



Warwickshire Rural Crime Team Newsletter

JULY/AUGUST 2024



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

T/A Sgt 1205 Matt Simms
07814 048543

matthew.simms@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 2204 Joe Dicken
07815 009278
joseph.dicken1@warwickshire.police.uk

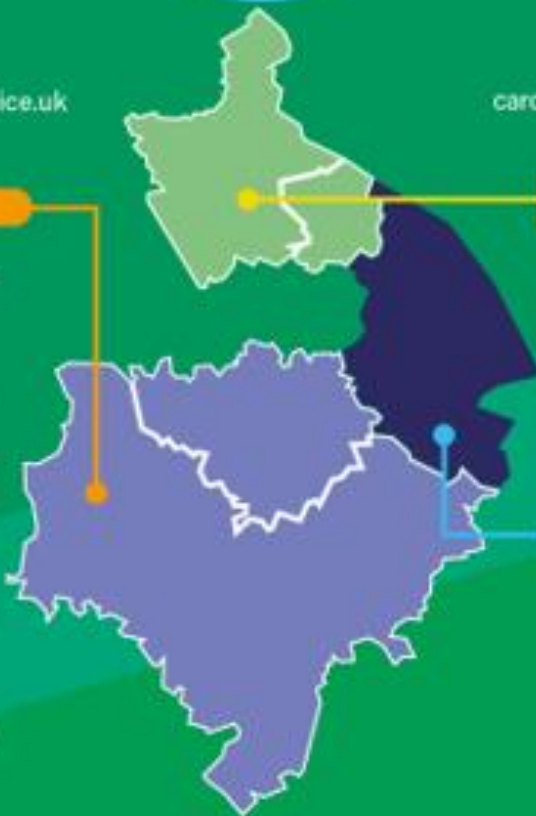


EAST (RUGBY DISTRICT)

PC 2225 Jimmy Trotter
07815 009355
james.trotter@warwickshire.police.uk



PC 2439 Ewan Meades
07890 405967
ewan.meades@warwickshire.police.uk



WARWICKSHIRE
POLICE

New Inspector Joins the Team



We are pleased to welcome Inspector Ben Hembry as the new lead for our team. Inspector Hembry is also the Local Policing Inspector for Stratford District and brings a wealth of experience to our team. Inspector Hembry said "I am really pleased to be heading the County Rural Crime Team and look forward to the challenge of being part of the great work that they do."

Inspector Jack Pritchard who was previously the Sergeant in our team, then promoted to Acting Inspector, is going to run one of the forces Response Shifts at Bedworth. Inspector Pritchard said "I have really enjoyed my time working with the Rural Crime Team and being involved in the many areas of rural, wildlife and heritage crime that they cover. I look forward to taking this forward and supporting my new team of officers when they are responding to crimes in rural communities."

Equine Crime Award

Heritage Training Achievement



Our Coordinator was recently awarded a Chief Superintendent Award for her work on the national Equine Crime Group, including a website and training films which she did in her own time to support all forces in the UK.



Congratulations to Jack, our Rural Crime Assistant who recently passed his Heritage Awareness training provided by Historic England. Jack works in the North and East of our county providing crime prevention advice.

VEHICLES

Tri-Force Operation Results in Recovery of Over £250,000 of Stolen Equipment, Vehicles and Property from Location in Gloucestershire



Our team were recently part of a tri-force operation, working with Gloucestershire Police and West Mercia Police, plus the National Rural Crime Unit and their NCATT team, with support from PC Hammond from Stratford Neighbourhood Policing Team. Following intelligence work a warrant was executed at a location near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire and a male was arrested after officers discovered a large quantity of suspected stolen items at the property. This was an excellent result by all the officers and police staff involved.



WARWICKSHIRE
POLICE

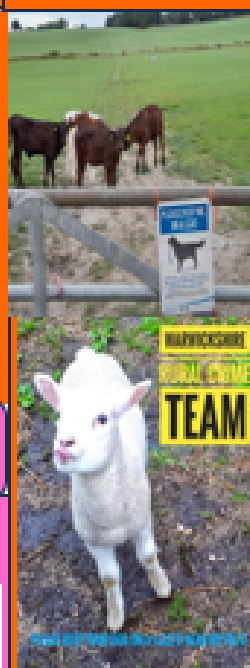
Working with Partner Agencies



Not actual cattle involved

The team recently supported a partner agency regarding a concern for cattle at a farm. Officers attended following a call from a member of public regarding the welfare of a number of animals. We are working with the agency on the investigation which is ongoing.

