



Kent Police

Rural Policing Update 13th September 2017

The summer months have been a testing period for the Kent Police who have been placed under an unprecedented demand. As previously mentioned this has impacted on the teams deployment within the rural community. The force priority being to tackle the call and resource demand, as a result all operations were cancelled to enable all officers to be utilised. Despite this demand the Rural Liaison Team have still been trying to address their rural issues whenever possible, whilst they have not been engaged in or attending various incidents.

As we now progress into the Autumn months the team are returning to their primary role, and planning operations within the rural community to tackle the ongoing issues.

Here is a snapshot of the work that has carried out by the Rural Liaison Team since the last report:

We continue to see a seasonal rise in poaching reports across the county following the harvest. Op Salmon dates are now being planned and pencilled into the teams duties. I cannot stress enough the need for the community to continue to report such incidents to the police control room as they happen. The rural officers are sent notifications of every hare coursing or poaching related incident and will make further enquiries where possible to identify offenders and vehicles.

Where possible we need registration numbers of vehicles involved so that we can pay the persons a visit and place section 59 warnings on them. I know that these can be difficult to obtain but this will enable us to seize vehicles if they are found being driven off road in the future. The team have already issued section 59 warnings and seized vehicles suspected to be involved in such activities.

A Jeep Cherokee vehicle was located abandoned in Wheler Road, Charing - this vehicle matched the description given of a vehicle involved in Hare coursing and driving across crops reported by landowners from Charing, Stalisfield, Wilgate Green, Doddington and Throwley. The vehicle was insecure and had previous keeper details only, the vehicle was not Insured. There was evidence present to show that the vehicle had driven across land, had been involved in lamping and as a result the vehicle was seized as used in crime and recovered to prevent the vehicle was causing further issues.



A green/silver Suzuki Vitra had also been reported as driving over land and potential Hare Coursing in the areas of Goodnestone and Woodnesborough in East of the Division. The owner denied any knowledge of the vehicle but after and extensive search the vehicle was located and seized from a carpark in Dunkirk.

We have also received several reports relating to illegal fishing over the summer months. These have ranged from local youths to groups of foreign nationals possibly committing offences. The team are fully aware of the locations and continue to pay passing attention to these areas to support the landowners.

The team have received a report of illegal metal detecting that took place overnight on and around a scheduled monument in Folkestone. This matter is currently being researched by PC 10006 Reed.

The team visited the area of Crundale and Olantigh rural following a report from a local gamekeeper that he had found a plastic target in the gateway of the area which has a large pheasant pen. This target had pellets holes in it which suggests someone is using a small calibre shotgun and may have been looking to poach some of the young pheasant within. Crime prevention advice has been provided.

The East team attended some reports of an old derelict care home being vandalised in Deal. They located 4 males inside and linked them to vehicle nearby. All persons and the vehicle were searched under the Misuse of Drugs Act. A bag containing 2 large bags of cannabis and scales were found and one male was arrested for Possession with Intent to supply a controlled drug.

PS Walshaw attended at an abandoned vehicle in Monkshill Road, Graveney, following concerns raised by a member of the public. The vehicle was located and contained 2 male occupants. The driver was identified as a wanted in relation to a criminal damage in Herne Bay and was subsequently arrested, for this offence and also possession of a bladed article following the discovery of a lock knife in the vehicle. The vehicle was also seized as the driver held no insurance.

The North team made responded to an ANPR activation in relation to a Red Audi vehicle which was believed to contained a male wanted for Assault, Criminal Damage and Public Order offences. The male was believed to be in possession of a Taser. The vehicle was stopped near Hempstead Valley and the male occupant arrested.

The North Team deployed to the Ramsgate area to locate a male who was wanted for 11 offences mainly dwelling Burglaries as well as a recall to prison. After an extensive area search and local enquires the male was located walking along Bush Avenue. On seeing the police he tried to make good his escape, he was pursued by PC Frost and PS Walshaw and resisted arrest. He was subsequently restrained on the floor and detained. Both officers sustained injuries. The male was charged with numerous offences and is now currently in HMP.



The RLT attended a Farm in the Loose Area of Maidstone to effect an arrest of a male linked to the theft of a horse box stolen from Marden. Following his arrest the location was searched and officers located the stolen horse box. A second horse box, whose identity had been changed was also seized as it was suspected to be stolen. Enquires are continuing with the vehicle identification team and RLT to positively identify the second horsebox. There was a third horse box located which contained 6 puppies, 1 of which had a leg injury. Due to the conditions they were living in and the injury the RSPCA attended. All 6 puppies and their mother were seized due to animal welfare concerns.

Team attended an address in, Gravesend with RSPCA Inspectors and bird expert to execute warrant under the Wildlife Act. Inside the address property officers located 3 bird cages which contained a total of 15 birds, 13 Goldfinches, 1 Siskin and one dead Goldfinch, none of these birds had rings and were believed to be wild birds. In the garden of the property officers discovered a cage trap, a bird feeder with glue sticks attached and a tube of specific rat glue used to trap the birds. The occupant has been reported for offences, the birds have been seized and signed over to the RSPCA to release back into the wild.



The West team responded to an ANPR activation relating to a silver Nissan Navara, on the M26, Sevenoaks. Officers located the vehicle leaving the M20 onto Detling Hill and followed the vehicle, which subsequently stopped at the services. The driver of the locked the doors and refused to engage with Police and would not give any details. He then attempted to start the vehicle whilst officers were trying to remove the keys and open doors. Due to this he was PAVA'd and the driver's window was smashed. The male was been arrested for an outstanding wanted missing where he had failed to attend a drug appointment in the Metropolitan Police area, driving whilst unfit, obstruction. Once in custody it was also established that he was also disqualified from driving and as such holds no insurance.

Kind regards,

Darren Walshaw
07870 252185 or darren.walshaw@kent.pnn.police.uk

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Team e mail : rural.liaison.team@kent.pnn.police.uk