



Warwickshire Rural Crime Team Newsletter

August 2020



POLICE NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER 101
Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.



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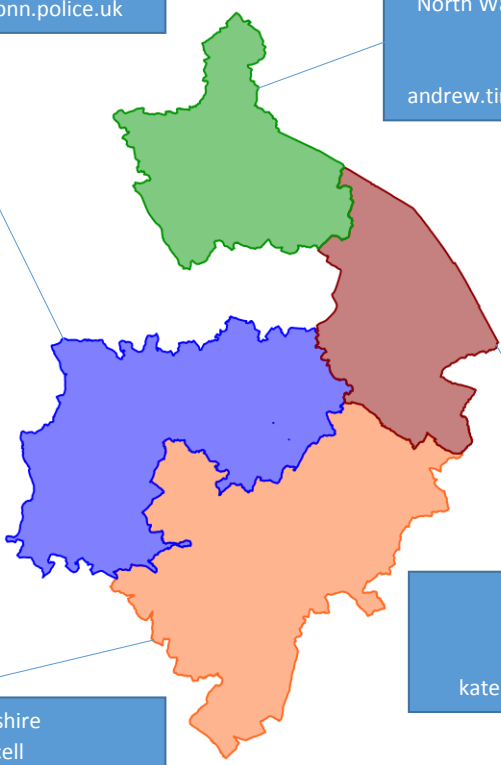
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VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT RECOVERED BY TEAM



CHIPPER SEIZED & IDENTIFIED

Whilst assisting response colleagues with an incident in Shipston, PC King and PC Steventon noticed a Jensen wood chipper, which matched the description of one stolen from a farm nearby on the previous night.

On speaking to the victim, unfortunately he confirmed that the chipper we had identified was not his, despite it being the exact same model and colour.

However, further checks by the team confirmed that it was in fact stolen from the Metropolitan police area 9 years ago! The team managed to trace the original owner who was extremely surprised to hear we had found it after all this time.

SUSPECT ARRESTED FOLLOWING PURSUIT OF STOLEN VEHICLE AND CARAVAN

Following the theft of an Isuzu Trooper from a farm near Shipston on Stour. PC Purcell and PC Steventon liaised with colleagues in surrounding forces, passing on the details of the stolen vehicle as they continued to look for it on our area.

Information came in a few days later advising that the vehicle was in the Thames Valley area and with excellent work from Gloucestershire Police, the Isuzu was located heading towards Stow with a caravan in tow.

Thames Valley Officers worked with our team to cover all directions as a stinger was deployed to deflate the Isuzu tyres, bringing it to an almost immediate stop.

The driver ran off, but as the team prepared to use our night vision goggles, a police dog unit located the suspect a short distance away.

Using the NCC CriS caravan registration scheme, our Rural Crime Officers were able to quickly identify the owner of the caravan and found out that it had only just been stolen. The suspect was also one of our main rural crime targets, who was also disqualified from driving.

As PC Purcell messaged the Isuzu owner a photo of his recovered vehicle at 4am, he was concerned about his reaction regarding the 3 punctured tyres, however he was just happy with the result. Another stolen vehicle recovered and returned to its owner by our team.



PARTNERSHIP WORKING ON OPERATIONS



The Rural Crime Team worked with colleagues from OPU (Operation Patrol Unit) at an Operation on the Warwick M40 services, alongside partners from NAVCIS, Highways England and the Caravan and Camping Club.

The purpose of the Operation was to target potentially stolen caravans, trailers and plant machinery travelling along the motorway network, plus improving the safety of vehicles towing on the road.

Our Team are specifically trained on identifying stolen items and have access to a range of specialist equipment that assists them.

One van drew their attention, as it appeared to be driving with what appeared to be excess weight in the back. On stopping the van, the officers found a JCB mini digger concealed in the back. On initial inspection there were no VIN plates found in the usual locations, however after some further checks, its identity was found and it was confirmed stolen from Nottinghamshire in 2015.

Although no other stolen items were found, the Rural Crime Team gathered some valuable intelligence throughout the day, assisted colleagues and partners who addressed other offences, engaged with members of the public pleased to know that we are always doing checks to identify and recover stolen vehicles and equipment, plus they got to see a great American camper and trailer!



