



# Kent Police

## **PS Walshaw states**

I think you will see from the below report that again we have been busy in tackling crime across the 4 areas of business, being Rural, Wildlife, Heritage and Environmental Crime.

The trial of Farm Watch Whats App In the East of the county continues to be a success allowing the fast time sharing of information between the team and the community. The number of members is growing daily. I am hopeful that this will be rolled out across the county in the very near future.

The team have seen an increase in reports of nesting bird disturbance and I would like to remind everyone that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act to disturb any nesting wild bird. Please check any hedgerow before and cutting or trimming work is started.

A new concerning trend to be aware of is the disposal of baled waste. The waste is predominantly plastic, builders/commercial/household waste that cannot be recycled and which has no monetary value. The waste is compressed into a block or 'bale' and concealed by plastic strapping. These criminal offences have not been the random or opportunistic dumping of waste, but rather systematic and organised crime where secure sites have been targeted using, what appears to be, legal and above board measures through the property and land leasing process. The criminals turn up with very convincing paperwork, rent a building for an apparently legal activity and then leave the site filled with baled waste. The building owner can face a large clean-up bill that can run to hundreds of thousands of pounds.

There have been no reported incidents of this type across Kent this year but I would urge property and landowners across the County to be extra vigilant after investigations reveal that 'baled waste crime' is on the increase across the South East.

During the coming months, many landowners will be looking to purchase and store ammonium nitrate for use on their land. Since the 1970's Ammonium Nitrate has been used in Home Made Explosives and there have been several well-known plots and attacks where AN has been used.

I would encourage those purchasing and storing Ammonium Nitrate to store it securely and responsibly.

Please see the links for further advice: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/secure-your-fertiliser/secure-your-fertiliser>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/561533/AIC\\_fertiliser\\_leaflet\\_security.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/561533/AIC_fertiliser_leaflet_security.pdf)

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/ammonium/index.htm>

Please can I also remind you to report suspicious activity, any losses or suspicious transactions via 101 or 999.

Here is a snapshot of the work carried out by the Rural Task Force Team (RTF) over the last six weeks.

## **Thefts**



A vehicle previously located in Bethersden by the RTF has now been confirmed as stolen.

A burnt out van was found there which had evidently been there a long time. However inside the van appeared to be car parts from a relatively new vehicle. Images were taken and sent to the Vehicle Intelligence Unit which has since identified them as coming from a vehicle stolen in January.





Officers carried out a pursuit of a stolen vehicle in Rainham. Following the pursuit the vehicle crashed through the front window of a store in Gillingham. Two males decamped but were arrested shortly after. The vehicle was identified as a Land Rover stolen from Folkestone.

PC's Pennicott and Smith attended a farm following an attempted theft of a trailer. Officers performed a site visit to provide crime prevention advice and also supplied the farmer with a DNA Marking Kit. The offenders were disturbed by the farmer and had abandoned the trailers. Enquiries are on-going to try and identify the vehicle.



PC's Callaghan and Sutton investigated the theft of a caravan from Ash. They attended the victim's house and spoke to him. He confirmed that he went out and the caravan was left with a power cable connected charging the battery. At some point between when he had left and returned home the offenders entered the garden, hooked the caravan up to a vehicle and drove off with it. They cut the power cable which tripped the electricity in the house at 10.15 which suggests this was the time the theft happened. The officers carried out enquiries with local farmers and obtained details of a vehicle that was seen in the area, enquiries are on-going in respect of this vehicle.

PC Sutton received information that a stolen dump truck which had a tracker on was in Aylesham. The RTF attended the location where the stolen dump truck was found in a small warehouse on the site. The owner of the site was arrested on suspicion of theft of the dump truck and a search of the site resulted in a suspected stolen water bowser also being seized for examination.



