

West Mercia Police

BISHOP'S CASTLE & RURAL Safer Neighbourhood Team

Date: April 2024 – Newsletter

BISHOP'S CASTLE & RURAL SNT are based at Bishops Castle Police Station, Union St, Bishop's Castle, SY9 5AJ.

We work in the Parishes and area's of Bishop's Castle, Mainstone, Colebatch, Clun, Llanfair Waterdine, Newcastle on Clun, Bettws-Y-Crwyn, Stowe, Bucknell, Bedstone, Hopton Castle, Clungunford, Aston on Clun, Hopesay, Clunbury, Edgton, Wistanstow, Lydbury North, Lydham, More, Norbury, Wentnor, Ratlinghope, Stiperstones, Worthen and Chirbury.

Team details

Safer Neighbourhood Sergeant: Sgt 0640 Jenni Price

Safer Neighbourhood Police Constable: PC 3331 Stuart Coote

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO 6160 Shaun Culliss

Police Community Support Officer: PCSO 40516 Calvin Brown

Team Email: bccar.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

West Mercia Police contact numbers

Emergency: 999 **Non Emergency:** 101

Bishops Castle Police Station (not for reporting): 101, Extension 770-4901

Report online: www.westmercia.police.uk/ro/report/

Crime stoppers: 0800 555 111

Website: www.westmercia.police.uk

Twitter: @SouthShropCops

Facebook: Bishop's Castle Policing Team Rural Watch



CRIME STATS

Please note not all crimes or investigations are recorded below due to the sensitive nature or ongoing investigations.

CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED BISHOP'S CASTLE, LYDHAM & MAINSTONE 16th March 2024 – 15th April 2024			
CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Assault	x2	Bishop's Castle	Suspect identified
Criminal damage	Damage caused to CCTV camera	Kerry Green	Occurred between 13:30 – 14:00 4 th April
Theft of motor vehicle	Red Seat Leon stolen without keys	Union St	Occurred 23:15 2 nd April
Theft of motor vehicle	Grey Ford Transit campervan stolen without keys	Union St	Occurred overnight 29 th – 30 th March. Tracker on the vehicle pinged to Dudley prior to being removed by offenders
Malicious communications		Bishop's Castle	
Unlawful importation of a drug controlled under the Misuse of Drugs Act		Bishop's Castle	
Criminal damage	Mains electric cable pulled from security light used to illuminate yard and industrial premises.	Station St	Occurred between 12 th – 26 th March
Theft	Quarry tiles and lead sheeting stolen from farm	Colebatch	Occurred 22 nd – 26 th March
Burglary (Dwelling)	Rear door on property broken and bank card taken from inside	Oak Meadow	Occurred overnight 22 nd – 23 rd March. Suspect identified, known to the victim
Theft from motor vehicle	Vauxhall Vivaro van broken into and power tools taken	Bowling Green Close	Occurred overnight 18 th – 19 th March
Criminal damage	Damage caused to vehicle	Corporation St	Occurred during afternoon 16 th March. Suspect identified
Interference with motor vehicle	Male with strong accent, possibly Liverpoolian or Black Country seen trying car door	Market Sq	22:15 8 th April. After being disturbed the male waked off towards Welsh St where it's believed he got in a waiting car

**CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED
MORE, NORBURY, RATLINGHOPE & WENTNOR**

16th March 2024 – 15th April 2024

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Theft of motor vehicle	Blue Iveco horse lorry stolen without keys	Ratlinghope	Overnight 6 th – 7 th April

**CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED
LYDBURY NORTH, EDGTON, HOPESAY & WISTANSTOW**

16th March 2024 – 15th April 2024

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Harassment		Aston on Clun	

**CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED
CHIRBURY, WORTHEN, HOPE, SHELVE & STIPERSTONE**

16th March 2024 – 15th April 2024

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Assault		Worthen	Suspect identified
Assault		Brockton	Suspect identified
Fraud			

**CRIME/INCIDENTS TO NOTE REPORTED IN
CLUN, CLUN VALLEY, LLANFAIRWATERDINE, HOPTON CASTLE & BUCKNELL**

16th March 2024 – 15th April 2024

CRIME REPORTED	DETAILS	LOCATION	NOTES
Burglary	Dark green Specialized mountain bike stolen from shed	Clunbury	Occurred between 27 th – 29 th March
Burglary	Industrial unit broken into and Honda CR125 motocross bike stolen	Green Ind Est, Clun	Occurred between 22 nd – 25 th March
Assault		Clun	
Malicious communications		Clun	

Anyone with any information as to whom carried out these crimes please contact West Mercia Police on **101** or Crimestoppers **0800 555111**

Preventing vehicle thefts

This last month has seen a spike in thefts of vehicles around Bishop's Castle, believed to be conducted by a criminal gang travelling into the area. Please take note of the following security advice to help prevent any further thefts.

Keep your vehicle locked. Always locking your car when you leave it goes without saying, but make sure you double check the car is actually locked, check each door and the boot to make sure. Many modern vehicle's have wing mirrors that fold in automatically when locked, criminals will look for vehicles like these where the wing mirrors are still out as it makes it clear that the vehicle has been left unlocked.

Although we are aware of only one offence of this type in the last 12 months, another method of car theft is known as a relay attack, a method being used increasingly by car thieves on vehicles that use keyless entry. This involves two criminals working together using electronic signal relay devices to clone a vehicles key. One criminal will use a device to receive the key signal from inside the home, transferring the signal to a second box, which is placed alongside the car. This tricks the car into 'thinking' the key is there, allowing the thieves to unlock the vehicle and drive away.

Although the signal can pass through doors, walls and windows, it cannot penetrate metal, so placing the keys inside a metal box, signal blocking wallet known as a Faraday pouch, safe or even your microwave should protect your vehicle from a 'relay attack'.

If you own an older vehicle which have poor locks that are easily bypassed like an old Land Rover or previous generations of the Ford Transit please consider fitting anti-theft devices like a steering wheel lock.

If you see any suspicious activity please try and report it at the time by ringing **101** or **999** if you witness a vehicle being stolen. Please try and gain as much information as possible when reporting such as a description of the offenders and the vehicle they are travelling in.