Operation Recall Well Received



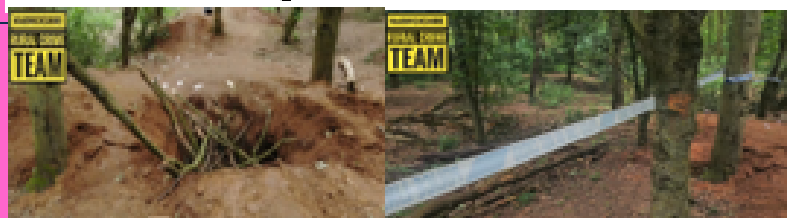
The national Operation Recall campaign that our team is part of, regarding raising the awareness of keeping dogs on a lead around livestock is being well received by farmers and dog owners and we are pleased to see reported incidents reduced, although one is too many. As part of a day of action officers from the team engaged with dog walkers in areas where we had received livestock worrying reports from farmers and visited dog training classes with our advice leaflets.

WILDLIFE

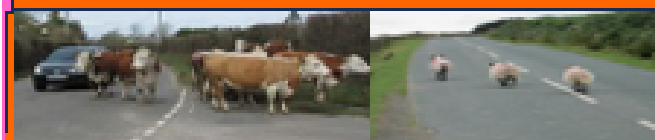
Disturbance of Badger Sett

The team were called out to a report of damage to a badger sett in woodland at Newbold Comyn Park. When officers arrived it was found that a hole had been dug approximately 7 feet down affecting a tunnel believed to be part of a sett. There were also a large number of trees that had been felled or damaged with some put down the hole.

It is an offence to damage or destroy a badger sett or part of it, including obstructing an entrance/access or putting something into the sett to disturb the badgers, including a dog. This is in addition to the protection of the badgers themselves. The team are working with the council, National Wildlife Crime Unit and the Badger Trust on this investigation.

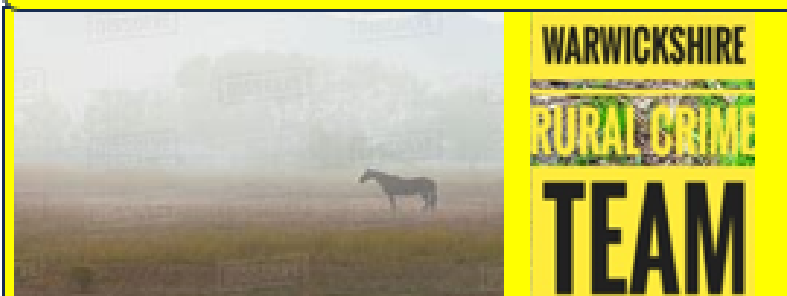


Livestock on the Road



The police receive a number of calls every week relating to livestock on the road; sheep, cattle, horses are the main ones we get called to, but this does include many other types of animals. Responding to these calls takes up officers time as it is important to respond to get the animals safely off the highway to prevent a road traffic collision and ensure the welfare of the livestock. Please check your boundaries regularly and ensure fencing and hedges are secure, plus gates are shut. We understand things can happen that can't be prevented, but where it can it is important to do so, as failure could lead to a collision and/or prosecution. We would like to thank farmers who assist our officers when livestock get on the road, whether it is their own animals or that of a neighbours, it is a great help and really appreciated. To assist our control room and officers to quickly get livestock off the road and let the owner know so that they are aware of where they are, we have a mapping system that holds contact details for farms and stables enabling us to call you if we get a report of animals loose in a specific area. If you have not done a mapping form and would like to, please email ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.police.uk and we will send one to you. Thank you. ☺

EQUINE



Officers supported a partner agency recently on the recovery of some horses that were found to be in poor condition. The horses were taken after it was confirmed that they were suffering by a vet and are now being treated.



WARWICKSHIRE
POLICE

Members of the team have been busy attending a number of events around the county including the Warwickshire Game and Country Fair at Wroxall, Whitacres & Shustoke Show and Rugby Livestock Market at Stoneleigh Park, plus running operations and patrols, engaging with our rural communities.

Warwickshire Game & Country Fair

Whitacres & Shustoke Show



Rugby Livestock Market

TRAINING



We have been part of the induction programme for new officers to our force, providing an input on rural, wildlife and heritage crime before they join our response teams around the county.



ADVICE AND INFORMATION

As we eventually get some nice weather and the ground is dry enough to get onto the fields hay making and harvest gets underway. Please see the Farm Safety leaflet on our website produced by Warwickshire Fire Service to support farmers at this busy time and also consider other risks on the farm. It can be downloaded from the 'Advice' section on our website www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk or you can email the team at ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.police.uk and we will send one to you in the post.

GPS THEFTS

We are aware of thefts of GPS equipment from tractors and agricultural equipment around the country. Please be vigilant as farmers work in the fields and return back to the farm and advise the police of any suspicious vehicles or people. In addition refer to our GPS Advice sheet on our website www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk



ENJOY THE WEATHER AND COUNTRYSIDE AND YOUR DOG ON A LEAD AROUND LIVESTOCK

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



Warwickshire
POLICE