



PC Lingham deployed to a report of a sus vehicle. Attended the location and found said vehicle that was linked to Farm thefts. Vehicle seized as Use in Crime.



RTF attended a site in the Orpington area. A blue Subaru then drove further onto the site and when it rounded a corner made off at speed. The following items suspected to be used for going equipped were in the vehicle; Fire extinguisher, house brick, tow ropes, bolt croppers, claw hammers, socket set, pliers. The following suspected stolen items were in the vehicle; Orange Stahl Kraft ST-CT5200 chain saw, Wormwood blue and white golf bag containing 13 bespoke crafted golf clubs. All of these items were seized.

RTF came across a metallic Blue Suzuki Swift parked protruding into the road. A Landrover spare wheel covering could be seen on the back seats. Whilst looking at the vehicle PC Lingham heard a noise up the road and investigated. A resident came out and reporting that his LandRover and garage door had been interfered with. A Dog Unit and Air Support was requested. Chassis checks confirmed the vehicle was stolen. H2H enquiries established CCTV and shows 3x offenders making off up the road approximately 30 seconds ahead of PC Lingham. Vehicle seized.



PC Goodsall deployed Drone at a Site near to Sittingbourne and located a stolen Transit Van in woodland and a suspected stolen red quad. Also located 4 burnt out vehicles in the location left in situ awaiting vehicle examiners visit.



RTF officers attended location near to Sittingbourne where stolen property being stored in barn. They located a White Ford Transit. Checks conducted on the VIN and established the van as outstanding stolen van from London. Vehicle recovered.



RTF received call regarding a Kawasaki Mule ATV appearing on the driveway at Hever. Attended and secured the vehicle and established it was stolen from Surrey policing area approximately 2 weeks ago. Owner contacted and attended to recover



Green Land Rover Defender was located by RTF officers outside an address at Edenbridge. Concerns over identity of vehicle and recovered for vehicle examination.



RTF Officers attended the A2 Boughton bypass, where a Hungarian lorry driver had reported the theft of 1200 litres of diesel overnight from his tractor unit.



RTF responded to an ANPR activation on a Peugeot Boxer van. This vehicle is a suspect for fuel thefts from parked lorries. The vehicle was stopped and occupants were arrested for Going Equipped offences as the rear of the vehicle had empty fuel cans. Checks showed the vehicle to be running on false plates. RTF officers then attended a site at Fordwich, where two more vehicles linked to the same series of offences, a Citroen Picasso and a Volkswagen Passat that contained numerous fuel cans of diesel and syphoning equipment were seized. . Two arrests were made.





RTF saw a moped being ridden along A28, Hersden with two males on it. Neither was wearing a crash helmet and the moped had no index on it. The Moped then attempted to make off by going the wrong way around a roundabout and onto an industrial estate. The moped was stopped. Moped and persons searched. Under the seat of the moped was a small fixed blade knife. One of the stopped males was in possession of a small amount of herbal cannabis and there was a box of beer under the seat. VIN located and the moped was confirmed stolen from Canterbury between 24/11-25/11/19B. Both males were arrested for Theft of motor vehicle and possession of a bladed article and theft of alcohol. The driver was also arrested for possession of cannabis.



RTF Officers have been investigating a theft of a Quad Bike at Edenbridge that led to suspect white Ford Transit being identified and then seized for examination.



RTF Officers dealt with a theft of a motorcycle from St Peters Road, Broadstairs. The theft was witnessed by plain clothes officers. Three males were arrested with the stolen Suzuki 650cc motorcycle was still in the rear of the van. The suspects were also arrested for an outstanding metal theft.



RTF Officers deployed to a report of a found stolen Ford Transit van at the rear of a Social Club, Gravesend. Vehicle was located in a locked displaying a different index. Checks conducted at site identified the owner of the compound who attended site. Lock up was opened by and VIN confirmed to be outstanding stolen vehicle. Owner of lock up arrested for Handling Stolen goods and vehicle recovered.



RTF stopped a vehicle that was brought to officers' attention by member of the public and suspected to be involved in squatting at nearby address. A male in the vehicle was wanted on a No bail warrant. Further information at the address established same male had stolen property from address so he was also arrested on suspicion of burglary.