There has been some good news in respect of a recent court case pursued by PC Pennicott. On the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018 he was made aware of a burglary at Aylesford where sixty prize show birds were stolen from a number of aviaries. The owner of the birds was a successful prize winner and well known within bird showing circles. Sadly the owner had recently died following a battle with cancer and the burglary was reported by his grieving widow. The only line of enquiry related to a vehicle which had been seen at the address the day before the burglary, but at the time this had been deemed not evidentially relevant and the investigation was closed. PC Pennicott recognised the registration of this vehicle from previous dealings with the owner in relation to poaching offences and there was also other evidence linking the owner of the vehicle to the offence. In March 2018 PC's Pennicott and Lingham attended the home address of the suspect vehicle, to make enquiries in relation to an unrelated poaching incident. Whilst at the address PC Pennicott noticed several caged birds in the garden and a shed that had been converted into an aviary. PC Pennicott, being a wildlife crime trained officer, requested the suspect allow him to check on the welfare of the birds to ensure that he was complying with the law. Whilst checking the birds it became evident that some of them matched those that were reported stolen from the burglary. The suspect was arrested and a total of twenty nine birds were seized. PC Pennicott then took ownership of the investigation and progressed it to court, charging the suspect with four Handling Offences and a further charge in relation to Possession of Wild Birds. On 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 the defendant pleaded guilty at court and received twelve months, two weeks imprisonment suspended for two years and an Electronic Curfew from 7pm-7am for four months.

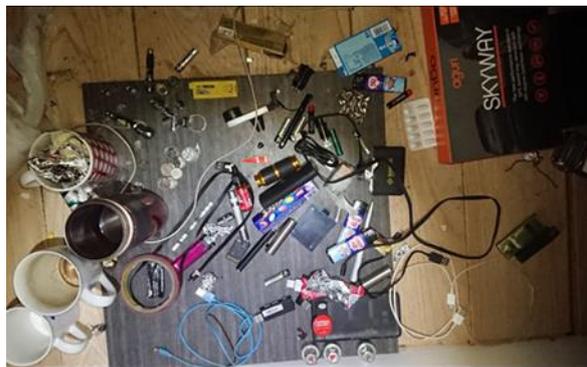
RTF officers assisted in locating and seizing a vehicle located abandoned in Bysing Wood in Faversham 400 yards in from the main road. The vehicle was suspected to have been used in crime. Posts were taken out which had been recently been installed by the council. The vehicle was completely stuck within the woods. Contact was made with a local farmer who sent some staff to assist the recovery using a tractor. The vehicle was recovered for forensic opportunities.



RTF Officers attended a farm in Marden where a stolen Ifor Williams trailer was previously located but was inaccessible for recovery to be carried out. The land had since dried out so the victim, a farmer from Ashford, arranged collection.



Officers responded to a tracker activation on a van stolen from the Metropolitan Police area that had entered Kent. A St Pauls Cray Dog Unit and a local patrol attended with RTF officers. All persons present at the location made off from the site and four were found and arrested in various parts of the surrounding land. One of the males was in a van which contained parts of vehicles. In total eight high value vehicles partial or whole were located along with a motorbike. One of the vans involved was reported to have been stolen from Chatham. The original van fitted with a tracker was located in a lock up nearby. The van was found to have been stolen from Enfield. At the location officers also located jamming devices, GPS technology and instruments to re-chip and re-code keys. Metropolitan Police took over the scene and all arrested males were conveyed to custody.



Officers deployed to a call for assistance from a Community Support Officer who was at a location in Sittingbourne and had located a potential stolen vehicle. The vehicle had number plates cable tied on top of a different set of plates. The vehicles true identity was established through the VIN number to be a vehicle that had been stolen from Essex. The false plates were identified as having been involved in a vehicle theft in Sittingbourne where a motorbike had been put into the back of the vehicle. An extensive search was conducted but the bike could not be located.



PC's Pennicott and Smith responded to a report that a vehicle had been located in East Farleigh following some investigative work. Intelligence suggested this vehicle was involved in the theft of 4x4 vehicles and was linked to an Organised Crime Group. The male driver was arrested on suspicion of Taking of a Motor Vehicle due to it being a cloned vehicle. Shortly after this incident the officers were notified of a report relating to the theft of a Range Rover from a location in Maidstone, near to where the cloned vehicle had activated a camera. The stolen Range Rover was located hidden in the corner of a supermarket car park. An area search for the offender was carried out but this was negative. The vehicle was seized and recovered for forensic examination. Investigation into the arrested male is on-going.



