four coach trains together with provision for these to be lengthened in future. It is hoped the station could be open within the next couple of years, an announcement on the re-openeing date is expected later this year.

The station site is currently used by a building materials supplier but has already been compulsorily purchased by Warwickshire Coynty Council. The brick building in the yard on the right is the one and only building left from the original station. On 4 June 2013 a passenger train heads away south with a Manchester to Bournemouth service past the proposed station site on the right.

Rowington Oilseed – June 2013



Thickthorn Bluebells – June 2013

