



VILLAGE WATCH



Newsletter of South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch
in conjunction with South Yorkshire Police
Edition 321 – JANUARY 2025

View on the Anston Parish Council website: <https://www.anston.gov.uk> under **Community**

➤ DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

For those who missed last month's Village Watch, as most would (!), it was because of unavailability of the printer at the Parish Hall. The monthly printing and distribution are always subject to unforeseen circumstances, resulting sometimes in poor quality printing, missing or blank pages, late deliveries, and in this instance no delivery. This doesn't mean we, that is Neighbourhood Watch, has ceased to function, but just an indication that in everything we do, there are always critical elements that we have no control over, usually no warning of when they will occur, and virtually no chance of any mitigating action (at least not without spending an unacceptable amount of money or.) While rabbiting on about newsletter distribution, my thanks go out to our Co-ordinators who go up and down our streets trying to get a single sheet of paper through sometimes finger-trapping letterboxes, in the quest of helping our community in the battle against crime.

➤ STALKING

❖ What is stalking?

Stalking is a pattern of repeated, unwanted behaviour that causes you to feel distressed or scared. It can be perpetrated by men or women. Stalking can happen with or without a fear of violence. This means that if you are receiving persistent unwanted contact that is causing you distress but the person has never threatened you, this is still stalking and is not acceptable.

Stalking is illegal and can consist of any type of behaviour such as regularly sending flowers or gifts, making unwanted or malicious communication - for example being sent unwanted emails, , damaging property and physical assault and can include being followed or constantly harassed by another person. If the behaviour is persistent and clearly unwanted, causing you fear, distress or anxiety then it is stalking and you should not have to live with it.

Stalking often has a huge emotional impact on those it affects. It can lead to feelings of depression, anxiety and even post-traumatic stress disorder. It can be a psychological as well as a physical crime.

❖ Who stalks?

When many people hear the word stalking they still think of a stranger lurking in the shadows, or a delusional fan following a celebrity. Whilst these cover some stalking cases they are by no means the majority. About 45% of people who contact the Suzy Lamplugh Trust Helpline were being stalked by ex-partners, and a further third had some sort of prior acquaintance with their stalker. Just because you know the stalker does not mean that the situation is your fault - it is still stalking and it is wrong.

❖ Reporting stalking

Contact the police if you're being stalked - you have a right to feel safe in your home, workplace in fact anywhere. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, call 999. You can report stalking to the police online, or at your local police station.

❖ Support available

You can get advice from the National Stalking Helpline phone: 0808 802 0300 (Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 4pm (Wednesday 9:30am to 8pm)), or through their website:

<https://www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/Category/national-stalking-helpline>

Victim Support has helpful information available on stalking, the support available, and how to spot the signs: <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/crime-info/types-crime/stalking-and-harassment>. In South Yorkshire phone 0300 303 1976 Monday to Friday 9am-8pm. Out of hours 08 08 16 89 111.

➤ INVESTMENT FRAUD & SELF HELP TOOL CENTRE

Investments are a favourite trick used by fraudsters to steal your money, either funds you've put aside 'for a rainy day' or life savings to be used for a dream holiday or your retirement. Between 2020 and the end of 2023, nearly 100,000 people in the UK fell victim to investment scams, totalling £2.6 billion or £13 million every week. These figures refer only to reported scams, so are likely to be considerably higher.

To learn how to invest wisely and avoid being a victim in this way read the latest tips and advice from Get Safe Online at <https://www.getsafeonline.org/investments>

➤ **CONTACTS**

❖ **SY Police: <https://www.southyorkshire.police.uk>**

Emergencies: call 999: when there is a threat to life (including traffic accidents where persons are injured, the road is blocked or a vehicle involved in the accident has failed to stop); a serious offence is actually in progress; violence to a person or damage to property is imminent; a suspected offender is still at the scene of a crime or any delay in reporting the incident may prevent the offender being apprehended; serious disruption to the public is currently taking place or is likely to take place.

Non-emergencies: call 101 to report a crime not currently taking place, or to give information.

Report an incident online: As an alternative to 101, you can report a non-emergency incident online at <https://www.reportingcrime.uk> or from the main SYP web page under **Report**

Advice and information: on the home page of SYP there are details of supporting agencies you can access.

The Silent Solution: If you need urgent police help but cannot speak: Dial 999; Listen to the questions from the operator; Respond by coughing or tapping your device, if you can. If prompted, press 55 to let the operator know it's a genuine emergency and you'll be put through to police. See **Independent Office for Police Conduct:** <https://www.policeconduct.gov.uk/news> - scroll down to **Silent Solution**.

❖ **Areyouok?** Information and advice on violence and abuse: <https://www.areyouok.co.uk>

❖ **Crimestoppers:** report crime or suspicious activity anonymously by calling 0800 555 111 Monday-Friday 08:00-22:00; Saturday and Sunday 10:00-16:00 or online at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org>

❖ **Action Fraud:** To report fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cyber crime: the Action Fraud contact centre: 0300 123 2040. You may make the report anonymously. Text phone users can ring 0300 123 2050. Report fraud online at www.actionfraud.police.uk

❖ **National Cyber Security Centre NCSC:** You can report a suspicious website link or URL using the form in this link: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website>

❖ **SafeFromScams:** Don't become a scam victim. Learn about scams of all types, how they work, why people fall for them and how to make sure you don't. Web site at: <http://www.safefromscams.co.uk>

❖ **Advertising Standards Authority (ASA):** Report an online scam ad at: <https://www.asa.org.uk/make-a-complaint/report-an-online-scam-ad.html>

❖ **Citizens Advice:** (was Adviceguide). Help with problems such as benefits, debt, work, energy, health, housing, relationships, consumer problems such as building work, energy and water supply, faulty goods, paying bills, refunds for faulty goods and poor services, rogue traders, travel, making a complaint and taking legal action: 08454 040506 (6p per minute) or local rate charge 0208 1850 710

❖ **South Anston Village Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:** Bryan Saunby: 01909 565194

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CRIMES REPORTED IN SOUTH ANSTON IN OCTOBER

Crime on or near	Crime Category	Crime on or near	Crime Category
Church Court	Vehicle crime	The Haven	Public order
Orchid Way	Anti-social behaviour	West Bank Rise	Criminal damage/arson
Second Lane	Anti-social behaviour x 2	Wilberforce Road	Violence offences
The Haven	Criminal damage/arson		

CRIMES REPORTED IN NORTH ANSTON IN OCTOBER

Crime on or near	Crime Category	Crime on or near	Crime Category
Anston Close	Violence offences	Nursery Road	Drugs
Bedford Close	Burglary	Rutland Avenue	Vehicle crime
Bedford Close	Burglary	The Green	Anti-social behaviour x 2
Caperns Road	Anti-social behaviour x 2	The Green	Shoplifting x 2
Caperns Road	Burglary	The Green	Violence offences
Caperns Road	Criminal damage and arson	The Wells	Robbery
Caperns Road	Vehicle crime x 2	White Gate	Burglary
Caperns Road	Other crime	Woodland Avenue	Criminal damage/arson x 2
Common Road	Anti-social behaviour x 2	Woodland Avenue	Public order
Cramfit Close	Other theft	Woodland Avenue	Violence offences
Hanging Bank Ct	Burglary	Woodland Avenue	Other crime
Limekilns	Anti-social behaviour x 2	Woodland Drive	Criminal damage/arson
Netherthorpe Way	Vehicle crime	Woodland Drive	Violence offences
Netherthorpe Way	Violence offences	Wright Street	Violence offences