PC Perry was alerted through Farm Watch of a suspected stolen vehicle dumped in a field at Hersden. He attended and enquiries revealed it had been stolen from Canterbury at the end of March. The owner was notified.



PC's Pennicott and Smith received a call from a farmer in Wrotham Heath reporting to have found a set of number plates outside the farm. The officers attended the location and checks showed the number plates to have been recently stolen from a vehicle in Gravesend. The plates were seized for forensic examination.

Officers deployed to a report of a theft from a motor vehicle by youths on mopeds in Edenbridge. Other reports followed that three mopeds were stolen from the Met area and had made off from a service station in Surrey. A motorbike was also stolen from Edenbridge by moped thefts. An extensive search was carried out and a stolen motorbike was located in a disused garage in Edenbridge that had previously been used by youths to store motorbikes and quad bikes.

### **Livestock Worrying**

RTF Officers met with Swale Borough Council Dog Warden regarding an ongoing sheep worrying case in Eastchurch. It was agreed with the victim that the suspect will be given a Community Penalty Notice. PC's Southern and Goodsall have now delivered this.

PC Sutton attended to a report of a sheep attack at Biddenden. One sheep had been attacked and chased, ending up in water and was dead on arrival. Another sheep in lamb was also attacked and its injuries were so severe it was dispatched of by the farmer. Evidential swabs were taken from the sheep before PC Sutton visited the dog's owners and located three dogs at the address; two of which were the offending dogs. The owners cooperated fully with police, let swabs be taken from the dogs and took full responsibility for the incident. They have offered to reimburse the farmer for any financial loss caused because of the incident. PC Sutton had a long conversation with the couple regarding the importance of keeping the dogs secure. They did have a fenced garden so were advised to check for insecurities. The victim was consulted and was happy to deal with this outside of court via a restorative resolution.

Following an incident where two dogs were worrying sheep on Oare marshes, a female dog owner was identified. She admitted two dogs under her control were in the field. The dogs have since been returned to the owner who lives in London. She agreed to pay for the farmer's losses of £320 which will be formalised through restorative resolution.

PC's Goodsall and Southern attended a farm location and spoke to the farmer who had reported one of his lambs being attacked two days before. He stated a lamb was attacked by an unknown dog and was retrieved from the animal's mouth uninjured. Local enquiries were conducted however the dog or owner was not identified.



A forensic report has been received back relating to the swabs taken from sheep which were killed and injured in an attack in January. A swab was taken from the suspect animal, a shar-pei belonging to a local owner. The report stated that a complete DNA profile was obtained from the swab taken from the sheep which matched completely with the DNA sample taken from the dog. PC Moody is now engaging with the victim to see how she wishes to progress this. The dog's owner has also been made aware of the test results.

PC's Callaghan and Sutton attended a farm at Charing Heath following a report of two terriers in her field worrying sheep, no sheep were injured and the victim believes the two terriers may have come from a nearby address. She has been passed the team contact details and enquiries are continuing.

In relation to a sheep worrying incident in Tenterden, the victim has now been reimbursed for the loss by the suspect. They agreed to pay for any loss caused and this was accepted. The suspects were spoken to at length about keeping their dogs contained and the concurrences should a similar incident happen again.

In Ashford a sheep was located in a river after two dogs chased the animals across a field. The sheep was deceased with no visible wounds and there were no witnesses to the incident. Enquiries are continuing.

Several sheep were killed by a dog or dogs at a farm in Marden. In total five ewes and four lambs were killed, with a further three ewes and two lambs are due to be euthanized as a result of their injuries. Another four ewes and nine lambs were injured, but were expected to survive and two lambs were unaccounted for. The deceased and injured sheep had injuries consistent with a dog attack such as puncture wounds and large tearing wounds. In total the victim estimated their financial loss to be in the region of £2500. Evidence capture was conducted by DNA swabs around the site of the wounds. Further enquiries identified that two local dogs had been seen on the driveway of the farm. Officers attended and spoke to the dog owner who was adamant that they were not responsible. He stated that at no point did the dogs leave the location and agreed to DNA swabs have been taken from the dogs and forensic test are now being conducted. Enquiries into the incident are on-going.