Officers located a stolen Amazon Delivery van at Orgington. No offenders with the vehicle that was recovered.



Cloned White Renault Megane, index triggered ANPR in Maidstone. Vehicle spotted and subsequently failed to stop and was lost. Vehicle subsequently found abandoned. Checks on VIN established true identity to be a vehicle that was stolen. Vehicle recovered for full forensic investigation as bolt croppers located in vehicle.



RTF did some research work around a green Mitsubishi Shogun 4x4 was disturbed attempting to steal a caravan from a Farm at Higham and the possibility of it using a cloned number plate. This identified a number of vehicles using this index plate. One of these vehicles, a Peugeot 407, was spotted by patrols and made off. Subsequently stopped and driver arrested for Fail to Stop and Theft of Motor vehicle. Enquiries on-going to ID all vehicles.



Two further vehicles seized as suspected stolen/used in crime for a full forensic examination and Vehicle Examination.



## Op Galileo/Poaching

RTF Officers stopped a Suzuki Vitara following a report it was involved in hare coursing. Searches carried out on stopped persons and vehicles. Vehicle was checked and found to have no tax, so was subsequently seized.



RTF Officers located a LR Discovery involved in criminal damage to a fence and hare coursing. Vehicle located with assistance of Victim in a cul-de-sac in Ditton. Vehicle seized as used in crime



RTF responded to a call from a farmer at Wye of vehicle lamping and causing damage. The occupants of this vehicle subsequently fired a projectile at the tractor window, smashing two of the panes. The farmer was not in the tractor at the time. The suspect vehicle was described as a maroon Mitsubishi Shogun. Despite numerous patrols in the area, the vehicle was not located.



Call from a Farmer at Hoo reporting poaching in progress. Staff had spooked suspect who made off on foot. 16 deceased pheasants located in two bags at the location.



RTF contacted by local Game Keeper at Petts Bottom, regarding a vehicle stuck in a field. When officers attended they intercepted a second vehicle that arrived with four males inside who had come to retrieve stuck LandRover. Vehicle stopped and seized for no insurance and driver arrested against outstanding warrant.



PC Williams identified two suspects hare coursing at High Halstow following a report from a witness that saw the two suspects. The suspects were located on the site and were arrested for offences under the Hunting Act and Game Act. Both suspects interviewed in custody and admitted to being the persons in the photographs but denied committing any offences. Following a review of the evidence it was established that there was in sufficient evidence to pursue a case to Court. Therefore both suspects were each served with a CPW for trespassing with dogs. Following CPW requirements are :-

- i) You must not trespass on any land in Kent with a dog.
- ii) You must not be in the company of any person trespassing on land in Kent with a dog.



Call to Burmarsh, following a report of males with Lurchers suspected to be about to Hare Course down on the Romney Marsh. Known hare Coursers vehicle was located in the area. Officers deployed drone. They located the males in the field with the drone and footage has been recorded of them trespassing but no evidence of coursing. Males were warned about trespassing and evidence obtained towards CPW case.



# Wildlife

RTF Officers responded to an allegation of badger disturbance at Swingfield. There are two burrows large enough to form a sett, however, these are overgrown and full of debris, and do not appear in use.



RTF dealing with a report of Theft of Moss from a SSSI site in Chilham. Suspect caught on camera. Images obtained and will be circulated and crime report to be created.

RTF contacted Forestry Commission raising concerns at a Fishing Complex who have applied for a felling licence and want to convert an area of wet woodland, where European protected species could be present, back into a fishing lake. RTF will monitor.

RTF investigating report of badger baiting at Newington. Hole had been covered up by a wooden door and then metal mesh covered ground to prevent anything from digging up.



RTF received calls from residents in the Cranbrook area regarding a byway destruction. Officers spoke to KCC officer who are doing a site visit soon. Residents concerned over habitat destruction. Enquiries are on-going.

## Animal Welfare

RTF investigated a report of a dog having been killed. He attended the location with RSPCA and an inspection of the dog, its kennelling and conditions were conducted.

