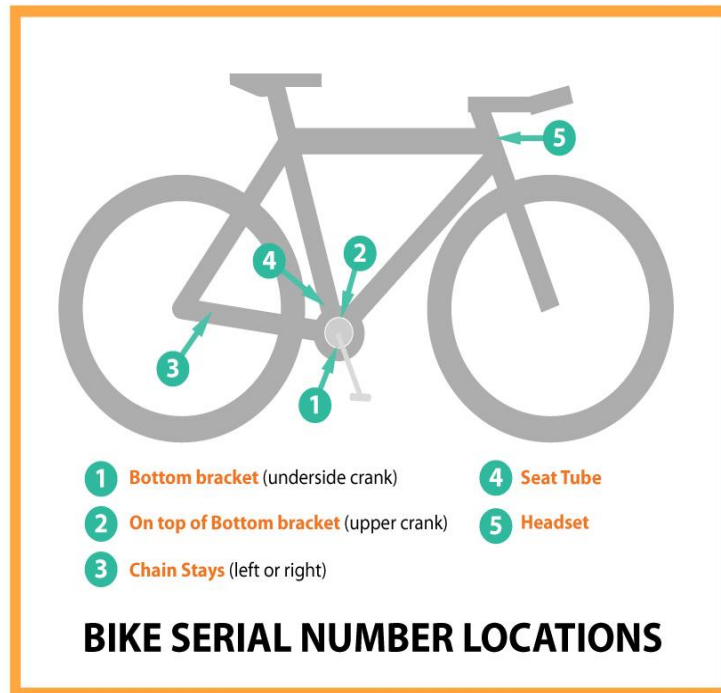




Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch Association



As is evident from even the most casual observation around Alresford, there is an increasing number of us who are using bicycles either as a mode of transport or for pleasure and the pursuit of fitness. The actual value of the bikes is also increasing and unfortunately the other thing which is increasing is the number of cycle thefts. The Police strongly recommend that owners record the serial number of their bike.



Other general advice for bicycle owners

- Get an approved bike lock. Look for the *Sold Secure* logo on approved locks.
- Always lock your bike at home, even when it is in your garage.
- When out and about, lock your bike up in a secure location at a bike rack or lamp post
- Always lock your bike even if you're only leaving it for a couple of minutes.
- Make the locked bike difficult to manoeuvre. Keep any gaps between the lock and bike frame small.
- If you have quick release wheels, lock them up too or take them with you.
- Remove lights from the bike and take them with you.
- Identify and register your bike with scheme Immobilise at www.immobilise.com.
- Consider etching your postcode on to your bike frame.
- It is thought that thieves actively use ride recording Apps (such as Strava, Endomondo, "Map my ride") to identify where high value bikes may be kept. This primarily occurs when individuals post their recorded rides to the public domain. It is believed the thieves go to the ride start/finish and possibly target likely garages/sheds/etc in the vicinity until they find what they want. The general advice is to start recording a short way from home, and stop the recording a short way before you arrive at your door. However, with Strava privacy zones for home, work or wherever using a post code can be set up. To enable this, access "settings" on the account and go to "privacy". This option causes Strava to blank out the first 1/2 mile or so of the ride.
- If you have bike racks on your vehicle, remove them as this might be an indicator to thieves that a good quality bike is located at the property. If it is not practical to remove the racks, then ensure that your bicycle is securely locked and stored away.

**Alresford and District Neighbourhood Watch
Association website-**
www.neighbourhood.watch.alresford.org
e-mail – contact.adnwa@gmail.com

**CRIME IN PROGRESS – RING 999
NON URGENT – RING 101
CRIMESTOPPERS – 0800 555 111**