

Rural Task Force



This period has continued to be busy for the Rural Task Force. You will see from the below report the team have been working hard in relation to Op Galileo, Theft of Machinery, Livestock worrying and Fly Tipping to name a few topics. I would like to remind machinery owners to please record all serial numbers, take photos consider additional markings such as DNA solutions and tracker devices. All of which will assist the police in recovering your property should it be stolen.

Hare coursing incidents continue to be reported and it is important that any such activity is recorded with the police. I am particularly saddened by the incident of dead hares being disregarded in full public view in Stalisfield. This action shows the complete disregard those involved have towards the hares and the rural community.



The team are out on regular patrols at all times please continue to report any suspicious vehicles or activity. We have Night Vision, Thermal imaging and now I am pleased to report the RTF have a Drone all for the team to use.

Included in the report are several Livestock Worrying incidents of which there have been 3 in and around Ulcombe. It is expected these have been committed by the same dog which as yet has not been identified, but the team are working hard to do so.

PS Walshaw

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

Rural Theft

PC Callaghan and Sutton attended location relating to theft of horse box at Dover. Spoke with the Victim. His Horse Box was stolen from the bottom of the Horse Field, a location that is not accessible from the road and would have needed reconnaissance beforehand as nothing else was stolen. It's clear the target was just the Horse Box on this occasion. Selecta DNA Kit supplied with Victim and added to Farm Watch and crime investigation updated.



Team deployed to direct call from Cantrack reference a Tracker activation for a stolen Bob Cat that was tracking close to Rochester Air Port. Cantrack sent field operative to assist the team. Bob cat located in the rear of transit panel van in Chatham in public car park. Van seized with Bob Cat inside. Value £15,000



PC Callaghan and PC Sutton received a call from a Local Farmer who had seen an Irish Registered HGV with a Refrigerated Trailer being loaded with plant machinery and due to the amount of Trailer Thefts in the area thought it suspicious. He provided a description of the lorry and a partial index. Officers made their way to the area and located the lorry on the move. The Registration was checked and it related to the partial index given. PC Callaghan managed to pull behind the HGV and followed it onto the A20, turning right towards Ashford and stopping the vehicle a couple of hundred yards from the junction.



Search carried out and two Trailers, two engines and an Electric Unit were located. One of the Trailers has been confirmed as being stolen from Warwick Road, Kennington, Ashford on 16/07/2019. The remaining items are in the process of being identified. The Driver was a foreign national who was arrested by PC Callaghan and conveyed to Maidstone Custody.



RTF Officers attended a theft of diesel from 3 pieces of plant machinery at a Farm near to Worth. The informant has 8 pieces of plant at the site, and is concerned that he will be targeted again. East Team have spoken to the Victim. Officers to pay passing attention to the area.



PC's Perry and Tancock carried out some research around Redbrook Street following reports that a ride on mower had been seen in the area along with a quad going the same direction followed by a 4x4 with number plates obscured. Whilst going along Plurenden Rd slowly they noticed the Red quad bike hidden within a shed.



This matched the description of the one stolen and put across FarmWatch in Bilsington. They made enquires locally and spoke to the owner of the land who told them she keeps her horses on the land and she keeps having unknown people cutting the locks to her gate. And she has no knowledge of the property being on site. Quad bike and ride on mower recovered both confirmed stolen and now returned to the owners who are very happy to be reunited with their property.

Enquires are ongoing in regards to a Husqvarna sit on mower which was stolen overnight on the 5th August from Tunbridge Wells, valued at approximately £2000. The mower has a triple grass box on the back which is rare.



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Stolen Property has been located in the Woodland, following information from a member on the Farm Watch Dover and Canterbury WhatsApp talk group.

Child's Pro-Ride Pitt Bike, valued £500.00. Stolen from a recent Burglary in Aylesham, Canterbury. Returned to the owner.



A Brand new Bosch Drill, valued £80.00 and a Makita Disc Cutter, Valued £115.00 located and seized. Confirmed stolen, owner identified and property returned.



