



Warwickshire Rural Crime Team Newsletter

APRIL 2023



Report non-emergency crime
Get advice & guidance
www.warwickshire.police.uk

Non-emergency number 101
In an emergency always call 999

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



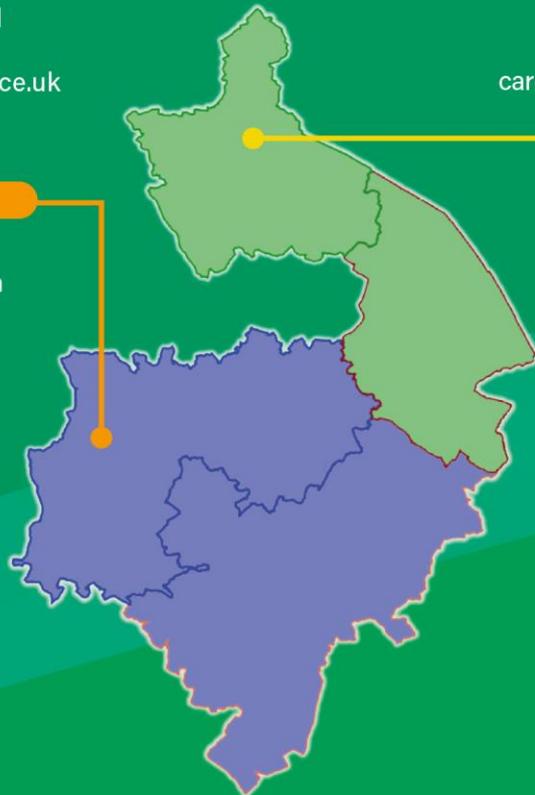
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We are pleased to welcome Sergeant Jack Pritchard to our team following the retirement of Sergeant Rawson.

Sgt Pritchard previously worked in West Midlands Police for 4 years as a Police Constable in Birmingham City Centre before transferring to Warwickshire Police in 2018. In 2019 he was promoted to Sergeant, where he has worked in Response Policing and Operations for the last four years. Jack has lived in Warwickshire his whole life and worked all over the county.

Sergeant Pritchard said: "I'm looking forward to joining the Rural Crime Team and the chance to build on the good work the team has achieved over the last four years. I've always been an advocate for proactive policing through disrupting those causing the most harm to our victims and working with our partners to prevent and reduce rural crime. With the Pandemic becoming a distant memory I'm keen to build on our engagement with our stakeholders through increased visibility and build on the trust and confidence throughout the rural community."

VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT/TOOLS

TWO ARRESTED AND £80,000 OF PLANT MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT RECOVERED



The Team, with officers from Alcester and force dog handlers attended 2 locations in the Cleeve Prior area and Evesham area in connection with a recent theft in Bidford. The location had been targeted multiple times with a number of high value thefts.

Two males were arrested, with a 34 year old remanded in custody and sentenced to 14 weeks imprisonment for theft – other including theft by finding and 8 weeks for committing an offence while a community order was in force. He was also handed a four-week sentence for criminal damage to property valued under £5,000, which will be served concurrently.

VEHICLE/TOOLS

Stolen Caravan Recovered



Our team, with officers from patrol, recovered a stolen caravan from a location in Ryton on Dunsmore. The caravan, which was only six weeks old had been taken from an address in Warwickshire.

Stolen Van Recovered

Following information received from a member of the public, the team attended a location in the Rugby area and recovered a stolen van. Unfortunately there was no one with the vehicle.



Overweight Vehicle Stopped



Whilst patrolling, our officers came across this Ford Transit Tipper. Upon checking the vehicle it was found to be 2 tonnes over the maximum 3.5 tonne weight. The vehicle was emptied and the driver and company summonsed to court.

OFF ROAD VEHICLES

Arrest Made and Stolen Bikes Recovered

Following reports of nuisance motorbikes riding around the rural areas near Piccadilly, North Warwickshire, the team spent an evening patrolling the village and the nearby farmland that had experienced similar problems. As the light was fading, one of our team spotted a grey Yamaha being ridden erratically, the rider then failed to stop for officers before heading back into the village. During a search of the locality one male tried to run away and hide in a bush, but was spotted and arrested on suspicion of theft. Whilst the male was detained at the scene our officers conducted a detailed search of the area and located two stolen motorbikes which were subsequently recovered.



HERITAGE



Sadly we have recently had reports of offenders spraying graffiti on the historic outer walls of Kenilworth Castle. If you recognise the tags and can provide any information as to who may have committed this crime please let us know by either reporting it on 101 or online at www.warwickshire.police.uk, alternatively you can email ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.police.uk or contact the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

WILDLIFE

Operation Gallileo Update



Three males appeared in Court, the first to be charged in Warwickshire under the new laws to tackle illegal hare coursing. Each male was disqualified for owning or keeping dogs for 5 years, received fines of between £120 and £275, victim fines of between £48 and £110, ordered to pay compensation (for reimbursement of kennel fees) of £2,085, plus the 3 lurcher dogs owned by the men which were seized at the time of the arrest will now be rehomed.

Operation Easter

WARNING!

OPERATION EASTER

Tackling Wild Bird Egg and Chick Theft



Now until late May, nests may be raided for eggs by collectors or for chicks for the illegal trade. Report anyone acting suspiciously around a nest to police immediately. Get a description/photo & vehicle registration if safe to do so.

CALL YOUR LOCAL POLICE
101 IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999

SOME BIRDS NEVER GET THE CHANCE TO FLY THE NEST



Warwickshire Police is joining other forces around the UK on Operation Easter. The taking of wild bird eggs and chicks is a serious crime yet remains an illicit hobby for some individuals. Whole clutches of eggs can be taken from some of the UK's rarest birds with a potentially devastating impact. If you have any information on egg thieves, those who disturb rare nesting birds without a licence or anyone acting suspiciously around nesting birds please report to the police or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

EQUINE

Warwickshire Horse Watch is a partnership scheme between the police and horse owners in and around our county. The scheme has just launched a new website www.warwickshirehorsetwatches.co.uk, funded by a grant from the Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner and provides lots of advice and information, plus alerts to incidents around the county. Warwickshire Horse Watch links in with our team and works closely with us, including attending relevant events, tack marking, trailer stickers, gate signs and raising the awareness of road safety for horse riders and carriage drivers. They also have a Facebook page and link in with our own posts – well worth following if you have a horse or equine interests.



ENGAGEMENT

The team have been busy attending a number of events around the county taking the opportunity to provide advice on crime prevention and information on our team and the areas of rural crime that we cover. Recent events include a presentation to Brandon and Wolston Young Farmers and attending Hoar Park in North Warwickshire.



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.horsewatch.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