



26 March 2021

PROTECT YOUR CAR – there are thieves about

In the early hours of this morning, two cars in Cossington were broken into and from one, a wallet was stolen. In the early hours of the previous night, a couple of young men were seen snooping around properties and peering into property and cars. This activity is not necessarily confined to Cossington so here's a reminder to protect your car.

Car crime remains a pressing problem in the UK - alarmingly, one car is stolen every ten minutes. Whilst car crime decreased during Covid-19 restrictions, with the expectation of social restrictions soon easing we could see a surge in car crime.

Many car crimes happen because cars are left unlocked. There is a misconception that some cars are auto-locking and lock themselves if left unattended after a period of time. This isn't always correct. Another misconception is that your car is too old and no one will bother stealing it. This is also incorrect - both new and old cars are at risk. But there are simple steps everyone can take to help reduce the risk to their car. With only a 46% recovery rate the advice is to leave your car **locked, lit and empty**.

Leaving items on a car seat or forgetting to lock your car can act as an invitation for crime. You may think that old coat on the back seat is of no value, and it may not be, but to a potential thief, it may be concealing something of value.

Leave your car locked

A simple mistake that can prove calamitous: **44%** of cars are broken into via an unlocked door.

Leave your car well-lit

80% of car crime occurs during the evening or at night. Whilst not easy in a rural area, parking near streetlamps or in a busy area can deter thieves.

Leave your car empty

(or at least with no items on show)

If you have information about any crime, phone 101 or call anonymously CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111
Ask for your call to be tagged Neighbourhood Watch.
In an emergency dial 999

Ewatch Poldens



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