

Rural Matters



Rural policing in Kent – a magazine for residents and businesses

Winter 2018



In this issue:



**Kent
Police**



Wildlife investigation



Poaching update



Hare coursing action

Plus the latest news on rural and environmental policing in Kent

Welcome to Rural Matters

Welcome to Rural Matters. See inside for the latest on the Kent Police rural team. There are now more officers countywide dedicated to tackling and preventing crime. We report on action against poachers and hare coursers; wildlife crime and how to protect property in darker winter months. We've the latest news on the Rural Liaison Team – officers there to protect and support Kent's rural communities.

Team Leader



Inspector
Dave Smith
07800 675376

Rural Sergeant



Sergeant
Darren Walshaw
07870 252185

North Division – 07528 989095

- PC Darren Reed
- PC Paul Williams
- PC Adrian Goodsall
- PC Nathan Southern



West Division – 07580 236308

- PC Marc Pennicott
- PC Tom Smith
- PC Nick Lingham
- PC Anna Verrall

East Division – 07980 978202

- PC Dan Perry
- PC Tim Moody
- PC Harry Callaghan
- PC Michael Sutton

More rural contact information, see back page.

Report non-urgent crime online



Go to www.kent.police.uk/report



Report a crime, incident or non-injury collision in minutes



Receive your confirmation email and reference number immediately

To remain anonymous contact Kent Crimestoppers online or call **0800 555 111**.



Your rural PCs are also on Twitter!

The rural team regularly Tweets updates on what they've been doing and any live incidents.

Follow [@kentpolicerural](https://twitter.com/kentpolicerural) for the latest news and information.



Latest news



Criminal Behaviour Orders strengthen action against poachers

Rural officers are using Criminal Behaviour Orders for the first time to act against poachers and hare coursers.

Those issued with them could face jail if they breach the terms of the order.

Two Canterbury men, aged 32 and 43, were given Criminal Behaviour Orders when they appeared at Folkestone Magistrates Court on 22 October.

This followed an earlier hearing when they were convicted of poaching. One man was fined £400, ordered to pay a £40 victim surcharge and a destruction order was made against his dog. The other was given a conditional discharge. Both were ordered to pay costs of £620 and £640 respectively.

The rural team then applied for Criminal Behaviour Orders to prevent re-offending.

This means if the men are seen trespassing on land with dogs anywhere in Kent police don't have to prove they are hare coursing and can take action. Anyone breaching the terms of the order faces a prison sentence.

The use of the legislation is recognised as good practice nationally.

Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw, said: 'Hare coursing is a complex crime to



prove and it's difficult to secure the required evidence to support convictions. By using Criminal Behaviour Orders we can tackle the issue more effectively.

'Hare coursing is organised criminality, it is not a case of someone taking a rabbit for the pot. Those involved in the offence damage property, kill livestock and are often reported to

behave violently when challenged by land owners. Those living in the rural community have a right to do so without fear and we will continue to use all the powers available to us and work with local people to target those involved in poaching and hare coursing.' Local communities get involved in major operation, see [page 7](#).

Stolen statue of famous greyhound – can you help?

The owners of this distinctive bronze statue of champion racing greyhound Ballyregan Bob are desperate for its return.

The statue – 130cm long and 75cm high – was reported stolen overnight between Tuesday 13 November and Wednesday 14 November from the front lawn of a property in Godmersham, just off the junction with the A28 Canterbury Road.

Due to its weight it would have to have been dragged or needed at least two people to carry it. Rural PC Dan Perry said: 'The statue has great sentimental value and the owner is appealing for anyone with any information to get in touch with us in



the hope it can be returned safely.' The bronze was sculpted by James Osborne, whose commissions also include one of the Queen's racehorses. Ballyregan Bob was famous for breaking the world record for consecutive

race wins in the 1980s. Anyone with information should contact the rural team quoting reference 46/4976/18 or call independent charity Crimestoppers in Kent anonymously on 0800 555 111.