RTF Officers made aware of a Theft of digger Bishops Lane, Hunton. CCTV enquiries revealed a suspicious van seen driving up lane appearing to recce the land.

Victim located the digger himself in a field NEW BARN ROAD, HEADCORN 300yards from A274 prior to bridge.

PC Callaghan attended a Business at Wingham and spoke to the Victim, who had an Ifor Williams Plant Trailer and a Timberwolf TW190 Tracked Wood Chipper Stolen from the location. The Plant was on Site and carrying out maintenance on the property. The Chipper was Valued at £10,000 and the Trailer £3,000. PC Callaghan reviewed the CCTV footage that showed three males cut the padlock of the front gate to gain access and remove the trailer with a SWB Shogun that had its number plates removed. PC Callaghan has completed some further work and enquiries are on-going.

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Theft of gates from a Farm at Maidstone. Follow up carried out by PC Smith following report from local shepherd that 8 aluminium gates had been stolen on 22nd August. She suspects they have been taken for scrap and believes they will have gone to local scrap yard. RTF officers to attend local scrap merchants to try and locate stolen gates with a negative result.

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A burglary was reported at Farm in the Dover area. The victim gave chase with an offender across his field. Local Police Units and a Dog Handler attended, tracked and located male nearby who was subsequently arrested on suspicion of the Burglary and escorted to Canterbury Police Station.

The following morning PC Goodsall and Southern attended a location with other officers to conduct a search. Whilst at the location they identified a wanted male who was arrested for Theft of Ifor Williams Trailer from Acrise on 09/08/19.

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Rural Team looking at recent theft of two horse trailers from Hartlip area, both are still outstanding.



PC Perry received a report via FARMWATCH that there was a suspected stolen Kubota tractor in a field off of Malthouse Lane Warehorne. He attended and located the vehicle which had been hidden in woodland at the corner of the field. The vehicle had its number plate on the rear and when checked on PNC it came back with no reports. Whilst patrols were on scene the victim approached, he was very pleased to see officers with his machine which was reported stolen the previous night.



Call received from Maidstone waste crime team who had conducted a joint visit with KCC at a location near to ULCOMBE in relation to a motorbike they had located in woodland at the rear of the site. Plates removed, however VIN identified the bike as being a KEEWAY TX 125, stolen on 18/08/2019 from an address in BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA. Value £2,000. A further search resulted in a twin axle IFOR WILLIAMS trailer being located along with an unbranded twin axle trailer. Both trailers seized as suspected stolen and motorbike as confirmed. Intel updated from scene.



Report of Theft of a Fuel Bowser (Value £6,000) was stolen from a field in Brabourne. Ashford Local Officers and Traffic patrols were deployed to the cad and completed the initial investigation and area search. Enquires on going.

Information from Farmwatch received that the stolen Bowser had been located in a Maize Field just off of Bethersden Road, Woodchurch.



PC's Pennciott and Smith responded to a report to a Burglary in progress in Mereworth. Victim and his wife returned home and disturbed offenders inside their house. This burglary was linked to a series of similar burglaries. A suspect vehicle had been seen with an index provided. Officers traced the vehicle to an address. Officers entered the address where the suspect was located in kitchen and arrested by PC 10377 PENNICOTT

PC's Verrall and Lingham received a report from Farmer at St Claire Estate of a suspicious trailer found in a field behind a muck pile. Attended and located the trailer. No means to check ID at the scene so the trailer was seized as sus stolen for vehicle examination.



OP Galileo

RTF were engaged on Op GALILEO in the Swale area because of recent problems in that area, they saw a green 4x4 believed to be a Toyota Rav4, on Housefield Road, Throwley. The vehicle made off at speed when the blue lights were activated, and went across fields at Loose Down Road, where it was lost. An area search was made by all patrols, but it was not located that night. The following morning the vehicle was located in Faversham and recovered for a forensic examination.