PC's Callaghan and Sutton attended a report of livestock worrying in Dover. This incident occurred in the farmers back garden where his geese were contained via an electric fence unit. The house is accessed by a private road which is clearly marked by signage as being a private road. The farmer returned home to see a dog attacking his geese. The dog was in his back garden with a goose pinned down in a corner. The farmer fetched his gun and ammunition and on return has seen another goose being attacked so has shot the dog. Investigation into the matter is ongoing.

### **Op Assist**

Fly-tipping has been identified in Iwade. Information has been passed onto the North Team to progress this with Swale Borough Council.



PC Williams stopped a vehicle in Sittingbourne that was towing a trailer with a scrapped vehicle on the back. The trailer was not displaying a rear registration plate. The driver details were all in order but the towing vehicle was found to have no road tax and no registered keeper. The driver was reported for all the above offences.



Maidstone Borough Council carried out Op Assist with Kent Police on 28<sup>th</sup> March. A vehicle was stopped which had waste on board consisting of large concrete blocks and broken hard-core/rubble. The driver was issued with a £300 Fixed Penalty Notice for not having a Waste Carriers Licence. He used his mobile phone to go online and obtained a Waste Carriers Licence at the roadside.

PC's Callaghan and Sutton stopped a van laden with scrap in Sandwich. The driver was issued with a Traffic Offence Report for having no insurance, no MOT and Driving otherwise in Accordance of a Driving Licence. The vehicle was seized and Dover District Council will be notified regarding the Waste Carrier Licence.



Swale Borough Council attended Medway Magistrates Court to prosecute a male as a result of the countywide day of action for Op Assist last year. The male involved was prosecuted for failing to register to transfer waste and failing to produce waste transfer notes. He was found guilty, fined £500 and ordered to pay £200 costs Along with a £50 victim surcharge.

A stop check was carried out in Stockbury on a van containing the type of waste normally fly tipped. The driver initially gave false details as did the passenger who was also unable to recall his date of birth which raised concerns. When challenged they confirmed their correct details. The driver confirmed it was his vehicle and that he had no insurance and only held a provisional licence. As a result the vehicle was seized.



West RTF officers deployed in the Maidstone area with Maidstone Borough Council to tackle Fly-Tipping via joint Agency work.

In Aylesford officers attempted to seize a vehicle that had been witnessed fly-tipping in August 2018, which had never been traced. The vehicle was located at the address and seized, its owner has made arrangements to attend Maidstone Council Office to be questioned about the offence.



A stop check was conducted on a vehicle in Maidstone and searched under Section 1 of PACE due to the driver's initial behaviour when stopped. Nothing was located and he was spoken to about waste carrying by Maidstone Council.



Another stopped vehicle initially attempted to evade officers through Maidstone but stopped when asked to do so. The driver was found to have no licence and no insurance so was dealt with for these offences.



## **Traffic Incidents**

Officers on the Rural East Team received a report of people using a restricted byway to drive 4x4 vehicles. The byway is restricted from Oct 1st to April 30<sup>th</sup> and this was apparently an ongoing issue. PC's Moody and Williams attended and located a vehicle in Woodchurch whose driver admitted he had driven along the byway. Suitable warning and words of advice were given to the driver.



Sergeant Walshaw and PC Goodsall stopped a van on the M2 at Medway due to a defective nearside brake light. Checks conducted at scene revealed that the vehicle was not insured and it was seized as a result.

Officers stopped a vehicle in Maidstone. The driver stated that they had bought the car the day before for £100 after seeing it advertised at the side of the road. He held no insurance and only held a provisional licence so the vehicle was seized. The Driver stated they were on route to seeing their daughter who lived behind Maidstone Hospital as they had bought the car as a surprise for her. In the car were a large number of foil lined bags for life, which could indicate involvement in shoplifting offences.

PC Verrall issued a Section 59 Notice to a male involved in anti-social riding of his motorbike in the Sevenoaks and Otford area.