New officers join bigger rural team

Kent Police is supporting its commitment to tackling crime in the countryside with the appointment of new rural liaison officers – doubling the size of the dedicated team.

It is now made up of 12 PCs – headed by an inspector, sergeant and rural crime coordinator.

Meet the new team, see [next page](#).



Meet the new faces on the rural team

Kent Police rural officers work closely with farmers, local community groups, and partner agencies to protect the countryside, combat crime and keep people and property safe.

There are now four officers working across each of the three county divisions, joining existing members of the team already known to the rural community.

The new officers are the result of a major recruitment drive and investment in resources by Kent Police.

The Rural Liaison Team is now made up of 12 PCs – headed by an inspector, sergeant and rural crime co-ordinator.

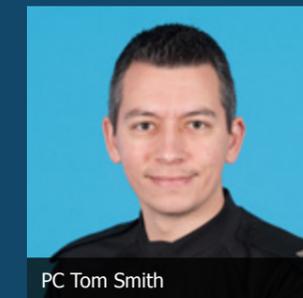
They will tackle crime affecting the rural environment – such as farm equipment and vehicle theft; rogue traders; hare coursing; poaching; wildlife, environmental and heritage crime – and work alongside other local policing and specialist teams to combat organised crime activity. Extra funding was agreed by Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott to take on an extra 200 officers countywide – funded by an increase in the council tax precept, raising an average Band D property's bill by £1 a month.

West Division – 07580 236308

Exciting time to be joining the team – PC Smith has worked in response and neighbourhood teams. He's been with Kent Police since 2009

He said: 'I joined Kent Police as a constable in 2009 and have worked in both response and neighbourhood policing roles. I've spent the majority of my career working in West Division, which is a largely rural division.'

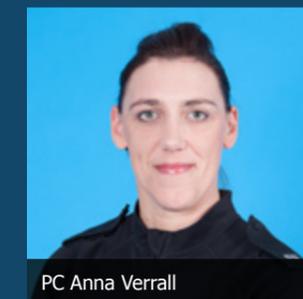
This has provided me with a good background in dealing with a wide variety of rural crime types. I wanted to join the Rural Liaison Team as I am passionate about policing rural communities and wanted to specialise in this area of work. It is an exciting time to be joining the team with it recently being doubled in strength. The existing team has already proven itself to be highly effective.'



PC Tom Smith

Horse loving PC brings response skills to rural role – PC Verrall has been working with response teams targeting criminals. She's been with Kent Police for 15 years

She said: 'I've split my career working on the response teams in Maidstone and the Divisional Support Unit for West Kent. Being a horse owner for 30 years gets me spending a lot of time in the countryside around the North Downs, where I've seen the impact rural crime has on equestrian and farming communities. I'm looking forward to building a rapport with those who live and work in Kent's rural areas. With eight years on the Divisional Support Unit, I'm able to bring my tactical knowledge and skills to the role in proactively targeting criminals and organised crime groups which harm rural communities.'



PC Anna Verrall

North Division – 07528 989095

A passion for building community relationships – PC Southern joined Kent Police in 2013. He started as a Police Community Support Officer in Eastchurch, Leysdown and Warden.

He said: 'In my first year, I spent months building relationships with local communities, stakeholders, business owners and parish councils. I quickly realised the detrimental effect of anti-social behaviour on the local community. Using my relationships with local business partners and parish councils I gained funding to start football training sessions for young people run by Charlton Athletic Football Club, resulting in a decrease in anti-social behaviour in Leysdown. I am incredibly proud of this initiative.'

In May 2015, I started as a police constable at Medway, returning to Swale on the Local Policing Team. I've dealt with rural issues and actively target organised crime groups. I'm looking forward to working with colleagues to deliver a positive rural policing approach.'

Rural roots give personal perspective – PC Williams has been working as a response officer at Swale. He joined Kent Police in 2003.