CROSS BORDER COLLABORATION

Following incidents around the country of tractor GPS systems being stolen, including recently in the Midlands area, with one incident in Warwickshire, our Rural Crime Team, with other forces worked with Leicestershire Police, led by PC Cross, to target the offenders.

PC Timmins, PC Taylor and PC May-Royle were part of the operation that saw Officers from both forces hit numerous addresses simultaneously. A number of systems were recovered and intelligence gained. Working with Interpol and other agencies, investigations are ongoing.



Night Hawking / Illegal Metal Detecting



Heritage crime is one of the seven keys areas we, as your Rural Crime Team, concentrate and specialise in dealing with. Night hawking (can take place at any time of the day), also known as illegal metal detecting, falls in this area and a number of our team are presently involved in investigations in different areas of the county.

Night hawkers have been found on farmland, scheduled monuments and other areas of archaeological interest, searching for coins and other artefacts for their historic and financial value. They can cause damage to crops, seedlings and boundaries, disturb livestock and on protected archaeological sites known as Scheduled Monuments, they may commit additional offences contained within the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 namely – damage and using metal detecting equipment without a licence.

We as a team work closely with Heritage England and The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) as well as many other organisations who specialise in this field.

If you have anyone one on your land or you see illegally detecting - report it. For further information go to our website at www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk, www.historicengland.org.uk, www.finds.org.uk and www.ncmd.co.uk.



RURAL SPECIALS SUPPORT RCT WITH GREAT RESULTS

This team supports us, producing great results, including in the last few days stopping a suspicious vehicle and arresting a wanted male, seizing a vehicle for no insurance and dealing with 3 x road traffic offences relating to vehicles in the rural areas.

In addition to this they give their time through the night and at weekends to patrol the villages, farms and rural communities.

As volunteers our Specials give their time for free and are highly trained warranted officers. They are highly regarded in our team and help us make a difference in the rural communities we serve.



PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY AND BE AWARE OF HAZARDS ON THE ROAD



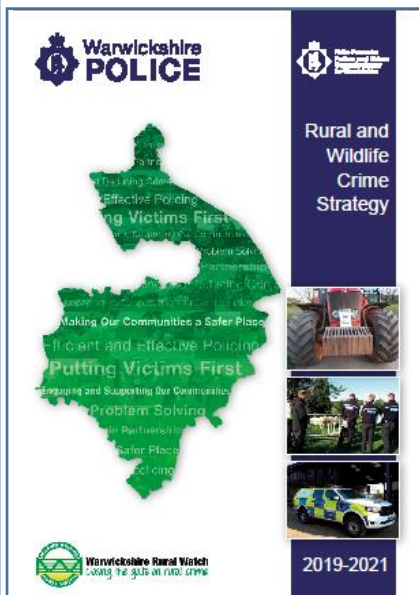
As harvest gets well underway with our farmers working 24/7 to get the crops in, please be careful on the roads, especially around country lanes.

Do not speed and be vigilant.

Large combines, tractors and trailers are all moving on our roads at present to get to and from the fields, but also it could be a horse rider or cyclist around a blind bend or livestock that have got out onto the road.

Please be safe and drive considerately.

WARWICKSHIRE RURAL AND WILDLIFE CRIME STRATEGY



We are pleased to present our Rural and Wildlife Crime Strategy detailing how Warwickshire Police tackles rural and wildlife crime in our county.

It states the key areas that we, as your Rural Crime Team specialise in, including the difference between 'rural crime' and 'crime in rural communities', which is dealt with by our Safer Neighbourhoods Teams.

To see the full document and print off copies, if required, please go to our website

www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk

then click on the 'About Us' section, then 'Strategy'.

Ongoing Rural Crime Information

ALWAYS REPORT CRIMES BY DIALLING 101 OR 999.
YOU CAN NOW ALSO REPORT ONLINE at www.warwickshire.police.uk.

Our email for contacting any of our officers in the team is
ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

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 10,000 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



Warwickshire Rural Watch
Closing the gate on rural crime

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-horsewatch.co.uk

or

www.facebook.com/WarksHorseWatch

FREE scheme to help combat rural crime in Warwickshire.

Receive incident alerts and news for your area.

Lots of crime prevention advice and information.

Visit:

[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