



Warwickshire Rural Crime Team Newsletter

DECEMBER 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



COUNTYWIDE

Sergeant 2216 Adam Corless
07815 009303

adam.corless@warwickshire.police.uk



COUNTYWIDE

5911 Carol Cotterill
07787 151848

carol.cotterill1@warwickshire.police.uk

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE



PC 1442 Andy Steventon
07557 033186
andrew.steventon@warwickshire.police.uk



PC 1248 Kate Taylor
07814 046730
kate.taylor@warwickshire.police.uk



PC 1510 Colin Davis
07980 917878
colin.davis@warwickshire.police.uk

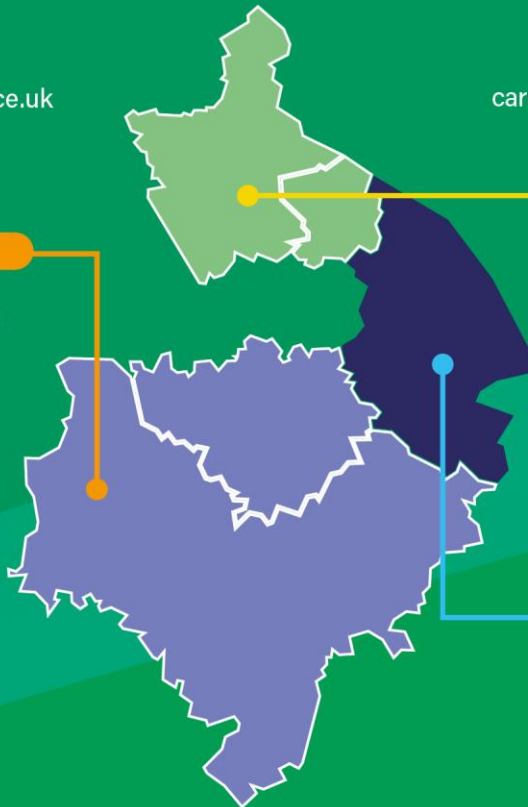
NORTH WARWICKSHIRE DISTRICT AND NUNEATON & BEDWORTH

PC 1205 Matt Simms
07814 048543
matthew.simms@warwickshire.police.uk



EAST (RUGBY DISTRICT)

PC 1270 Alex Morris
07814 047387
alex.morris@warwickshire.police.uk



Warwickshire
POLICE

Stolen Bomag Roller Recovered



The team received a call regarding a stolen Bomag roller hidden in a wooded area in North Warwickshire. Unfortunately due to the very wet ground it was really difficult to recover, but after a number of attempts was seized and returned to its rightful owner. The roller, which was stolen from the West Mids area was located by its tracker. Trackers are strongly recommended for all types of equipment and vehicles.

A First For Our Team !

Our team has recovered and returned all sorts of items, equipment, and modes of transport over the last four years.

When we received a call from our response colleagues regarding a suspected stolen narrow boat, even we had to think about how we would recover it.

Enquiries found that the boat had been stolen a few miles away on the Grand Union Canal near Warwick.

The owner of the boat had been contacted by an eagle-eyed member of the public after they spotted it being towed down the canal.

Upon arrival, officers located the boat, secured it and facilitated its safe return to the owner. A male found with the boat is assisting with our inquiries.

Thank you to the vigilant member of the public who helped us recover the stolen boat. Their eyes and quick thinking helped us get this positive result.



Disqualified Driver Caught Behind the Wheel Again



A 30 year old male from Stratford upon Avon has been sentenced for the second time in 6 months for serious driving offences. He was sentenced to a 12 month driving ban and fines by Leamington Magistrates on 13 June 2023 after his careless driving on the A46 near Stratford on 18th November, 2022, resulted in serious injuries to another driver. Just 1 month after this ban, he was caught driving his removal van, whilst disqualified, by our officers on 6th July, 2023. He was interviewed at the roadside for driving whilst disqualified and as well as receiving another court date, his van was also seized. After appearing at Coventry Magistrates Court on 30 October 2023 for driving whilst disqualified, the male was sentenced to a 16 month disqualification from driving, 12 month Community Order with 15 day Rehabilitation Activity Requirement, £307 fine, £135 costs to the CPS and £114 victim surcharge. His licence was also endorsed for driving without insurance.