He said: 'I enjoyed my time as a response officer but often found myself patrolling around the rural lanes. I soon discovered a passion for rural policing which comes from childhood roots. I was raised on a farm and experienced the impact of crime on rural communities. In 2008 I joined Faversham rural neighbourhood team, learning the key to success was being visible, accessible and approachable. This encouraged the flow of vital information resulting in numerous arrests and prosecutions. Later with the Community Safety Unit I worked with partner agencies protecting vulnerable people and targeting offenders. I was trained in the effective use of new powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour and Policing Act 2014. I hope to bring this experience to the team. We'll strive to obtain Criminal Behaviour Orders on all prosecutions for poaching and illegal hunting.'

Animal loving PC works closely with farming community – PC 'Ade' Goodsall first joined Kent Police as a special constable.

He said: 'I started as a special constable in 1998 to see if the role suited me. It ticked all the boxes for meeting different people and dealing with different situations on a daily basis but mostly for helping people and keeping them safe. I became a full time police officer in June 2002, working in Swale, always on a proactive team. I'm married with three girls, four horses, two dogs, one cat and two guinea pigs so have a love for animals too. Working with the island neighbourhood team covering the Isle of Sheppey, I developed a close working relationship with local farmers. I learned so much about wildlife, machinery, the lay of the land and their day to day business.'



PC Nathan Southern



PC Paul Williams



PC Adrian Goodsall

East Division – 07980 978202

Farming in the family for new rural PC – PC Moody has been with Kent Police for 18 years.

He said: 'I joined the team in September 2018 with 18 years policing experience across the West and East of the county. Ten years of this was spent at Cranbrook, dealing with all aspects of rural policing.'

I am from a farming background, my father having recently retired after 50 years of livestock and arable farming, so I have a good understanding of the issues that cause concerns within the rural community. I am committed to providing a first class service to the people of Kent, and look forward to the challenges ahead with the Rural Liaison Team.'



PC Tim Moody

Range of skills and real interest in the countryside – PC Sutton started as a Police Community Support Officer. He became a police officer a year later.

He said: 'After working with the Vulnerable Investigation Team as a domestic abuse investigator, I hope to bring diverse skills to the rural team. I've worked for Kent Police for five years, as a PCSO in 2013 covering Pluckley, Smarden and High Halden and from 2014 as a police officer in Thanet, Canterbury and Medway, including frontline and investigation roles. Previously I've worked in rural industries, as an assistant game keeper and at nature reserves. I achieved a Higher National Diploma in Countryside Management at Hadlow College and Degree in Policing at Canterbury Christchurch University. Growing up I spent time on farms and have a good understanding of rural communities. I'm passionate about policing and have a real interest in the countryside so this role brings them together.'



PC Michael Sutton



Rural Crime Coordinator helps drive action for the team

The team is supported by a Rural Crime Coordinator, due to be recruited shortly, who will work closely alongside the rural sergeant, building an intelligence picture of crimes and anti-social behaviour happening in rural locations.

They develop this to drive action by rural officers to maximise the operational capability of the team and make most effective use of available resources.

Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw said: 'The Rural Crime Coordinator maintains positive communication links with the rural community and partner agencies on a daily basis in addition to providing support and advice to other departments within Kent Police on rural related matters.'



Photo by Jonny Hedberg 2006.

Saluki puppies seized

Rural officers PCs Nick Lingham and Nathan Southern joined the RSPCA and Community Policing Team from Maidstone to execute an Animal Welfare Act warrant in Boxley.

Five Saluki breed puppies were seized in relation to suspected offences under the Animal Welfare Act.



Pheasants and ball bearings found in abandoned vehicle

Rural officers were called to investigate an abandoned vehicle in the Charing area.

The same vehicle had previously been reported in suspicious circumstances around farms in Stalisfield, Faversham and for suspected poaching offences. It had been left insecure and seven dead pheasants, ball bearings, stones and a lamp were found in the boot. The vehicle was seized as being used in crime.