RTF dealt with a report that a member of the public handed in to the local vets what suspected to be a dog skin. Sent images to BASC to see if this is Deer skin and linked to roadside butchery. Investigation on-going.



RTF contacted reference a concern call regarding the illegal importation of tortoises. A family holidaying in Morocco have allegedly brought home live animals in their hand luggage. A live baby tortoise was seized from the address. From the following investigation 2 other addresses were visited and 2 more tortoises seized. RTF are linking in with CITES Team to build possible criminal case.



RTF received information that a stolen dog from South Yorkshire was at a location in the Staplehurst area. A Search Warrant was obtained and executed by RTF Officers and despite an extensive search the dog was not located.

RTF conducted a joint Visit to an address in Chatham with RSPCA investigating a report of a male at the address hitting a cat 15 times, throwing a deodorant can at the cat and then holding a knife to its neck. Investigation on-going.

# Livestock

RTF dealt with a report from a Farm at Ruckinge where one ewe was killed and a further 4 injured. The deceased sheep has been swabbed, and RTF Team will attend suspected dog owner to try to get the dogs swabbed.

Report of livestock worrying incident at Mersham. Suspected to be local dog walkers. Local appeal on social media, however there was no opportunity to swab the bite areas as the victim had already cleaned and treated sheep.

RTF deployed to a Livestock worrying incident at Tonbridge. No apparent injuries could be found. Sheep owner located. The dog walker responsible has been contacted and arrangements made for her to be seen by RTF Officers.



Livestock worrying at Coldred. The Informant contact Police to report a number of sheep injured. The dog owner had also contacted the RTF. Both parties were met with and matter resolved through Community resolution.

Attended a sheep attack in Staplehurst area. 12 sheep were dead and 5 injured. Two dogs were sighted in the field at the time of the attack. Dogs suspected to be involved: 1 all black bull terrier x lurcher dog which had sheep wool in its mouth 1- tan coloured saluki/lurcher dog with a white tip to the tail. The black dog was sighted running to a location. Swabs taken of the dead sheep. A site visit planned where the dogs are suspected to have come from, investigation continues.



Report of a livestock worrying report at a farm in the Charing area. The farmer has now lost 4 sheep in the attack by two GSD dogs. He witnessed the dog owner pull one of the animals off a sheep. Dog Owner left in vehicle. He shot at one of the dogs, and believes he hit it. Swabs taken from two of the deceased sheep. Enquiries on-going with vehicle owner.

RTF were contacted by a Farmer in the Tonbridge area reporting a sheep worrying incident involving a dog that had previously been investigated by the RTF. This will be the 5th attack by the same dog. Prosecution case file being completed.

Contact from Farmer at Lydden reporting when moving the flock, three dogs burst through the hedge and began to attack the flock in front of him. Owner shot one dog dead at the scene and the other two ran away. Following them, the dogs were located several fields away with two males, and other dogs. Details obtained and passed to RTF. Enquiries are ongoing. No livestock were injured/killed.



## Heritage

Vehicle stopped along the Newnham Valley Road. On searching the vehicle metal detecting equipment was found in the boot with items that appeared to have been recently been dug from the ground. This material was seized. The male was interviewed and fully admitted the theft of material from the land that he had located whilst trespassing on land and using his metal detecting equipment. The male was given a Formal Police Caution.

## Op Assist

Report of fly-tipping In Nepicar Lane, Wrotham. Location attended and Fly-tip found. The road was currently closed due to a previous fly-tipping so no need for police to remain.



RTF Officers were engaged in joint operation with Local Authority Enforcement Teams targeting rouge waste carriers and fly-tippers on the

12<sup>th</sup> November - Thanet

15<sup>th</sup> November – Swale/Maidstone.

27<sup>th</sup> November - Folkestone and Shepway

12<sup>th</sup> December – Thanet

14<sup>th</sup> December - Maidstone



RTF stopped a van that activated ANPR camera as of interest to RTF. Vehicle was carrying scrap metal. Vehicle untaxed and seized



## Community Engagement

Insp Smith gave a Presentation World Horse Welfare Conference. This was a high profile event attended by HRH the Princess Royal and was streamed live to an extended audience. The Conference took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> November at the Royal Geographical Society. Insp Smith gave a presentation on the Policing of Equine related matters not only as the National Lead through the National Equine Crime Priority Group but also from the perspective of policing equine incidents in Kent.



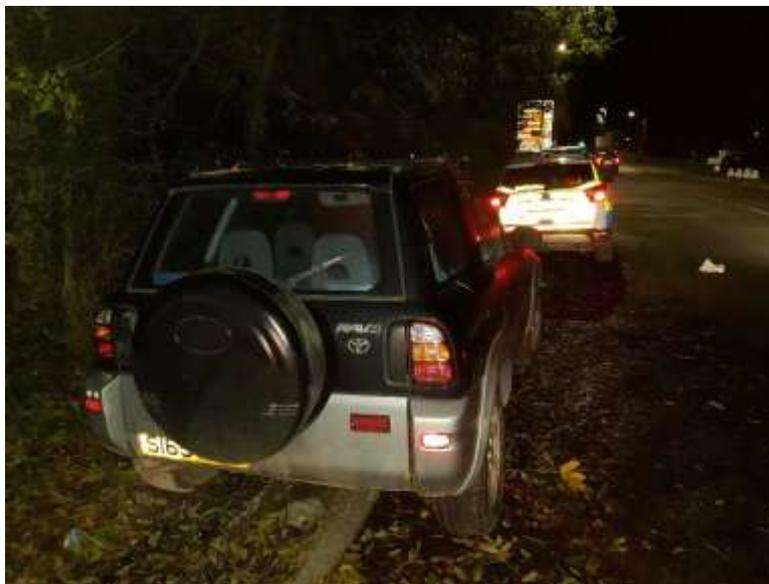
## Other Business

RTF Officers deployed to Tunbridge Wells Rural to assist on Operation Quick to combat rural crime.



RTF officers assisted Local Policing Team/SECAMB with a violent male at Old Wives Lees. The male had suffered a stroke whilst at work on the farm, and had become violent towards ambulance staff. The male was safely restrained and taken to hospital for treatment.

Vehicle located by Pc Moody/Pc Williams on the A251, Ashford Road, Faversham. Vehicle has been untaxed since July 2018. Vehicle has been seized.



RTF observed two vehicles seen racing in convoy. Vehicles and occupants searched and Driver attending police station to be interviewed for Dangerous driving offences.



RTF Officers stopped a Slovakian registered BMW 520D. The vehicle had been imported 4 months ago, and was displaying Slovakian licence plates, but the driver was a UK resident for over 10 years. Vehicle seized and driver reported for offences.



RTF Officers stopped white van at Brenley Lane Boughton under Blean. Vehicle had not been taxed for some time so it was seized for DVLA offences. Driver reported for offences.



RTF Officers received a report of a suspicious vehicle at Bridge, Canterbury. They attended and the vehicle has been seized for No Tax offences.



RTF carried out a stop check of a black Land Rover Freelander. Vehicle smelt strongly of cannabis. Vehicle searched and small amount of herbal cannabis found in the glove box seized and booked in for destruction. Vehicle seized for no tax.



RTF stopped a Silver Ford Transit. In the rear of the van was scrap metal including cannabis cultivation equipment, which included a humidifier and ducting pipework. did not hold a waste carriers licence. Vehicle was untaxed since August 2019 and was seized



Injury RTC on the A259 at Brookland between two HGV vehicles. One driver was taken to hospital with injuries to his legs after being cut from his cab. RTF dealt with the incident.



RTF responded to report from a lorry driver that he had heard banging coming from the back of another lorry which has a refrigerated trailer. Located the lorry on the A2. Driver opened the doors and 8 males were found in the back, one had lost consciousness due to breathing difficulties. Oxygen was administered. Driver arrested and 8 males taken to Dover Immigration Centre.

RTF responded to ANPR activation of vehicle involved in shoplifting at Tonbridge on 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Vehicle stopped. Driver identified and details obtained for OIC of theft investigation. Vehicle seized for no tax.



The RTF work hard to ensure that horses found on the highway are safely recovered and kept until the owner is located or comes forward. To ensure that this is done efficiently the RTF work towards an agreed Policy that ensures there is a consistent approach. There are costs levied against the owner if they come forward to get their horses returned. These costs are only a fraction of the costs incurred by Kent Police but there is a responsibility for the owners to contribute towards costs from the public purse. The offence against that horses are recovered is Section 155 of the Highways Act 1980. To assist with the initial actions at the scene of a reported horse on the highway horse owners are reminded that they should have their horses' micro chipped against the current owner details. PC Williams recently arranged for the return of these 5 horses to an owner.



## **Court Results of note**

The Op Almond was a joint investigation with the RSPCA and Kent Police Rural task Force. In partnership 3 search warrants were executed, the case was heard at Medway Magistrates Court with a three day trial.

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/maidstone/news/man-who-repeatedly-stabbed-deer-jailed-along-with-horse-owner-219930/>

Jimmy Price was convicted of causing unnecessary suffering to a horse and failing to meet the welfare needs of two dogs. At an earlier trial in December he had also been convicted of four offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2006, Deer Act 1991 and Hunting Act 2004 for offences of using dogs on hares, deer and for stabbing a deer.

He was sentenced on Friday 10th January, for all offences and was sent to prison for 225 days, disqualified from keeping dogs for five years and ordered to pay £5,000 in costs and a victim surcharge of £115.

The court also ordered a deprivation order on the horse and two dogs.

Danny Price had pleaded guilty at the start of the trial to an offence of causing unnecessary suffering to a horse which was found dead. Three S9 Animal Welfare Act offences were dropped as these horses had been signed over.

He was sentenced to a 12 month community order, 150 hours unpaid work and 10 rehabilitation days and ordered to pay £1,500 costs and an £85 victim surcharge.

Samuel Powell was convicted of two offences of causing unnecessary suffering to a horse in January 2018 by failing to address its poor body condition and weight loss and failing to provide veterinary care for a respiratory infection and a further offence of failing to meet the welfare needs in relation to another horse for failing to provide adequate nutrition or parasitic control and the need for a suitable diet.

He was also convicted of causing unnecessary suffering to two horses in March 2018 by failing to investigate the cause of their poor body condition and weight loss. He was convicted of a further offence of causing unnecessary suffering to a pony by failing to provide prompt veterinary care in respect of a wound caused by the animal's head collar. He was sentenced to 26 weeks in custody disqualified from keeping any equines for five years and ordered to pay £5,000 costs.

He was also sentenced for two other offences which he was convicted of at Carlisle Magistrates court for causing unnecessary suffering to a foal by unreasonably working the foal when it was too young to be worked leading to the animal to become lame and suffering extreme pain and for failing to provide veterinary attention in respect of a respiratory disease. The incident involving the foal pulling a cart with people happened in June last year at the Appleby Horse Fair,

RTF assisted with an investigation relating to Criminal Damage caused on the 23/01/19 whilst the suspect was suspected to have been involved in poaching in the Sevenoaks area. PC Pennicott attended the Court to support an application for a Community Behaviour Order against the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Following the successful conviction of the criminal damage charge the Court agreed to impose the following conditions on the suspect, a Billy Nelson Smith b 25/11/86. This is a good example of the RTF use of Anti-Social Behaviour legalisation to combat the criminal activity of prolific offenders.

Community Order 12mths

Curfew 6 weeks 6pm - 6am & tag (includes curtilage of property) - (ends 21.11.2019 @ 6am)

Rehabilitation Activity Requirement 10 sessions

Comp £2000 to Chevening Estate

Costs £310

s/c £85

CBO 3 years - The defendant must not 1.Trespass on any land in Kent whilst in possession of a catapult; 2.Trespass on any land in Kent whilst in company of or otherwise associating

with another person or persons who is or are in possession of a catapult & 3.Be in a vehicle that is being driven on land owned by The Chevening Estate including The Nower

Kind regards, Darren Walshaw

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