

CSI:



South Bucks
District Council



THAMES VALLEY
POLICE

COMMUNITY SAFETY INFORMATION Issue 4 2011

No Hazards at golf course car parks as they scoop security award

Visitors to The Lanes Golf Course & Driving Range, and Farnham Park Golf Course can feel safer when leaving their vehicle for a round of golf. Both Council operated golf courses have been awarded the 'Park Mark Award' for 2011 following low crime rates and excellent security measures.

Park Mark is an award given by the Police to car parks that have achieved the standards of the Safer Parking Scheme. This scheme is designed to reduce crime and the fear of crime in car parks.



South Bucks District Councillor Anita Cranmer, Portfolio Holder for Community, says, "We are proud to receive this award as we have worked very hard to make our car parks safe and user friendly. Improved CCTV and lighting, amongst other measures, have been installed but vehicle owners must continue to take valuables out of their car, such as their sat nav, mobile phone, bags and cases. Although acquisitive crime figures are decreasing year on year, it is still important vehicle owners remain vigilant."

"Customers who use the 'Park Mark' accredited car parks can be confident that measures are in place to deter criminal activity and create a safer environment for both them and their vehicle. By using car parks that display the Park Mark Award you are supporting operators that have gone the extra mile to create a safer environment in which to park. "

A further eleven South Bucks District Council car parks have also been awarded the 'Park Mark Award' for 2011. In South Bucks, Park Mark car parks can be found in:

- Summers Road, Burnham
- Broadway Car Park, Farnham Common
- Altons Car Park, Beaconsfield
- Packhorse Road, Gerrards Cross
- Station Road, Gerrards Cross
- Bulstrode Way, Gerrards Cross.
- Capswood Business Centre, Denham
- Penncroft, Beaconsfield
- Warwick Road, Beaconsfield
- Jennery Lane, Burnham
- Neville Court, Burnham.



If you would like to find out more about either of the golf courses, please contact Farnham Park Golf Course on 01753 643332 or The Lanes Golf Course and Driving Range 01753 554840. If you would like to know more about car parking in the district, please contact the Car Park Operations Manager on 01895 837359.

Beat the burglar with an alarm

Research shows that Buckinghamshire residents without a burglar alarm are nearly twice as likely to be burgled as those properties with one fitted.

All burglary dwelling offences from 2009 to 2011 across Bucks have been investigated by the I-on Bucks (www.ionbucks.info) team to identify if there is a relationship between owning an alarm and the likelihood of being a victim of burglary.

The alarm status of a burgled property was recorded in 81% (2243) of burglary offences between 2009 and 2011 by Thames Valley Police. Only 18% of these properties were alarmed. This shows that a large number of properties are not alarmed. Analysis also shows that when offenders burgle alarmed homes they are twice as likely to leave empty handed. This demonstrates that there is more chance of a failed burglary if your property is fitted with a burglar alarm.



South Bucks District Councillor, Anita Cranmer, Portfolio Holder for Community says, "National research shows that alarm systems play a huge role in deterring break-ins. It is indeed far less likely for a house with an alarm system installed to fall victim to a burglary. A further benefit to having a burglar alarm is that it often lowers house insurance premiums, which is a big help at this time when we all need to save where we can."

She adds, "South Bucks residents can complete a home security self assessment on the district council website which will be assessed by a member of the Community Safety Team so that improvements can be suggested."

Deputy LPA Commander Bhupinder Rai says, "South Bucks Community Safety Partnership is committed to reducing burglary. Residents can help themselves by completing a self assessment home security survey online. Burglars will always look for opportunities and a lack of security measures, so it is important you stay one-step ahead."

Garden bonfire guidelines

Summer is the peak season for the Environmental Health Department to receive complaints about bonfires. Bonfires can be very irritating to neighbours, especially if they occur regularly.

Bonfires are not illegal, however, under the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, smoke and ash from bonfires may constitute a statutory nuisance. South Bucks District Council has a legal duty to take action against those who create a statutory nuisance.

Pollution from bonfires can prevent people from opening their windows, hanging their washing out, and generally enjoying their gardens. This is why we urge people to avoid having bonfires, especially in the summer-time when people are more likely to want to spend time outside.

South Bucks District Council therefore encourages people to find alternative ways of disposing of their garden rubbish. Whenever possible, garden waste should be composted at home using a compost bin. These can be purchased from us at a discounted price, please call 01895 837333 for details.

Green (garden) waste can be taken to your nearest household recycling centre at Beaconsfield, Burnham or Langley. We can collect bulky household items from your property by arrangement. There is a charge for this service but discounts are available for people on specified benefits.

Therefore, we ask people only to have bonfires as a last resort. If you must have a bonfire, please only burn clean dry wood, on a small hot bonfire of short duration. Under no circumstances should you burn plastics, rubber etc.



We normally deal with one-off bonfires informally, but will use our formal powers, under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to deal with regular or frequent bonfires which cause a statutory nuisance. In such cases we would serve an abatement notice on the person responsible. Breaching such a notice is a criminal offence.

