



# Warwickshire Rural Crime Team Newsletter

AUGUST 2021



Report non-emergency crime  
Get advice & guidance  
[www.warwickshire.police.uk](http://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](http://warwickshire.police.uk) or call 101.

## Your Regional Rural Crime Team Contacts



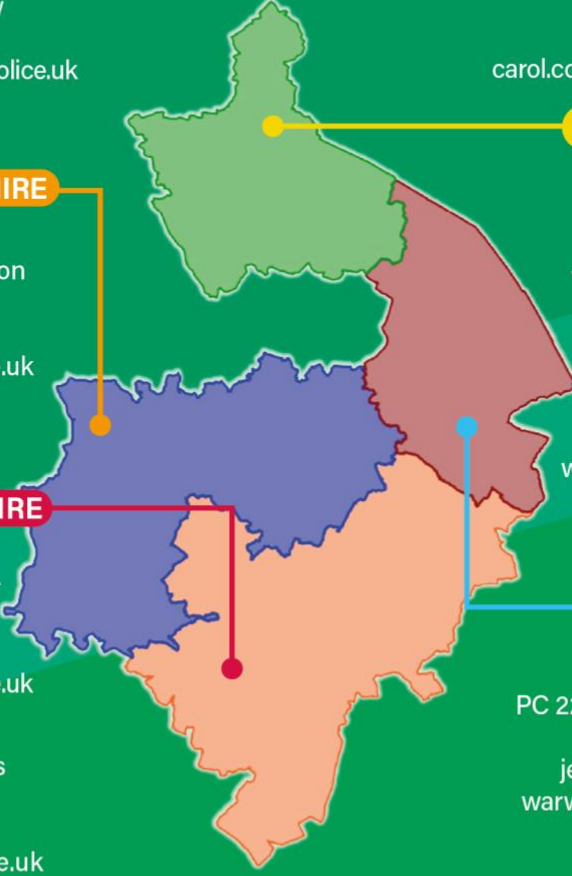
### COUNTYWIDE

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### COUNTYWIDE

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### SOUTH WEST WARWICKSHIRE



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### SOUTH EAST WARWICKSHIRE



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### RUGBY, NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH

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Plant & Equipment Recovered



Vehicles Recovered



The NFU Mutual Insurance have released their annual figures and show Warwickshire as having a 35% reduction in rural claims. It was a very unusual period, with COVID affecting everyone, especially with the restrictions that were in place. However we are pleased with the figures and are working hard to address any emerging trends as we come out of lock down.

As well as the reduction shown in year on year figures, it was also noted by the press the success of the Warwickshire Rural Crime Team with a significant number of vehicles and tools being recovered by the team. It is estimated over £500,000 of vehicles, tools, plant and agricultural equipment was recovered in the period January to December by our officers in the Rural Crime Team.

This is something we are really proud of and continue to work to maintain and bring offenders to justice.

VEHICLES RECOVERED

Following our officers being made aware of a stolen caravan from Oxhill the night before, working with Response and OPU Officers we were able to locate the vehicle. Whilst at the location, officers from the Rural Crime Team noticed a second caravan and were able to quickly establish that it was also stolen. It had been stolen 2 weeks before in Gloucestershire. Both owners were very happy to be reunited with their caravans. It is a satisfying part of our job to return stolen items to the rightful owners.



STOLEN VEHICLE RECOVERED  
MALE ARRESTED, CHARGED, REMANDED



Whilst on a very late night patrol our officers noticed a vehicle of interest to the team, parked in a layby near Shipston on Stour. A Mercedes-Benz C200 that appeared to be abandoned was also noted in a gateway nearby. Upon checking the vehicle it was confirmed as stolen, taken from a village in another forces area the day before, following a car key burglary. Whilst waiting for our recovery trucks to arrive, the officers noticed some tracks in the field next to where the car had been abandoned and called for a dog unit. With the assistance of the dog handler, plus officers from Reponse and OPU, two males were tracked to a caravan and arrested on suspicion of burglary. Whilst at the scene further checks were done and it was found the caravan was also stolen, but from a different force area. The caravan was also recovered by the team.