Wild bird trapper in court

A man who illegally captured wild birds and kept them in cages has appeared at court.

The 39-year-old from Gravesend admitted three charges under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. He appeared at Medway Magistrates' Court and was given a 28-day curfew order between 7pm and 7am; ordered to pay £300 in costs and a £85 victim surcharge.

The Rural Task Force worked with the RSPCA to execute a search warrant at his home on 14 June following information from the RSPB. Caged wild birds were seized and officers also found rat glue and other bird trapping equipment. The man admitted trying to catch wild birds in his garden. Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw, who co-ordinated the warrant said: 'This is an excellent example of partnership



Wild birds were found in cages at a property in North Kent

working. Bird trapping is not only illegal, it is incredibly cruel. We are committed to working with our partner

agencies to put these criminals, who illegally trap birds for their own financial gain, before the court.'

Stolen dog re-united with owner three and a half years later

The rural team were delighted to help reunite a missing Jack Russell with her owners more than three years since she was reported stolen.

Despite inquiries including checking for CCTV, speaking to other forces and a poster appeal, five-year-old 'Peaches' remained untraced.

She'd been stolen in April 2015 while out on farm land in Eastchurch. But in October a notification was received that someone had attempted to re-register her.

Inquiries by the rural team led to an address in St Leonards, East Sussex. Peaches was returned to her rightful owners on 25 November. Rural PC Nathan Southern said: 'She was thrilled to be back with her family, including another



dog which recognised her after all this time. This case highlights the importance of having dogs microchipped with an accredited company and keeping the details up to date.

It also shows no case is ever fully closed, if we receive new information on an offence, we'll explore those new lines of enquiry.' The full circumstances are being investigated.

Spate of livestock attacks – dogs shot

Dog owners are being warned their animals could be shot if they are caught attacking livestock.

It follows a spate of incidents across the county which have left more than 20 sheep dead and several badly injured. Two dogs have been shot by farmers in separate incidents.

Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw, a former shepherd, said: 'I know from personal experience how emotionally disturbing these incidents are for livestock owners. They can also lead to substantial financial loss.

'We would urge dog owners to ensure their animals are kept on leads where appropriate and that they can't escape into fields and cause harm. I would encourage the use of good clear signage on the fields, especially with the presence of footpaths.'

He said despite a perception that sheep were more at risk during lambing in the spring, sheep worrying was an all year round problem.

He added: 'There seem to have been a number of incidents over a short period. Dogs running freely among a flock of sheep will always end badly. The injuries caused to



the sheep are horrendous, often fatal or the shock of it all kills them. It's the time of year when the ewes would be in the early days of pregnancy so the real financial impact may not be known to the farmer until the spring when the ewes are scanned.

'Where there may be no livestock in a field one day, the same location could be full of animals the next, so please keep dogs under control.'

Livestock attacks – your pet could be committing an offence

- Under the Animals Act 1971, a person acting to protect livestock may be able to kill or injure a dog that he/she reasonably believes is 'worrying' without incurring any criminal or civil liability.
- As a dog owner or a person for the time being in charge of a dog, you could be committing an offence if your pet worries livestock on agricultural land.
- Worrying includes attacking or chasing livestock in a way that might reasonably be expected to cause injury, suffering or loss.
- It is also an offence to have a dog in a field or enclosed space where there are sheep when the dog is not on a lead or under close control.