Officers stopped a vehicle in Faversham that was suspected not to be insured. The driver produced a small amount of cannabis from his pocket. Checks were conducted at the roadside and the driver found to have no previous convictions for drugs. Therefore he was issued with a Traffic Offence Report for driving a motor vehicle with no licence, no insurance and no MOT and was also issued with a Cannabis Warning for Possession of Cannabis by PC Southern.



The team deployed in two vehicles to assist traffic units with a vehicle travelling in excess of 108 mph on the M2. The vehicle continued travelling at speed along the M2 and onto the Thanet Way before coming to a stop in Ramsgate. The driver was dealt with by traffic officers.

Whilst officers were stopped in traffic on the A2, a lorry was seen to drive down the hard shoulder for a distance causing members of the public to move over. The vehicle was stopped by PC's Southern and Sutton and was issued with a ticket.



PC's Pennicott and Smith carried out a stop check on a vehicle with no lights. Enquiries with the driver confirmed he had no insurance and was only a provisional licence holder. He also had a previous conviction for robbery. The vehicle was seized.

PC Williams was on rural patrol when he saw a wanted male travelling in a car towards him. This male was also disqualified from driving. PC Williams stopped his marked patrol car but the offender rammed his vehicle into the marked police vehicle causing extensive damage to both vehicles. The driver then reversed before ramming the police vehicle a second time. The driver then ran off leaving a female front seat passenger and two small children in the offending vehicle. PC Williams remained at the scene to provide care and support to those left there and awaited the arrival of other police units. PC Williams, the female passenger and two children received hospital treatment for soft tissue

injuries. The Rural Team in conjunction with other Kent Police units located the male driver the following day and he was arrested and has since been remanded to Crown Court.



### **Animal Welfare Issues**

RTF officers received a call from a member of the public reporting that a deceased sheep was in fields next door to his house. The sheep was located on the field. Checks identified eight live sheep with minimal water available. Also located were sheep bones and what appeared to be a pit where sheep had been disposed of by fire. Officers visited the landowner who stated it was rented out to a third party. PC Goodsall is contacting Trading Standards and the RSPCA due to what was found, the investigation continues.



PC's Callaghan and Sutton carried out further investigation into an incident that occurred in February. A dog walker's dog had got into a garden through a gap in the fence and been caught in an illegal trap which broke its leg. The officers attended the address and conducted a non-custodial interview under caution with the suspect. He was reported for Criminal Damage and offences under the Protection of Badgers Act and the Pests Act for illegal trapping.



PC's Pennicott and Smith received a report of habitat destruction in Harrietsham. Contact was made with the informant. The Parish Council were also contacted and have provided a number of planning applications that need to be checked for evidence relating to protected species being present. Officers attended the site and evidence was captured of scrub having been removed from the area which may have contained protected species. Enquiries have been made with an ecologist company that completed a survey in 2012 and Natural England. Officers are waiting for Natural England to respond in order to arrange a joint site visit to determine whether any offences have been committed. A further survey was completed in 2016 and the RTF are trying to obtain a copy of this.



RTF officers carried out warrants at two locations in relation to animal welfare. At the first, a male was arrested for a Breach of a Disqualification order made by Bexley Magistrates court on 19/3/18. This offence is contrary to Section 34/9 of the Animal welfare Act 2006. The male was conveyed to North Kent Custody where detention was authorised. He was interviewed by the Police and RSPCA.

RTF Officers and the RSPCA conducted a search of the location which contained animals. Various items including a phone, paper work, USB sticks, photos and cameras were seized from the address. The suspects phones will be downloaded and forensic work will be completed by the RSPCA.



PC's Southern and Goodsall attended a location in Sheldwich, near Faversham, following concerns by local residents concerning a forest operation in an area of 1.25 Hectares of a wooded area and the possible impact on nesting birds in the trees. The Forestry Commission have been made aware.

Sergeant Walshaw and PC Goodsall attended Blue Water Shopping Centre to assist with an investigation regarding goose eggs being stolen from a nest at the site. They were also advised of a peregrines nesting which the team will monitor.