PC Smith contacted owner of small holding regarding youths hunting rabbits with dogs on her land. Image of one of the youths obtained and disseminated to CSU/PCSO to try and identify. Advice given to Informant around 'Operation Galileo' and reporting as a crime in progress



RTF officers attended reports of a fail to stop RTC in Stalisfield. Informant awoke in the morning to find her vehicle with extensive RTC damage and pushed off the road into a hedge. Offender's vehicle left part of the bumper at scene which was seized. Calls regarding hare coarsing the previous night in the same area possibly linked to a coarsing vehicle to done this. Enquires on going.



Contact made with a Farmer at Doddington, who reported two incidents at two neighbouring farm sites at Doddington since fields have been harvested. Both times padlock cut with angle grinder on a bar gate along Down Court Road.

Information received that the Red Jeep Cherokee which has been causing lots of problems across the Dover and Canterbury rural had been located in Pluckley. PC Perry and Tancock have attended and spoken with a family who denied any knowledge of the vehicle yet it was parked at the rear of the site. The vehicle was recovered as used in crime and for it to be forensically examined.



PC's Callaghan and Southern responded to Farm Watch WhatsApp message reporting a white Citroen Berlingo, seen parked next to Ovenden's on Bramling Road. Two male occupants with Lurcher Dogs seen suspected to be Hare Coursing in the area. Vehicle made off towards Bekesbourne. The Informant took a photo of the vehicle and enquires have linked the vehicle to active hare courses. The vehicle has been nominated for ANPR and added to the intelligence picture in respect of poaching activity.

Repeat Hare Coursing victim from Grasslands on the Romney Marsh reporting problems with persons at night driving across Turf being grown and gates driven through, this will be linked to OP Galileo.



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Local farmer has seen the below vehicle driving off road at Bramling with 2 men and 2 children and 1 long dog. This vehicle is known to the RTF and the driver will be issued with a Section 59 Warning (relates to ASB use of a vehicle that if repeated will result in seizure of vehicle):



PC Williams and Tancock received a call from Farmer at Otterden regarding hare coursing in the area. Old battered black Suzuki Vitara seen with no VRM. Patrol around the Stalisfield, Otterden but no vehicles seen.

Information via FarmWatch from Romney Marsh of a vehicle engaged in lamping on the stubble fields near to Newchurch. PC Perry attended and conducted an area search, driving around the stubble, but no vehicle was located.

PC's Perry and Moody received a call from gamekeeper regarding two 4x4 vehicles seen driving on stubble fields near to Adisham. Both vehicles had 4/5 males and lurcher dogs, and were seen to shine lamps across the locations. An index was recorded and went down to a red Ford Maverick, with no MOT or Tax. Enquiries on-going with Registered Keeper.

Two separate reports to the RTF, of 18 Dead Hares located on the Grass triangle near to at the junction in the Stalisfield area. Animals collected and disposed of.



Subaru Legacy was seen by PC Goodsall parked at the rear of Elmley Prison and is an area where persons are hare coursing from. Occupants returned and vehicle was followed and stopped on A249. Occupants details obtained and checks conducted. They had 3 terriers and a spaniel with them and were wearing camouflage clothing. The males claimed they had just been out walking their dogs. Vehicle and persons searched under Poaching Prevention Act but no poaching equipment located.



PC Lingham responded to a report persons poaching on his land on Sheppey. A vehicle was stopped and 3 persons detained from the Essex and Croydon area. The van had dead rabbits in the vehicle which have been seized, all evidence has been captured. Vehicle seized.



Livestock Worrying

Call received on West Team phone regarding 2 lurcher dogs seen in field adjacent to the Farmer's sheep on Ulcombe Road, Headcorn. Concerned that the dogs would attack sheep. PC Smith and PC Callaghan attended and conducted an area search but this was negative.

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Pc Moody is investigating a sheep attack. The Victim confirmed with the daughter of the house owner that his dogs were responsible for killing three sheep and injuring others. Both Alsatian dogs were present when police attended. The dog owner stated he was not present when the attack happened He has been advised that he will be invited for interview in relation to allowing his dogs to escape and attack livestock. He has already paid the victim £500.00 compensation.

Farmer in Ulcombe area reporting he has had a dog attack on his sheep one requires to be PTS the other needs minor attention. This is similar to previous dog attacks in the area where the hind leg attacked and mauled. Areas searched as only half an hour behind suspected attack. Evidential swabs taken.

RTF Officers were contacted regarding a sheep worrying incident at St Margaret's, Dover. A witness has reported seeing a small dog chasing a flock of sheep, whilst the owner walked nearby. The owner was then seen to lift the dog over the electric fence and leave the area. One sheep was seen to be collapsed in the field. The farmer has been identified and spoken to. He states that he discovered one dead ewe yesterday, but was unaware of the cause of death. The witness has provided images taken of the incident and forwarded them to RTF East team. The sheep has already been disposed of, so there are no forensic opportunities available, and the dog owner is unknown at this stage. A media appeal has been completed to identify the dog owner.



PC Callaghan dealt with a report of Sheep Worrying whereby a Dog attacked a Ewe in the grounds of Godinton Park, Ashford. As a result of it's injuries the Owner / Farmer has to dispatch the animal.

He made contact with all parties involved and has agreed the following outcome.

- i) The Dog Owner must pay the Victim / Sheep Owner the sum of £500.00.
- ii) The Dog owner will be issued with a Community Protection Warning with the following conditions.
 - 1) NOT TO ENTER THE GROUNDS OF GODINTON PARK WITH ANY DOG.
 - 2) WHEN WALKING A DOG (S) IN A PUBLIC PLACE OR AN AREA WHERE THE PUBLIC HAS ACCESS TO, THE DOG (S) MUST ALWAYS BE UNDER CONTROL ON A LEAD.

Victim called PC Smith to report that one of his sheep appears to have been hit over the head with an axe or similar. He attended the filed at around 7am and found that an electric boundary fence had been cut in order for the offender to gain access. Skinner stated there were footprints in the dew. He believes that he disturbed the offenders as the sheep was dragged but then left. Enquiries on-going.



PC Smith was contacted by a sheep owner who is repeat victim with unknown dog attacking sheep on Headcorn Road, Ulcombe. One sheep seriously injured. Dog is suspected to be a local lurcher, but unknown from where. Enquiries have been made at a number of locations, but the dog has not yet identified. Forensic swabs taken in the event a dog is identified.



Sheep attacked in field of Whitehall Road Bearsted. Witness had captured the two offending dogs. 5 Sheep were killed and 2 were PTS and 2 further sheep injured. Believe the attack has been on going as some dead sheep appear to have overnight wounds. A German Shepherd and a Jack Russell have been identified as being responsible and have been seized. The dogs were chipped and enquiries have identified the owner. The Dog Owner was interviewed and made full admission. The ownership of the dogs is being relinquished and the dogs have been euthanized. The offence will be being progressed through Restorative Justice Process.

Op Traverse (Fish Poaching)

OP TRAVERSE. Jack THOMSON attended Tonbridge police station for a non- custodial interview in relation to Schedule 1 Theft Act offences. THOMSON has been identified as fishing at various iconic locations in Kent, Surrey and Sussex. He filmed himself catching fish at these locations and posted the footage on Youtube under his forbidden routes posts. THOMSON made a full admission to the allegations, and the matter has been dealt with via a Restorative Justice procedure. As part of his reparation, THOMSON has recorded an apology for his actions via his Youtube channel, which will highlight the offences for which he has been interviewed in relation to, in order to discourage any viewers from committing similar offences.



Enquiries in relation to ongoing fish poaching/theft at Lullingstone Castle Lake, Eynsford. Several reports have been received in relation to fish poaching at this location. RTF attended another report that persons were again poaching on Lullingstone Castle Lake. Met with security who guided the officer to where they believed persons were fishing but not persons located. Security suspected that the suspect vehicle was seen parked near to the lake with fishing equipment inside.

Information received from North Team Phone that van load of foreign people had just arrived at Southern water works, Argent Road, Rushenden with fishing equipment. PC Goodsall attended the location and spoke with several people that were fishing most had rod licences, apart from 3 males all from the London area. All were given suitable words of advice and details passed on to Environment Agency. An Information Marker was placed onto the subject vehicle. This was subsequently stopped by police colleagues in the Dartford Area, Vehicle had no Insurance or Tax and was seized and investigation on-going in respect of the persons stopped with the vehicle

PC 13047 SMITH and PC 13776 SOUTHERN attended Lullingstone Park, Eynsford following a call from the Security Guard reporting three males at the lake illegally fishing. Area search carried out with Security, however nobody could be located.

Wildlife

PC Verrall investigated reports that a resident in Maidstone was using a sonic bird scarer on their roof. It was reported that this was disturbing a bat roost as the bats had been seen flying in the daytime since the scarer had been installed. The occupant was spoken with and confirmed that they did have them installed but has since removed them after receiving a letter from the council regarding a noise complaint. The occupant stated they had issues with wood pigeons nesting under the solar panels on the roof. Advice given in regards to possible offences re disturbing bats, nesting birds, and when best to carry out prevention works in regards to the pigeons.

PC Williams attended a local Veterinary Surgery with deceased Buzzard. Surgery examined and X-Rayed the carcass and found no sign of physical trauma. Carcass disposed.

PC Goodsall investigated an Online enquiry from a from resident in Whitstable stating that a local business which backs on to her property had a large quantity of Japanese Knotweed growing which was now encroaching her property boarder and wanted advice and assistance. PC Goodsall then visited the Business from where the Knotweed was originating. They stated they were aware and a tree surgeon booked to resolve the issue. Informant very happy with attendance and outcome.



Op Assist

PC Pennicott followed up on reports of two large scale fly tips of soil in Staplehurst where suspect vehicle had been identified. Through his investigation he subsequently located and stopped the vehicle in Maidstone. The vehicle was towing a trailer with both the trailer and vehicle containing waste. Due to the links with fly tipping the vehicle was seized with the assistance of Maidstone Borough Council.



Contact received via Rural Task Force team phone regarding fly tipping in farmers field Common Road, Blue Bell Hill. Witness has seen a white a vehicle in the area and provided officers with the details. No Insurance shown held for the vehicle. Report created for dissemination to Local Enforcement Officers and vehicle nominated to ANPR.



5 Rural Officers worked an Op Assist in Medway working with Medway District Council. Several known waste carrier operatives were to be targeted. Principal attention was made to a Mitsubishi Canter suspected to be used in fly tipping offences in the Medway area. This was located outside at an address at Rainham. The occupant at the address confirmed he was the usual driver. The vehicle was seized as suspected to be used in fly tipping offences.



Attended a site at Rainham, in relation to vehicles used by the owner of the land. Medway Council have concerns he was running a waste management site at the location, as well as running skip lorries collecting waste and transporting to and from the site. A Mercedes skip lorry bearing trade plates 33532 was seized from the location on suspicion of having been used to carry waste. The owner claimed the vehicle did not run, and hadn't been on the road. However ANPR images showed the vehicle two days ago, carrying a skip. The trade plates were registered to a company that ceased trading several years ago, and these plates were seized to be returned to the DVLA who remain the owners. After initially claiming the keys were not at the location, they were handed over to allow the vehicle to be recovered.



Ford Transit stopped on St Williams Way, Chatham. The Driver was confirmed as the owner, who was in possession of his waste carriers licence. However, checks show his vehicle had no MOT and that the MOT was 3 months out of date. Driver was therefore issued a HORT/1 and given 7 days to get MOT sorted.

Ford Transit was stopped on Whitewall Road, Strood carrying scrap metal. The driver could not produce a scrap metal licence or waste carriers licence. He was issued with a producer by Environment Officer to allow him the opportunity to present the documents. The Ford Transit's identity was checked and the visible VIN, vehicle information plate and paint code paint all matched PNC, however vehicle's chassis stamp number did not match PNC. In addition the vehicle's glass date was 2013 although the vehicle was 2011. The vehicle has been seized for identification.



PC's Smith and Southern carried out an Op Assist at Sevenoaks with the local Sevenoaks Borough Council Enforcement Officer. 5 vehicles stop checked. 2 producers issued for waste licences and 1 FPN of £300 issued for carrying waste without a waste carriers licence produced. This was to a paving company who did not have the appropriate documentation for transporting waste.



PC Goodsall investigated a report of a Volvo Skip Lorry believed to be on false plates and being associated with a nominal known to engage in fly tipping offences. The vehicle has been seen around the area of Queenbrough/Rushenden the informant states the vehicle did not have the red writing on it last week and he is certain the registration is different. PC Goodsall carried out enquiries on this vehicle. The following day PC Goodsall located the skip lorry parked up and confirmed it was on false plates. The lorry was seized as used in crime and to confirm its identity.



Vehicle stop of Ford Transit Tipper. The driver did not have a waste carriers licence so was issued with FPN by Council.



Skip Lorry stopped on Sutton Road, Maidstone suspected to be involved in fly tipping. The driver had an expired substantive licence so was reported for this offence. He stated he had purchased the vehicle that day for £1500 and had picked it up from a Traveller site in Headcorn. As officers were talking to the driver his story changed and later identified that driver was working for the known Fly Tipper. The vehicle was seized. This vehicle has subsequently been linked to a large scale industrial fly tip which is now being jointly investigated by Maidstone Borough Council and Swale Borough Council.



Court Results

Incident from New Years Day attended by RTF officers. Julie HADLOW member of Ashford Valley Tickham Hunt found guilty of Common Assault and given a 12 month Conditional discharge, £620 court Costs and £20 victim surcharge. The victim a Hunt monitor refused to accept any compensation.

In February 2018 the RTF conducted a joint operation with the RSPCA in relation to a reported Puppy Farm, Old Ashford Road in Brenzett, near Ashford. A search warrant was executed at the address. Mark Burgess was found guilty in relation to 8 offences under the Animal Welfare Act, including causing unnecessary suffering to puppies by failing to investigate and address the cause of the animal's ill health and by selling the animal in an unfit state.

Mr Burgess, will appear for sentencing at Canterbury Magistrates Court on September 23.

Other Business

PC Goodsall supported RSPCA colleagues at an address in Dartford, after receiving information about cats been left in a property that had not been fed or water and the occupant had gone to prison. At the address no persons, present spoke with neighbours who stated that the male lives alone had no family and that they had been putting food through the letter box for the animals but no water. The property was a council property who were provided a lock smith around to gain entry to the property. 2 Cats were found mother and kitten taken into RSPCA care.

RTF officers responded to a report cold calling in and around the rural areas of Sittingbourne and possibly linked to rouge trading offences. The vehicle was located and stopped in Newington. The occupants were spoken too and claimed to have purchased the vehicle a week ago. When questioned about cold calling denied any involvement. Vehicle was shown as untaxed and had been since June 2018 therefore the vehicle was seized for no tax.



RTF officers were informed of concerns regarding a Land Rover being kept at an address in Lamberhurst. The owner had been trying to register the vehicle with DVLA, who had put a block on it over concerns as to its identity/parts. Pc's Perry and Moody attended the address with Kent Police vehicle examiners, who confirmed that parts appear to have serial numbers ground off. The vehicle has been seized to allow the examiners to conduct a full check.



PC's Pennicott and Smith responded to an ANPR activation on a blue VW Transporter. Vehicle located in ASDA, Chatham and whilst waiting for additional resources vehicle left and was stopped in Tunbury Avenue, Chatham. Driver was shown as a suspect for Burglary Dwelling in Ashford. Arrested for outstanding offence and conveyed to custody.

Two Horses were seized loose on the road around Goss Hill Swanely. One of the horses having a body score of 1 which is very poor condition and other health concerns. Enquires are ongoing to locate the owner of this horse in regards to welfare offences. The second has now been returned to its owner.



RTF officers deployed to Ashford after SECAS were attacked by a 136 Patient with a golf club. Local officers requested assistance upon arrival the male was detained after assaulting officers. Assisted area by escorting the Ambulance officers to William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

RTF officers responded to a report of dwelling burglary in progress at a property in Ulcombe. The team responded on arrival found side window smashed with blood staining on the window frame. Entry was forced and a male was located hiding under the bed. It transpired the male was a lawful occupant of the premises but broke in because he had lost his key. He hid under bed as he thought he was going to be attacked. Checks revealed he was wanted on 3 outstanding Domestic incidents and therefore arrested.

RTF Officers attended a fenced plot of land at Tunbridge Wells to assist TW Borough Council with the removal of a horse. One horse was inside the fence and a handwritten telephone number was on the gate. The number was phoned and approximately twenty minutes later a male turned up. He stated the horse was his and removed it and two horse traps from the land but refused all details and left the area. The male has since been identified. After the horse was removed the land was checked and a suspected stolen green/white Kawasaki trials bike was recovered for a vehicle examination. This was hidden in amongst the trees and covered with a carpet. There were also several plastic drums containing small amounts of red diesel.



RTF Officers then attended the Recreation Ground, Dowding Way, Tunbridge Wells in relation to abandoned horses on the land to assist in their removal by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. One horse was located and whilst dealing with them a female arrived at the scene and stated that the horse belonged to her son. The horse was not seized as female at scene arranged to remove the horse. There was also a Shetland pony on a lower field owned by KCC that was not removed.



Whilst PC Southern and SC Duncan were patrolling in Doddington a Vauxhall Astra came past at speed. Vehicle stopped on Ringlestone Road and driver admitted to not having any insurance. Vehicle seized and Driver Reported by PC SOUTHERN.



Criminal Damage to hay bales in Wouldham. Direct call from informant to team phone having already reported to Kent Police Force Control Room. Attended area and liaised with victim. Group of youths had been seen climbing on the hay bales and pulling them over causing £800 damage. Main concern was the danger posed if the bales fell on them. Area search but not trace for suspects

Land Rover Discovery with no front VRM seen on Swale Way. Vehicle tried to evade officers driving at speed and hiding in side road. Vehicle located with a driver. Traffic Offence Report completed for VRM offence.



Fly Tipping Court Results

The Rural Task Force work closely with the local authorities across the county targeting those responsible for Fly Tipping offences and illegal waste carrying. Below are some of the results from court.

Swale BC prosecuted a Jack LEE of the Three Lakes Caravan Site in Murston on the 08/08/2019 for two fly-tipping offences. The first offence relates to a fly-tip that occurred in Warren Lane, Hartlip on or around the 20/11/2017 in which a quantity of controlled waste was collected from an address in Southeast London. The second offence relates to a fly-tip that occurred in Common Road, Rochester on or around the 08/01/2018 and consisted of plasterboard, a bath, tiles and black bag waste that completely blocked the road. LEE was sentenced to 162 days imprisonment suspended for 2 years and 250 hours of unpaid work. LEE was ordered to pay costs of £1485 and a victim surcharge of £115.

Kayleigh Louise Wigman has been fined £1,000 and ordered to pay costs of £1,251.50 at Canterbury Magistrates Court, having been successfully prosecuted for a fly tip incident involving domestic rubbish which was found dumped in a country lane in Shadoxhurst in January 2019.



At Canterbury Magistrates Court on 23 July, lawyers representing the council brought two charges against Wigman. She did not attend court, so an application to prove in absence was made by the council.

The case was proved and the defendant found guilty on both charges.

Kind regards, Darren Walshaw

07870 252185 or darren.walshaw@kent.police.uk

Follow the team on Twitter **@ Kent Police Rural**

Team Email : rural.task.force@kent.police.uk