STOLEN CARAVAN RECOVERED



MALE ARRESTED FOR HANDLING STOLEN GOODS

Red Kite Investigation



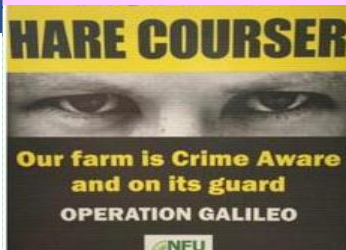
On the 15<sup>th</sup> May, a red kite was presented to Nuneaton Wildlife Sanctuary after it was found by a member of the public in the Ansley area in a distressed state, lethargic and underweight. Sadly the bird died in the night. Following a post mortum examination it was found to have an air rifle pellet in its head. All birds are protected by the Wildlife &

Countryside Act 1981, however Red Kites as birds of prey have additional protection. A full investigation is being made by our officers. If you can assist and have any information that can help with our enquiries please email [ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ruralcrimeteam@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk).

Operation Gallileo



Inspector Wiggin and PC Timmins from the Rural Crime Team represented Warwickshire Police at a national force meeting regarding Operation Gallileo. The forces shared best practice and intelligence on hare coursing and the offenders committing these offences. Please be extra vigilant after the fields have been harvested. If you see any suspicious activity in fields, including at night, please call the police and report it either online or to 101 or if a crime is in progress 999.



EQUINE



The Rural Crime Team recently received footage from a member of the public who was riding her horse on the road and had a car speed pass her. The driver has been reported for driving without due care and attention.

Road safety is an important issue, especially on rural lanes as the roads can be narrower, they can twist and turn with blind bends and there can be many obstacles that you can come across at short notice such as horse riders, livestock, agricultural equipment and pedestrians. PLEASE drive safely and adhere to the speed limit and highway code.

OPERATION SNAP

To report road related offences and upload visual evidence, including dashcam and headcam evidence go to [www.warwickshire.police.uk](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk) and click on Operation Snap.

RAGLEY HALL



We really enjoyed meeting everyone who came to our stand at the Game Fair at Ragley Hall. Around 119,000 people visited the event that ran over three days at the end of July. It was a great opportunity to answer questions on all kinds of subjects and provide information and crime prevention advice. Our signs and agricultural vehicle stickers were really popular as well as people seeing the vehicles and equipment that we use.

## OPERATIONS



In July, the Rural Crime Team did a road side operation in North Warwickshire, working with one of our partners, TER (The Equipment Register) checking all kinds of vehicles, including caravans, trailers, vehicles with livestock in and vans. The response from drivers was very positive with the confidence that Warwickshire Police do these checks and if their vehicle had been stolen operations like these would help identify and recover them. On this occasion no vehicles of concern were found. Previous operations have identified stolen vehicles and ensured they are returned to their rightful owner

## FARM FIRE SAFETY



As a Rural Crime Team we work with many partners, one of which is Warwickshire Fire and Rescue.

Safety on farms is important at all times, but especially so during harvest. Please take time to read the Farm Fire Safety booklet that is available on our website [www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk](http://www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk) and keep safe.

### Farm Fire Safety



## RURAL SPECIALS TEAM

As two of our Special Officers came into start a shift at the weekend, a call came in regarding a member of the public needing urgent medical assistance. The officers, who hadn't even had a chance to book on, as they had just come through the door, grabbed a defibrillator and ran down to the location. Upon arrival they gave the male CPR until the ambulance crew arrived, who took over, taking the gentleman to hospital. Our Special Officers give their time without pay to serve the public and have the same authorities as a serving officer in the force.

## OPERATION ARRAY



Operation Array continues in the North of the county addressing off road vehicle issues in rural areas. The Off road bike officers from the Rural Crime Team link in with the local Safer Neighbourhood Team and patrol the hotspot areas, including where farms have seen damage to crops.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Rural Crime Team will be at a number of up and coming events and look forward to meeting you:  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Fillongley Agricultural Show  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September – Sheepy & District Ploughing Match  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Farm Security Event  
Rugby Farmers Market at Stoneleigh Park

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](http://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](http://www.warwickshire-horsewatch.co.uk)  
or [www.facebook.com/WarksHorseWatch](http://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](http://www.warwickshireruralwatch.co.uk)  
[www.warwickshire.police.uk/ruralcrime](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk/ruralcrime)