PC Lingham deployed to a report of a horse tied up near the road at Goudhurst. Upon arrival the owner was tending to the horse. He confirmed the horse was his and had been purchased the day before. He was grazing it on the roadside grassland until he could move it to his mother's yard. The horse was skinny, but stood and grazing, and the owner had bought water to the location and was ensuring that the rope was securely tightened. He had also left a small note attached to the horses head collar with his contact number upon it should anyone have any concerns for the animal. He was aware it was thin and had purchased it in this condition. He was due to have the horse micro chipped and vet examined on Monday. Contact is being made with the RSPCA to see if they could pay a visit.



A call was received from the RSPCA stating they were having issues at a location in Faversham. The owners of a property had gone to court and been found guilty of Animal Neglect. There are currently still some animals on site and the RSPCA have raised concerns regarding one of the horses. Assistance was requested to accompany a vet to the location to help with the examination of the horse. Police attended and two horses were removed from the site with a third examined.

PC Verrall investigated a report from a concerned resident in Tunbridge Wells that a nearby property had been blocking up holes by some fencing where badgers go in and out and there were further concerns that the set was being blocked as well. PC Verrall visited the property where the badger set is located. The occupier was an elderly lady who employed a gardener. A search of the garden found the set at the rear offside. There has been some clearing on the top with bushes been cut. The set holes appear to be undisturbed. Guidance and literature was left for the gardener.



Officers attended an address in relation to a call from a member of the public reporting a tawny owl being kept in a garden in Tonbridge. The occupant stated that he had rescued the owl approximately ten years ago as it was near death. He rehabilitated the owl himself until it was fully fit again. He admitted that he had not taken the owl to a vet at any stage and wasn't aware he had committed any offences. Officers consulted with the RSPB and it was agreed that the owl had been kept in captivity for too long and could not therefore be released. It was also agreed that it would not be in the public interest to prosecute the male. Enquiries were made with the RSPCA who will be visiting the address to check on the welfare of the owl and the suitability of its aviary.



Officers were met with by a member of the public on the A20 who handed over a dog that they had found. No chip was present so the dog was taken to the local vets for a health check and then delivered to an animal sanctuary.



PC's Goodsall and Southern attended an address in Chatham regarding two warrants for a male and female both wanted for failing to appear for the RSPCA for Animal Cruelty offences. Both offenders were at the address and were arrested and bailed to attend Medway Magistrate Court.

### **Op Farm**

The RTF came together during a shift to undertake Op Farm, a pro-active rural operation targeting plant machinery and rural theft. Several vehicles were stopped during this operation with genuine

owners of 4x4, commercial vehicles and plant machinery engaging in crime prevention with the team.



### **Op Salmon/ Op Traverse**

Information was received from the WhatsApp Dover and Canterbury Farm Watch Group that a vehicle had been acting suspiciously in the area of West Langdon and Ripple near Deal. On one occasion someone had seen a catapult out of the passenger window. Officers attended the Registered Keepers address where his parents were spoken to and a message was left asking him to contact them and explain what he had been doing.

The RTF received reports of Poaching in Progress in Iwade. Reports were that three males were present in a van and had been told to move on twice but had returned. Officers attended the scene

and located three males. Unfortunately no rod was seen in the water but none of the males had licences. Their details will be passed to Environment Agency and they were moved on from the location.



PC's Smith and Pennicott attended an address in Painters Forstal and spoke to the registered keeper of a vehicle that had been seen fish poaching at Lullingstone Castle Fishing Lake at the end of April. The male stated he had sold his vehicle several days prior to this and provided officers with the name and number of the person he had sold the car to. He had informed the buyer that the vehicle did not have an MOT and that he had registered it as being off the road but the two males who collected it had driven off in it. Enquires continue.

### **Other recent work carried out by the RTF**

PC's Verrall and Lingham carried out a follow up visit to Hever Castle in relation to CCTV collection for a Criminal Damage incident.



PC's Lingham, Verrall and Williams attended an address in Newnham, Faversham in relation to a wanted male. The male made off from the officers up the embankment of a quarry where he was arrested for an outstanding Failing to Appear at Court warrant and a Breach of a Supervisor Order.

PC Lingham carried out a stop check of a tractor in Laddingsford. All was found to be in order and crime prevention advice was discussed.



