



HARROGATE & DISTRICT NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

Helping to protect over 10,000 homes

Summer's Coming

After the cold, wet and sometimes snowy weather we have had lately, the seasons still march on. With the clocks going forward this weekend it is the start of British Summertime; the grass has already started to grow, the gardening season will soon be with us.

Unfortunately, thieves also come out at this time of year as they see some easy pickings of valuable items that are easily saleable. These are mainly found in sheds and outbuildings which are usually poorly protected.

For your peace of mind, secure all your valuable tools and take every precaution you can to prevent them being stolen. There are some quite good stand-alone alarms specially designed for outbuildings and sheds. A visit to your local security shop or DIY outlet could be to your advantage.

This is also the time of year when the real nasty criminals come out. These are the bogus callers who deliberately set out to con you. The police call it Distraction Burglary which usually starts with a call at the door by a bogus official representing – gas, water, local council or offering services cheap – small building repairs, patios built etc. What is so odious about these people is that they tend to target the old or vulnerable people who can least afford to lose their money or possessions.

I have a report from the police only this week that two males entered premises in Starbeck and Ripon uninvited and claimed to be doing work for the water board whilst distracting the inhabitants. In both cases the victims were over 80 years of age and in once instance £650 in cash was stolen. So please do not let anyone into your home unless you are very sure who they represent. If you have any new neighbours who you think could be vulnerable could you please have a word with them and explain that they must not let unknown people into their home.

Contacting the Police

For emergencies dial 999. For all other incidents dial 0845 60 60 24 7.

Come and Join Us

To find out more about Neighbourhood Watch all you have to do is telephone 01423 545580 and without any obligation on your part we will send you all the information about this worthwhile activity.

TO PREVENT CRIME IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY