



Warwickshire Rural Crime Team Newsletter

MAY/JUNE 2024



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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COUNTYWIDE

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EAST (RUGBY DISTRICT)

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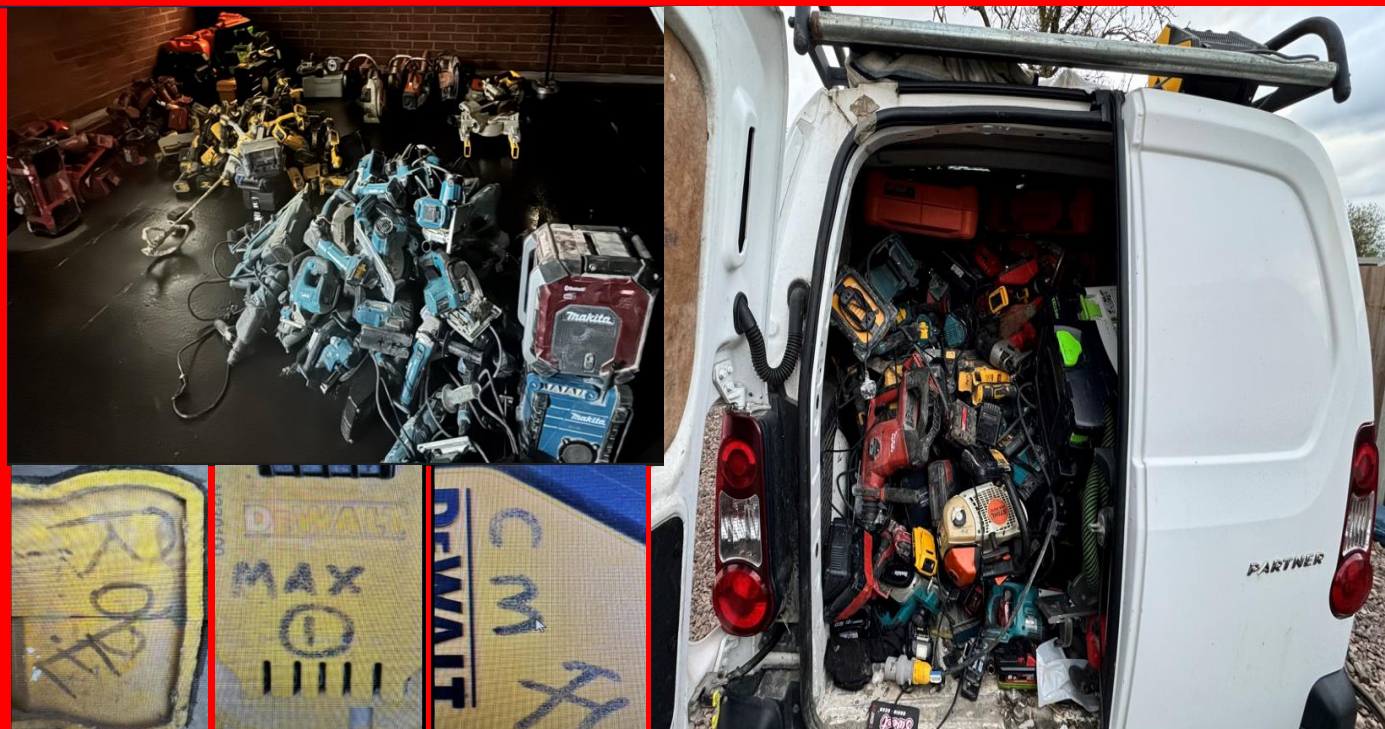


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Warwickshire
POLICE

Large Quantity of Power Tools Recovered



Our team, with Local Safer Neighbourhood Officers, recently recovered a large quantity of power tools, thought to amount over £40,000. Our officers have gone through the painstaking task of sorting through the tools, checking each one for covert and overt markings and utilising social media to try and identify the owners. Whilst still in progress, £21,000 worth of stolen tools has so far been handed back to the legitimate owners who have had their tools stolen from all around the country.

This shows the importance of marking your tools and other property to both deter offenders and provide a facility to have your stolen items returned to you if recovered. Keeping a record of make, model and serial numbers is also an important thing to do as well as taking photos.

Further information on property marking and crime prevention advice is available on our websites www.warwickshire.police.uk and www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk.

Stolen Vehicles and Equipment Recovered in Gloucestershire



Recently our team followed up on some intelligence we had received that a trailer stolen from Warwickshire was at a location in the Gloucestershire area. Upon arrival at the address our officers began checking the vehicles at the location and identified 3 stolen trailers, a caravan and cement mixers with an estimated value of £50,000.

A late night for the team, but well worth it.

An adult male is currently under investigation for handling offences.

Stolen Building Materials Recovered and Male Arrested



Officers from the Rural Crime Team and Local Safer Neighbourhoods Team attended a report of robbery in the Mancetter area, where a delivery driver was threatened with violence and forced to unload £1,000 worth of building materials. Officers located and recovered all the stolen property and a male was later arrested.

WILDLIFE

Partnership Working to Address Fishing Offences

Our team have been working with our partner agencies from the Environment Agency and Angling Trust re fishing offences on the River Avon and some still waters in the south of the county where concerns had been raised. The officers were pleased to find no one was angling out of season.

Five anglers were issued with enforcement tickets for not having Environment Agency rod licences and four anglers were dealt with for other issues.

These operations also provide the opportunity to patrol and engage with people in some of the remote rural areas near to waterways and was

Parrot Job

The work our small team gets involved in is very varied and we work with lots of partner agencies. Recently one of our team assisted on checking documentation at an address where there were a number of parrots, ensuring all was in order. CITES (Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species) is just one of the wildlife crimes we are responsible for.



FLY TIPPING/WASTE CRIME

Two Males Sentenced for Fly Tipping

Two men have been sentenced after pleading guilty to charges of depositing waste without a permit in Meriden and Fen End. The investigation by our team, working with Solihull Council's Regulatory Service Team, saw both males receiving community orders, and ordered to pay compensation, as well as costs and a victim surcharge.



Hedges and Birds Nests

We receive a number of calls at this time of year regarding people being concerned about hedges being cut. It is not an offence to cut a hedge unless it is protected (check with your local council), however it is an offence to **deliberately damage or disturb a birds nest**. It is therefore advisable to check for any nests or birds in the hedge before you cut it. Hedges on agricultural land is covered by the same legislation and the Rural Payment Agency (RPA) which state that they should not be cut between 1st March to 31st August, effective 23rd May, 2024. Further details are on the government website www.gov.uk/guidance/hedgerow-management-rules-cutting-and-trimming..

EQUINE

Operation Gallop

Operation Gallop has been launched by the National Rural Crime Unit Equine Priority Delivery Group, made up of police forces around the UK and partner agencies to address equine crime. To support both horse owners and those who link in with equines whether it is for leisure or work, plus police officers that deal with equine related matters a new website has been launched – www.operationgallop.org.uk. Lots of information and advice plus a related Facebook and 'X' page – well worth having a look or following. Our team and Warwickshire Horse Watch have been involved and support.



Crime Prevention at Livery Yards

Jack from our team recently attended a livery yard in North Warwickshire with volunteers from Warwickshire Horse Watch to provide advice and support on equine crime. The team provided a tack marking kit, trailer stickers and gate signs, plus information on additional security. If this is something you would be interested for your yard or stables or farm, please email ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.police.uk

Warwickshire Police Cadets Receive Input on Rural and Equine Crime

Our team provide presentations on the work that we do both internally and externally and were recently asked to provide input to the South Warwickshire Police Cadets on Equine Crime and handling a horse safely. Our Coordinator did an overview of the role of the team and the many areas of wildlife and rural crime that we cover then passed to our partners from the British Horse Society and Warwickshire Horse Watch who covered horse tack and how to approach and handle a horse safely, plus check and read a microchip. Maisie, the horse, was exceptional during the two evenings and the cadets really enjoyed themselves with great feedback on their experience. Thank you to everyone involved.

LIVESTOCK

Our team continue to promote and support Operation Recall, the national initiative raising the awareness of being a responsible dog owner by keeping dogs on a lead around livestock, keeping them secure if outside and picking up after them. Sadly we have had further reports this month of sheep being attacked and killed by dogs. If you would like one of our leaflets or are a farmer and would like a gate sign, please email ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.police.uk



ENGAGEMENTS

Livestock Markets and Farm Safety Day

It has been another busy couple of months with attendance at the Stratford livestock markets at Clifford Chambers and the Rugby livestock markets at Stoneleigh. If you see our officers at the sales please have a chat, we are there to support you with any issues or concerns, advice or provide items such as signs, trailer stickers, etc.

We recently attended the Pailton Farm Safety Day organised by the NFU. The day covered all aspects of safety on a farm including agricultural vehicles on the road.



ALERT – FARM GPS EQUIPMENT

Nationally agricultural GPS equipment is being targeted, including offenders stealing from previous victims. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police.

If you would like a crime prevention advice visit to your farm or stables please email the team.

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