Rural Officers received a call stating a male passenger of a vehicle had attempted to hide a firearm, believed to be an air rifle and get back into the vehicle in the Chillenden area. It was suspected the male was pheasant poaching. The incident was captured on a dash cam, but upon review, the item concealed couldn't be identified other than as being something wooden around three feet in length. PC Moody attended the vehicle owner's address. The owner had stated that his son had been upset over relationship issues and had been hitting the verge with a piece of wood which they later threw

away. PC Moody challenged this with the testimony of the witness, but the owner was adamant. Suitable words of advice were given.

Officers carried out a stop check of a vehicle in Paddock Wood which was seen to be carrying a large amount of scrap. The driver was able to produce a waste carries licence and transfer notices for the scrap on board. Whilst speaking with the driver and his passenger, officers noticed a strong smell of cannabis. The males were challenged on this and surrendered a small amount of cannabis. The driver was issued with a Cannabis Warning and the cannabis was seized for destruction.

PC Lingham assisted area and Firearms Police units with an armed stop and arrest on the driver of a vehicle seen on CCTV brandishing a handgun. One male was detained under Section 16 of the Firearms Act.

PC Lingham completed enquiries following a report from the member of the public concerning destruction of roadside nature reserve at Bluebell Hill. He is now in contact with a Kew Gardens plant expert and the national Wildlife Crime Unit to discuss the case.



PC Sutton stopped a HGV stopped with two tractors farm equipment and quadbike being moved late at night. The driver was spoken to and no offences were disclosed.



PC's Callaghan, Sutton, Smith, Goodsall and Southern attended an address in Canterbury to assist East Division officers with the search and subsequent dismantling of a cannabis cultivation. Two further addresses linked to the owner of the first property, were also searched and had larger cannabis grows inside. Warrants were obtained and executed by the local Community Policing Teams.



PC's Goodsall and Southern attended a location near Dunkirk, Faversham, following a report of a large disturbance where unfortunately a male died as a result. The officers made use of their thermal camera and this assisted them in the locating of three males exiting a wooded area. These three males were arrested.

West RTF officers carried out high visibility patrolling at key rural sites and provided reassurance and public engagement



Whilst caught in a road closure in Tonbridge RTF officers offered some assistance in the St Georges day parade and led the procession with the local scout groups and band.



PC Williams deployed to a report of a female on a bridge in Swale looking like she was going to jump. Local units first on the scene were unable to locate the female. PC Williams saw her on top of the Sheppey Crossing and set up a police road block slowing traffic on the A249 to a stop. The female was distressed and confused but PC Williams managed to get her into his car and safely off the bridge where she was handed over to a local patrol.



PC's Pennicott and Smith had to make good use of their ad-hoc shepherding skills to herd some escaped sheep back into a field in Leeds.

PC's Pennicott and Smith stopped a vehicle in Edenbridge that had been seen driving around with an insecure roof rack. The driver was wanted for a Grievous Bodily Harm offence. He was arrested for this offence and taken to a custody suite in Surrey. Following his arrest and liaison with Surrey Police further information was obtained that there were three suspects still outstanding for the offence. A suspect vehicle linked to the main offender was also outstanding and despite enquiries by Surrey they had not located him or the vehicle. Following dealing with the driver the officers then attended an address and located the suspect vehicle parked at the rear. Observations were maintained whilst waiting for Surrey officers to attend. Another male was located at the address and arrested by Surrey officers and the vehicle was recovered for a forensic examination.



## Court Result

On the 9th December 2017 PC Daniel Perry from the Rural Task Force, was made aware of extensive damage totalling £15,000 that had been caused intentionally by motor vehicles, to the Ancient Championship Golf Course at The Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club at Sandwich.



PC Perry quickly established CCTV footage of the vehicles involved, which he later identified through Dover District Council's CCTV and local Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). Enquiries with the drivers' insurance companies were made in order to establish the location of the vehicles via Telematics data held at the time of the offence.

As a result of PC Perry's investigation, three local youths admitted causing the damage and were summonsed to Folkestone Magistrates Court on 27th March 2019. All three pleaded guilty and received a prison sentence of 8 weeks suspended for a year, 200 hours of unpaid work each, and an order to each pay the victim a sum of £2669.64 compensation.

Kind Regards, Darren Walshaw

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