Recent incidents include

- Two large dogs were seen attacking sheep in a field near Stodmarsh, leaving nine dead and others injured. The sheep farmer said it was an 'horrific sight' with the whole flock, including breeding ewes, left very distressed.
- Six dead and six injured sheep reported in Meopham in a penned area of a field with a shelter. A wildlife camera was put up to capture any future evidence.
- The remains of six dead sheep reported by a farmer at Wingham. A discarded can next to the carcasses was collected to examine for evidence.
- A sheep had to be put down and one needed veterinary treatment at Doddington. The sheep owner had caught the dogs biting a sheep and provided police with photographic evidence. Forensic material was gathered and the dogs' owner contacted. The investigation continues.
- A sheep was killed and several injured, requiring stitches and antibiotics at a farm in Canterbury.
- In August in two separate incidents at a farm in Maidstone a lurcher breed dog was seen chasing and injuring sheep. The second time the same dog killed sheep and was shot by the landowner. The dog's owner has agreed to compensate him for the monetary loss.
- Nine sheep were killed on a farm near Canterbury by two dogs. The farmer identified them as those he had seen previously attacking his livestock and shot one of the dogs.
- Police were called to a farm at Headcorn after sheep worrying was reported. Investigations are continuing.



Farmers, landowners and community team up with rural officers



of the rural community) was organised to support a national day of action against rural crime. A similar operation has previously been run in Dover with further days planned countywide in future.

Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw said: 'The operation is about the rural community working with the police. At the start of the evening the people taking part are briefed by myself around safety, communication and expectations.'

The farmers and landowners are then asked to act as eyes and ears while out and about on their land, reporting anything suspicious directly to the rural team so a patrol can be sent immediately. If they come across a crime in progress they are told to report it through 999 as usual.

He added: 'The operation is about getting suspicious vehicles or people stopped. The community will know if a vehicle is local better than the officers so they act as our CCTV or Automatic Number Plate Recognition in effect. The operation offers a great



'With the increase in numbers to the rural team in Kent we are keen to send a message to those involved in theft, poaching and hare coursing that people in rural communities are working with us to stop them in their tracks'

chance to engage with the community and they see what we do first hand.

'We wanted to support the national rural policing day of action, however, the day was very much business as usual for my officers and we had some good results.

'The feedback from the rural community was overwhelmingly positive. Quite often those living in rural areas feel isolated. Our efforts have further opened the channels of communication with people who feel

vulnerable to crime, increasing the intelligence we receive and also allowing us to offer crime prevention advice.

'With the increase in numbers to the rural team in Kent we are keen to send a message to those involved in theft, poaching and hare coursing that people in rural communities are working with us to stop them in their tracks.'

During the operation; nine vehicles were stopped; a gamekeeper reported suspicious activity in a field in Ryarsh, officers responded

quickly and stopped a Jeep containing five people, with a man reported for driving offences; officers visited a number of farms around the area and issued security advice to landowners; in Hillside Road, Stalisfield a patrol was flagged down by a previous victim of poaching, officers carried out a site visit and offered crime prevention advice; two men with torches were reported breaking into the work yard next to Faversham Railway Station. Police patrols searched the area.



Teamwork was the key to an operation which saw the rural community using their local knowledge to work directly with police to help them investigate suspicious activity.

The day of action on 8 November in the Maidstone and Swale area started with

a briefing by the rural team where farmers, game keepers and landowners were given maps with grid references.

This allowed them to report back quickly to police patrols about where suspicious activity was taking place. During the shift the team

dealt with a number of incidents from suspected poaching to traffic offences.

The operation, which involved 15 officers (10 from the rural team, four from Swale Community Policing Team and one special constable and 12 members

'The operation is about getting suspicious vehicles or people stopped. The community will know if a vehicle is local better than the officers so they act as our CCTV or Automatic Number Plate Recognition in effect. The operation offers a great chance to engage with the community and they see what we do first hand'





Life saving form will help search teams find vulnerable people

Families and carers of vulnerable people who are at risk of going missing can fill in a detailed form to help police and search teams find them quicker.

The 'At Risk of Going Missing' (AROGM) form provides specific information about a person's background, which once filled in, can be immediately handed to Kent Police officers or search teams such as Kent Search and Rescue or Kent Fire and Rescue Service.

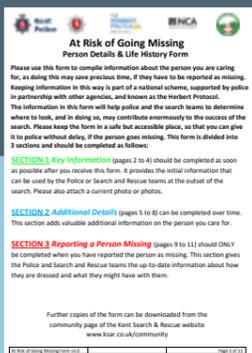
The form will quickly give them an indication of someone's mobility, preferred mode of travelling, frequently used routes, general health and relevant places they may go.

