



Neighbourhood Watch Report for APM May 2022

A quieter year in all aspects of life, with rural crime down but increasing in the towns.

Car Crimes

There have been a number of cases of vehicle related crimes, including theft of motor vehicles, theft from motor vehicles and also theft of catalytic converters. These crimes have taken place in Haverhill, Newmarket and Bury St Edmunds.

Scouts

As usual throughout the year there have been numerous cold callers around the area. Generally, they call at a house that they suspect to be empty, knock on the door, if no one answers they have a good look around with a view to burglary, either on the spot or returning later to break in. If someone answers the door they will always have a half plausible story about selling furniture, touting for scrap or even selling garden furniture. If you should get such a visitor, please call the Police on 101 and give them a description of the person(s) and their vehicle. By doing this you may prevent someone else from being burgled. Remember, a cold caller is seldom genuine, so please do not part with any cash, at least until you have received what you are buying and are satisfied with it.

Scams

The pandemic introduced us to a whole new wave of scams where scammers were trying to exploit our vulnerability. We had everything from people cold calling selling test kits for COVID right through to the vaccine itself. We have, I believe, got wiser as a result and realise that we don't have to pay for vaccines etc.

Break Ins

Break ins have generally reduced around the area. I guess that is because most people have not been going out so it has made it more difficult for thieves to find an empty property to burgle. As we are getting back to a more normal life style, we should be more careful and check our home security before going out.

Vigilance

The best thing we can do is to all be as vigilant as possible and report all suspicious activity to the Police with as much detail as possible. Initially report to 101 unless you believe a crime is actually in progress, in which case ring 999.

Stay safe.

Paul Rogers

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.