



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



"I WAS ONLY AWAY A MINUTE OR TWO!"

What do you think takes only a few minutes?

A kettle to boil.

Read the headlines of a newspaper.

Leave your car unattended to post a letter or drop children off at school.

Which one of these do you think would mean there is an opportunity of your losing your personal property in a matter of a minute or two?

In recent months, there have been far too many incidents, where people have "lost" their bags/ personal items, which they have left on the back seat of their unattended cars.

On their return to their cars they find that their items have been "taken", with all the problems of damage to their cars i.e.: broken windows.

Items stolen have include *mobile phones, wallets, radios, driving licences, Sat Navs, power tools, dvd's & cd's, cash, credit cards, debit cards, address books, diaries, as well as clothing and shopping too!*

In one area in Braintree District fourteen cars were broken into in two days!

Why do people still do it you may wonder?

They say that they were in too much of a hurry!

The only other "defence" said by the victims are that they "only left their car for a few minutes".

It is important that the message from Neighbourhood Watch is given some more thought.

Please do not give car thieves the opportunity to "make their day".

Remember remove all valuable items from your car or secure them in your boot.

Indeed think why you need to take them with you when you go on your journey?

Please make sure the car is locked before you leave it.

NW Groups encourage everyone to be more effective in looking after their personal property.

NW Groups help those in the community who may feel vulnerable (whatever their ages) to feel safer, as they know someone cares!

It is very difficult to give to or take advice from strangers.

So why not join your local Neighbourhood Watch Group- it will give you peace of mind that there are people around you who care!

Please note that "The Opportunity of Crime Reduces in a Community which Cares".

Would like to have information on Neighbourhood Watch?

Do you know your local Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator?

Please contact: Clive Stewart, Neighbourhood Watch Administrator, Essex Police,

Braintree Police Station, Blyths Meadow, Braintree, Essex,

CM7 3DJ. Tel: 01376 556 282. clive.stewart@essex.pnn.police.uk