Around 10,000 people are reported missing in Kent annually, many with dementia.

The form can be downloaded from the Kent Police (search AROGM form) KSAR or Kent Fire and Rescue websites.

Completed forms should be kept in a safe but accessible place so they can be handed over quickly to searchers. They should be updated with any changes. Copies can be given to police to also store electronically.

Kent Police Community Safety Inspector Terry Newman said: 'Completing the AROGM form with their family or carers builds a great profile of the vulnerable person, and if they go missing it will help those searching find the person quicker and get them home to safety.'



Illegal fishing – 100 people checked

The rural team recently supported a national joint operation targeting offences relating to illegal fishing.

Officers worked with the Environment Agency and Fisheries Enforcement on joint patrols at Monks Lakes, Marden and Hartleylands Fishery, Cranbrook.

A total of 100 people were checked in relation to Rod Licence Evasion and provided with crime prevention advice

in relation to their equipment. Nine people were prosecuted for Rod Licence offences and will receive fines from £200.

Two people were also issued with cannabis warnings in relation to drug possession.

PC Marc Pennicott said: 'The operation is also about safety as it is known some anglers may drink while fishing or use cannabis, so the impact of them then driving home impaired is a major concern.'

Waste dumping and fly tipping – action ongoing

Rural officers have been working with environmental enforcement officers to clamp down on waste dumping and fly tipping countywide.

On 13 November two vehicles were seized as part of a crackdown on fly tipping offences in Maidstone. The day of action working with Maidstone Borough Council saw 10 vehicles stopped for checks, resulting in fines totalling £900.

In Gravesend rural officers working with Medway Council seized a Ford Transit tipper full of waste believed destined to be dumped illegally. The vehicle is linked to a man suspected of being involved in fly

tipping over the last two years. Previous joint working with Medway and Maidstone environmental enforcement officers resulted in 19 vehicles stopped carrying waste. Rural Inspector Dave Smith said: 'Fly tipping is a large scale issue which blights both rural areas and town centres. It is often the result of organised criminality that causes considerable distress. If you are paying anyone to remove waste, for example as a result of building work, always ensure you check the person is licensed to do so. Remember to report anything suspicious by calling 101 or 999 if a crime is in progress.'



Beware burglars as nights draw in

Householders are being encouraged to make life difficult for opportunist thieves who take advantage of the darker days and longer evenings.

There have recently been a number of incidents of outbuildings, vehicle, sheds and garages targeted. In the Ashford area tools and equipment have been stolen. Community Safety Unit Inspector Jason Atkinson said: 'Unfortunately the clocks going back provides thieves with a greater opportunity to commit their crimes under the cover of darkness.'

'It is a good time for people to review the security of their sheds, garages, outbuildings and vehicles and guard against the theft of tools and garden equipment.'

'Most people make sure their homes are secure but often their sheds and outbuildings are not such a high priority. Unfortunately they can provide rich pickings for thieves as they are often packed with expensive tools and machinery.'

Make life difficult for thieves

There are several ways to protect property against thieves:

- Lock garden equipment securely away and use good quality locks and shed and padlock alarms.
- Make sure security lights are working properly.
- Disable ride-on mowers and chain expensive equipment together or to secure anchor points.
- Keep an inventory of equipment.
- Keep serial numbers and receipts safe.
- Photograph and insure expensive or unique items.
- Defensive planting, which is using prickly plants on boundaries, acts as a deterrent and can help catch criminals through DNA if they are cut on the thorns.
- Invest in an alarmed padlock (a heavy duty lock that has a built-in 120 decibel alarm)
- Security-mark items including bicycles, smartphones and laptops.
- Register important items for free at www.immobolise.com. This can help police return them if they are stolen and then recovered.