ASB: 'It's not a good look' : A group of students from Gosford Hill School, Kidlington helped to make a film to show the impact that Anti-social behaviour (ASB) can have on other people. The film shows the effects that drinking can have on behaviour and how annoying and intimidating ASB can be. Type 'ASB it's not a good look' into youtube.



Denham Station back on track

Residents in Denham will be pleased to hear that a local footpath is getting a colourful makeover in the form of a mural designed and painted by local young people.

There has been an ongoing problem with graffiti in the foot tunnel at Denham Train Station near local shops at Station Parade, attracting numerous complaints. The aim of the mural is to give the tunnel back to the local community and create a sense of pride in the area. It is hoped that the arrival of a bright and attractive mural will also have the effect of deterring future vandals from defacing it. Further instances of graffiti can be quickly and easily removed as the mural will be finished with a protective anti-graffiti coating.

Local artist Lewis Yates has designed the transport inspired design for the mural and the painting will be carried out by pupils at Tilehouse Combined School and Denham Village Infant School. Denham Neighbourhood Action Group saw the success of a similar project run in Burnham and initiated the project which has been supported by South Bucks District Council and received funding from Denham Parish Council, L&Q Housing Trust and Robert Bosch Ltd.

South Bucks District Councillor Anita Cranmer, Portfolio Holder for Community, says "This mural will brighten up the pathway and give everyone who uses it a pride in the contribution of their community. We hope by giving local residents real pride in their neighbourhood this will help deter the minority of individuals who have previously defaced the area with graffiti and other acts of mindless vandalism."



Who's watching your home this summer?



If you're going on holiday this summer, make sure you protect your property from burglars.

South Bucks District Councillor, Anita Cranmer, Portfolio Holder for Community says, "While you're away your home is left empty and is at greater risk of burglary. Therefore, in the excitement of getting ready for your holiday, don't forget to spare a thought for the security of your property and possessions while you're gone."

"The months of July and August in 2010 both saw 28 burglary dwellings respectively. We are determined to better these figures with fewer burglaries this summer as we would like to carry on the downward trend in serious acquisitive crime that has occurred since September 2008.

Deputy LPA Commander Bhupinder Rai adds: "There are several ways to help give you peace of mind while on holiday. First of all, it's a good idea to get help from your neighbours. You could ask them to collect post, sweep up leaves, mow the lawn, open and close curtains, and so on. They could even occasionally park their car on your driveway. Anything to make the place looked lived in."

"Furthermore, don't post details of your holiday on social networking sites and refrain from putting your home address on your luggage when travelling to your holiday destination"

"And lastly....don't forget your passport and tickets"!!

If you would like more advice on how to protect yourself from crime, telephone the Community Safety team on 01895 837220 or the crime reduction advisers on 0845 8 505 505.

Sign up to Thames Valley
Police ringmaster today @
www.thamesvalley.police.co.uk

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Fly tipper caught by watchful public

A man who fly tipped garden waste on a country road has been found guilty of illegal dumping.

Anthony Hearne, 49, of Slough, was spotted by another motorist driving a truck loaded with tree cuttings along Black Park Road in Iver Heath.

The driver later saw a large amount of tree clippings dumped by the side of the road, and then saw the same truck, which was empty. He took the vehicle's registration number and reported it, which led to Mr Hearne being found guilty of illegal dumping at Wycombe Magistrates' Court. He admitted to being in the area at the time but had stated that he had taken his tree cuttings to a nearby farm on that day. However, following an investigation, this was shown to be false.

Cllr Bill Lidgate, chairman of the joint waste partnership, said: "Well done to the person who reported this, and has helped justice be done. Let this serve as a warning to others that members of the public are as incensed at the anti-social nature of fly tipping as we are, and are prepared to take action to stop it. Vigilance by the public does pay off. Of the prosecutions we bring to court, 42 per cent are a direct result of members of the public reporting incidents just like this."

Olympians get bikes security marked

The GB Kayaking Team had their bikes security marked by the Taplow and Dorney Neighbourhood Police Team during a break in their training (see pic).

South Bucks residents can get their bikes marked at many of the Have Your Say police meetings. Check the Thames Valley Police website for your nearest Have your say.



Come and Celebrate London 2012 Games - One Year to Go!

FREE EVENTS - OPEN TO ALL THE FAMILY!

South Bucks Running Club

23rd July 9am (race start time). 5km run through Black Park.

To receive official race times please register at www.parkrun.org.uk/black-park
Black Park Country Park, Black Park Road, Wexham, SL3 6DR



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The Lanes Golf Course & Driving Range

24th July 12-3pm. 15 minute lesson from a PGA Pro and 100 balls to use on the driving range.

To book a lesson please call 01895 837306.

The Lanes Golf Course, Stoke Road, Slough, SL2 4NL

Bike! Burnham & Cycle-Wise Thames Valley

24th July 2.20pm. 6 or 12 mile Tour de Dorney, taking in views of the Jubilee River and Dorney Lake.

Booking is essential, visit the website below to secure your place:
www.cyclewise.co.uk/course-booking

Depart from Burnham Upper School, Opendale Road, Burnham, SL1 7LZ

Join South Bucks District Council
for the 2011 Open Weekend
23rd - 24th July 2011



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