



Warwickshire Rural Crime Team Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2023



Please note: all incidents must be reported through official channels and not directly to the officers.

Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

For non-emergencies, report online at warwickshire.police.uk or call 101.

Your Regional Rural Crime Team Contacts



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POLICE



Inspector Jack Pritchard

Sgt Adam Corless



We are pleased to advise that Sgt Jack Pritchard has been promoted to Inspector of the Rural Crime Team and PC Adam Corless to Sergeant. This follows Inspector Wiggin going on to do new responsibilities in the force.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Inspector Wiggin all the best for the future, she was our original Inspector and set up the team, with the support from the force back in October, 2019. The team hit the ground running and have worked hard to support our rural communities, especially the farmers and landowners. Big landmarks have been achieved during this time including recovering well over £3million pounds worth of vehicles, plant and equipment, action on hare coursers, supporting farmers addressing livestock worrying, plus much more and we look forward to continuing our work and bringing offenders to justice who commit offences in our county.

This has left 3 vacancies in the team which we are presently advertising and will update you when these have been filled. In the meantime the team carry on being proactive as you can see from the following articles.

VEHICLES

Two Caravans Recovered in North Warwickshire



Working with the local Safer Neighbourhoods Team from Atherstone and Coleshill, our team followed up on information received concerning some vehicles at a location near Hartshill. Upon arrival 6 caravans were checked and found to be in order, however after checking in a different area 2 separate caravans were found to have had their VINs (vehicle identity numbers) altered in an attempt to change their true identity, checks showed that they had been stolen from West Midlands and Yorkshire so were recovered. During the visit a male claimed one of the caravans was being used by him to store his personal items and was arrested on suspicion of handling stolen goods.

Vehicle Operation With Rugby Police and Partners



Our team called in and supported Rugby Police who were working with partners from the Driving & Vehicle Standards Agency, Warwickshire Trading Standards, Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council on an operation focused on businesses and their vehicles.

28 vehicles were stopped and checked with 6 identified as having faults that required action. Several drivers were reported for traffic offences and one driver was found to have no insurance covering the purpose of his vehicle so he was reported and the vehicle seized. A good operation organised by the Rugby team raising awareness with businesses of their responsibility to maintain their vehicles and for drivers to ensure that they are safe and roadworthy.

Stolen Van Recovered

During a recent roadside operation a call came in of a possible stolen digger being at a location nearby. Our officers shouted up to respond and made their way to the address near Long Itchington. Upon arrival the team found a number of vans that could have the stolen digger hidden inside and set about checking them. Unfortunately the digger was not located but one of the vans was found to have been stolen from West midlands so we seized that and arrested a male at the scene.

Warrant with Thames Valley Police Provides Good Results

The team were recently invited by TVP (Thames Valley Police) to join them on a warrant at a location just over our border in North Worcestershire. West Mercia officers, with the National Rural Crime Unit and VIN Chip all attended the location working together. The site was secured by officers and 2 arrests were made linked to offences TVP are investigating.

Whilst at the location 2 caravans, a cement mixer, 2 trailers, a Land Rover were all identified as stolen and these were seized plus another vehicle believed to have been used to commit crime.

One of the trailers had been stolen from Ilmington less than 12 hours prior.

A great result by all involved and we look forward to hearing the results on the TVP investigations. Partnership working with other forces and our key agencies is really important and we do at every opportunity to identify and deal with offenders.



WILDLIFE

FLY TIPPING/WASTE CRIME

4

**WARWICKSHIRE
RURAL CRIME
TEAM**



**OPERATION
GALILEO**
ILLEGAL HARE COURISING

We are receiving a number of reports of hare coursing in different areas around the county and thank you for being aware of this crime and reporting it in to us.

Recently our officers followed up on a report of 3 males believed to be coursing just off the A5 near Nuneaton, on the border with Leicestershire. Responding with the local Safer Neighbourhood Team the males were located with their dogs, both of which were breeds associated with hare coursing.

All the males denied coursing and said that they were out for a walk, however there was no public footpath nearby and no permission from the landowner to be there. Officers conducted a search of the males and their vehicle and issued them with a Community Protection Notice Warning (CPNW) on suspicion of hare coursing.

We recently received footage from a member of the public who had footage of a vehicle seen on the Darlingscote Road, near Shipston on Stour throwing bags of rubbish off the back of a truck. Our team identified the vehicle and visited the location it was believed to be linked with. The unattended vehicle was found and recovered, plus the registered keeper contacted to determine who was driving it at the time. Huge thanks to the public for forwarding this and other information to enable us to follow up on incidents and deal with offenders.



**WARWICKSHIRE
RURAL CRIME
TEAM**

NATIONAL WILDLIFE & RURAL CONCERENCE

Last week our Inspector and Coordinator attended the 34th National Rural and Wildlife Conference in Staffordshire, representing our force. Representatives from police forces around the UK attended with key partner agencies to share in good practice, updates on thematic crime types and work going forward. There was some great examples of work and initiatives going on around the country and it was a good opportunity to link in with officers from other force areas to discuss action going forward. .

TRAINING



PC Davis and our Coordinator on the team have been busy training new officers to our force. We recently had input to new officers joining on response and the new starters to our safer neighbourhood teams.

During the half day input we cover all the key thematic areas of rural and wildlife crime our team deal with and the main incidents that are reported in. Another important area we discuss is the impact of crime, not just the actual incident but the consequences from it and how it affects rural communities.



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Our Rural Crime Team Newsletter only provides a snapshot of some of the work we are involved with. If you want to keep up to date with our arrests, property recovery / seizures, crime prevention efforts and be alerted to crime trends across Warwickshire then make use of the following options.



Currently with over 11,000 followers our Facebook Page is the main output for our working week.

You do not need to be a Facebook user to view the page. Just visit www.facebook.com/WarwickshireRuralCrimeTeam



A group set up to help combat & prevent the theft of equines, tack, trailers & boxes.

Please try to pass this onto as many horsey friends, businesses & establishments as you can - you do not have to be in Warwickshire to join.

Visit:

www.warwickshire-horsetwath.co.uk
or www.facebook.com/WarksHorseWatch



Warwickshire Rural Watch
Closing the gate on rural crime

FREE scheme to help combat rural crime in Warwickshire.

Receive incident alerts and news for your area. Crime prevention advice and information.

Search for Warwickshire Rural Watch on Facebook and Twitter



For advice, information and alerts visit our websites at
www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk
www.warwickshire.police.uk/ruralcrime



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