Op Castle

Operation Castle, the force's annual burglary prevention campaign, was launched at the end of October to raise awareness about home security and encourage the public to take extra measures to protect their property over the winter months.

Detective Superintendent Jon Armory said: 'Preventing burglaries and bringing offenders to justice is a top priority throughout the year for Kent Police. However, we have historically seen an increase in reports during the weeks between Halloween and Christmas. Most burglaries are opportunistic and often just by making your home look occupied by using time switches on lights is enough to prevent a burglar targeting a property.'



Recent incidents:

- Two men disturbed attempting to break into a garage in **Smarden Bell Road**, Smarden. They'd put aside a leaf blower and a bike ready to take.
- A lawnmower stolen from the garage of a house in **Standard Lane**, Bethersden. A silver Ford was seen nearby.
- A man was seen acting suspiciously in Newington. He'd been going into a garden and taking items from a shed before moving onto a neighbouring property. He was arrested and charged with two burglary offences and bailed to attend court.

Investigation into non-native amphibians

The rural team are trained to investigate wildlife offences – whether dealing with native or non-native species.

Rural officers recently executed a warrant alongside the RSPCA, UK Border Agency and the Animal and Plant Health Agency in the east of the county under the Wildlife and Countryside Act – where more than 200 tanks and holding receptacles were found housing various species of amphibians.

An RSPCA investigation under the Animal Welfare Act and a Kent Police investigation relating to non-native and endangered species is ongoing.



Partnerships

Working with partners to protect rural communities



The team use their expertise to support Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams, PCSOs or core response officers. The team are all fully trained Wildlife Crime Officers.

Kent Police – rural [@kentpolicerural](#)

Found in [#Hollingbourne](#). Identity established and was known to us for Anti-social Vehicle Nuisance & suspected hare coursing in [#Doddington](#). looks like it became too hot for them to handle [#ruralcrime](#)



Remember to
follow the team on Twitter:
[@KentPoliceRural](#)



Key partners working with Kent Police to keep rural communities safe

CRAG – Crime Rural Advisory Group

CRAG, formed in 2012, brings together main rural stakeholders, including the National Farmers Union and Country Land & Business Association – representing a large percentage of land occupancy countywide. They bring their own insights to CRAG to help keep Kent Police informed on ever-changing issues in rural Kent.

[www.btfpartnership.co.uk](#) email: michael.bax@btfpartnership.co.uk phone: **Michael Bax 01233 740077**

Kent Association of Local Councils

KALC is a not for profit membership organisation serving member parish and town councils and parish meetings in Kent and Medway. It offers training, advice and services to member councils. KALC works with rural officers to disseminate information on their behalf, and to gather crime information from towns and parishes.

[www.kentalc.gov.uk](#) email: kalc@kentalc.gov.uk phone: **01304 820173**

National Farmers Union

The NFU champions British farming and provides professional representation and services to its farmer and grower members. Around 70 per cent of full time farmers are NFU members. They aim to support Kent Police to engage with members' extensive local knowledge, working in partnership with CRAG and other stake holder organisations.

[www.nfonline.com](#) email: isobel.bretherton@nfu.org.uk phone: **01730 711950**

Kent Fire and Rescue Service

Kent Fire and Rescue Service is responsible for delivering fire and rescue services to more than 1.7 million people. Each year fire officers deal with around 16,500 incidents including road crashes, house and barn fires and more than 2,400 non-fire rescues. KFRS works with the Kent Police, NFU, and CRAG to provide safety and risk reduction advice to support the agricultural business community.

[www.kent.fire-uk.org](#) email: enquiries@kentfire-uk.org phone: **01622 692121**

Historic England

Historic England is a public body which looks after England's historic environment. There are over 400,000 protected sites and buildings in England and Historic England works across a range of partnership to prevent the loss and damage to our shared cultural heritage. Former Kent police officer Mark Harrison advises the organisation and works closely with rural officers and CRAG.

[www.historicengland.org.uk](#) email: southeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk phone: **01483 252020**