Operation Cantilever Results in Vehicle Being Seized



During an early morning operation our team stopped this van near Long Itchington. Following a recent increase of plant machinery thefts in the area (diggers, rollers etc) officers were out stopping vans, 4x4's and trailers capable of transporting such equipment. After stopping the driver of this van, unfortunately the driver had failed to check his vehicle before setting out. One of his tyres was clearly down to the cord and extremely dangerous. Further checks found the driver had 17 points on his driving licence and no insurance. The driver was reported for the offences and his vehicle seized.

LIVESTOCK

Appeal In Relation to Sheep Worrying Incidents



At the beginning of November we were contacted by a farmer who had found 2 sheep killed and others injured by a dog. Fortunately a camera on the farm recorded the dog chasing the sheep and an alert was put out by the team to see if anyone recognised it. Sadly this is an ongoing issue with us regularly receiving reports of livestock being worried and attacked by dogs. This is of particular concern for the next few months with many ewes in the fields now in lamb. **Please keep your dog on a lead when near livestock and secure when let outside unattended.**

Male Arrested Following Burglary in Rugby Area

Whilst out on patrol our team responded to a burglary at a rural location where 3 masked men were seen on camera at a rural property. Entry was forced to one of the outbuildings and items were moved by the offenders ready to take away. A Response unit and a police dog, plus handler attended in support and the males made off into the adjacent area. 1 male was located and arrested and is assisting officers with their inquiries.



WILDLIFE

Operation Leviathan Working With Local Baliffs

Our team recently worked in partnership with several local water bailiffs around Earlswood Lakes. Officers were out on foot patrols as well as being in marked and unmarked vehicles. During the evening, two males were observed setting up for a night of fishing. Unfortunately, for them, 'night fishing' isn't allowed on the lakes. Upon speaking with the two males and requesting their appropriate rod licences, etc, the excuses began to flow. Both males were searched at the scene, and all equipment was seized. During the search, we found items consistent with those used in poaching offences.



TEAM WORK

Cross Border Operation in South Warwickshire



We work with our colleagues at every opportunity to bring offenders to justice. Recently we were pleased to be involved in a cross border operation with neighbouring forces in the south of the county with officers from Shipston and Alcester local policing teams. Working with Warwickshire Police were Thames Valley Police, West Mercia Police and Gloucestershire Constabulary.

ENGAGEMENT

NFU and Young Farmers Meetings

It has been a very busy period for our team and part of that is attending meetings and events to engage and listen to rural communities. We really appreciate your support and will do all that we can to make a difference and follow up on information. This month we were invited to do a presentation to Stratford & Studley Young Farmers Club, National Farmers Union Annual General Meeting and the Stratford and South Warwickshire AGM, which the PCC Philip Secombe also attended.



TRAINING

New Officers to the Force Receive Input on Rural & Wildlife Crime

New officers joining our force recently had a half day input from our Coordinator on rural and wildlife crime. It is a standard part of the induction training that rural and wildlife crime is covered, including policing in rural areas and understanding the different types of crime and its impact.



We also had a days training on wildlife crime for our team and wildlife SPOCs around the county. It was a very hands on and informative day with great feedback from all those that attended.



EQUINE

The Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership was recently awarded the Tarquin Trophy by the British Horse Society at their annual awards ceremony for equestrian safety. It recognised the partnerships work on raising awareness of passing horses wide and slow on our roads, including providing boards to livery yards and stables. It also included a proactive social media campaign with films, clips and advice that our Coordinator helped produce. We continue to support road safety for horse riders and carriage drivers with our Close Pass Operations.



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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