



Rural & Wildlife Crime Spring Newsletter

Our first Rural & Wildlife Crime Newsletter, a Personal update on my new role in Nottinghamshire Police so far, working with the Rural Beat Teams and Wildlife Officers from across the County



Juliet Webber – Rural & Wildlife Crime Partnerships Manager for Nottinghamshire

POSITIVE ACTIONS

Horse Handling Training

39 officers from 13 Beat teams attended training provided by our partners Bransby Horses

Off Road Bike Team Organisation

A new internal bookings process for reservation streamlining deployments and increasing pro-active patrols

Rural Driver Training

3 new 4x4 Vehicle drivers in Cotgrave and 2 new Quad Bike riders based Ollerton



Update so far...

By Juliet Webber

Having started my role as Rural & Wildlife Crime Partnerships Manager mid December 2024, I've taken the remaining Winter months to meet the Teams and some of the Rural Community across our County to understand how we tackle Rural Crime, we're different to neighbouring forces and have some incredibly knowledgeable Wildlife Crime Officers and Rural Beat Managers who are truly passionate about their local Community and the people who live in it

There's always work to be done and above I've highlighted some of the things I've been able to implement since joining, as a civilian with a wealth of knowledge in management, organisation and technology I can apply my strategic approach to improving efficiency, officer skills, cross-border communication and internal understanding of Rural and Wildlife specific issues, with the help of our longstanding partners

A bit more about what's happening Internally

- 22 new Wildlife Crime Officers have started their **National Wildlife Crime Unit led Training** package to be come specially trained officers to deal with issues such as Hunting with Hounds, Badger crime, the illegal trade of endangered species (CITES) and bird of prey crime to name just a few.
- I have launched an internal **Rural Crime Sharepoint** for the entire Force to access relevant information on Rural updates, resources and provide a seasonal weekly update to the Control Room on countryside matters arising with the changing seasons
- Training continues to add to our existing teams and officers able to deploy the force Quad Bike, alongside **5 additional riders** to join the off road bike team later this year, increasing our off road capability. The Quad will be focused in the vast open countryside of the North and East of the County, soon deployable from Harworth, Ollerton and Newark
- Utilising the National Rural Crime Unit Channel and reinstatement of both **Regional Intelligence meetings** and **cross-border operations** with neighbouring forces to strengthen relationships and focus on problem areas where we are aware communities feel vulnerable due to their individual landscape
- Training Day supported by the **Angling Trust and Environment Agency** to be held in May where officers and staff will gain detailed knowledge of the laws and restrictions around fishing in rivers, lakes, ponds and streams
- Off Road Bike Team re-structure to improve internal processes ensuring bikes can be out on patrol as often as possible, with local Beat Teams on pro-active deployments in areas not normally accessible to Police



#Horsewatch

The force Horsewatch scheme had been sadly shelved due to staff changes when I joined so as a horse rider myself it seemed the right thing to do to re-invigorate our previous scheme and bring it back to life

- Horsewatch officers now available across the County who have specialised knowledge and resources for dealing with all forms of equine related crime
- Control Room tagging of Equine issues to ensure concerns are properly investigated
- Availability of the Dashcam App <https://dashcamupload.notts.police.uk/> where riders with footage containing a VRM (number plate) can upload their footage for investigation and action by a specialised team
- Events calendar of Yard/Public Meetings with our partners to share vital contact information and ideas for the future of Horsewatch in Notts Police
- Signage and trailer vinyls available
- Headcollars in a 'Bucket Grab' to be introduced to all Rural and semi-rural stations for dealing with loose equines on roads and public areas

#Ruralwatch

Coming soon, you may have heard about this proposed scheme and we are currently finalising details which I should be able to share with you in the next Newsletter, Summer 25



By reading this Newsletter we know you're already signed up, but please encourage friends, neighbours, colleagues to sign up too if they live in a Rural Community in Nottinghamshire, ensure to tick 'Ruralwatch' under Alternative Watch Schemes too for more information on the above when it is launched

#OpGalileo

OPERATION GALILEO

ILLEGAL HARE COURSING

Do you suffer with Hare Coursers across your land? **Signage now available** thanks to our partners the CLA from your local Beat Team and please Report It! Regional Intelligence suggests gone are the traditional 'seasons' and this sort of damaging, illegal activity can happen at any time of year, but without knowledge of it we can't effectively work on solutions to deal with it

Upcoming Events

28th April – 4th May

National Week of Action for Operation Gallop – designed to improve collaboration between police forces and partners – we will be taking extra steps to reduce crime including the theft of horses, trailers, horseboxes and tack, address fly grazing and **welfare issues**, encourage property marking & **improve road safety**. A Public meeting is being held at a Yard near Collingham, Newark on **Saturday 3rd May** where I will be in attendance with more planned across the County in the coming months

10th May

Nottinghamshire County Show – our off road bikes will be in attendance alongside officers from road crime and the special constabulary engaging with the public and their families, a chance to meet the team and see the vehicles we use in tackling off-road crime

14th May

Internal Horsewatch Teams Meeting – our 2nd team catch up with officers and staff across the County to discuss actions and feedback so far and plans for the coming months

15th May

Angling Trust CPD Training Day

Various dates in June

Mini Cadets Showcase at HQ – the force Quad Bike and riders will speak to our Mini Police regarding Rural Crime, off road anti-social behaviour and **wildlife crime**.

20th July

'Pawsby' at Thoresby Park – With **Naturewatch Foundation** (TBC) highlighting the issue of **Livestock worrying**, keeping dogs on leads in the Countryside and responsible dog ownership

Please have your say

I understand you may feel that reporting something in the past hasn't amounted to any visible action. I understand you feel there's nothing we can do about a situation you witness. However reporting is the single biggest thing you can do to help our teams reduce Rural Crime

- If you are a member of a Rural Whatsapp group and you see something you feel should be reported to Police, please encourage that user to report it, **without intelligence we cannot build a pattern of what's happening in your area. This is the single most useful thing you can do to help**
- Report suspicious activity, if something doesn't look right, if someone is on your land without permission, if someone is riding along a footpath or bridleway and you're not sure they should be, if you **have felt intimidated or threatened** by the behaviour of others whilst in a rural or isolated area, please report it
- If you are **concerned about a fellow farmer**, landowner, neighbour, colleague, partner or **young person**, there are organisations who can help you and them to get access to the support they might need
- Visit our **Rural Crime pages** on our website which have detailed information on what types of crime to report and areas you can report these crimes directly <https://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/ro/report/rwc/rural/report-rural-crime/> or scan the QR code below. To submit online go to <https://onlinecrime.notts.police.uk/>
- Sign-up to Notts Alerts where you can have your say in the **'What Matters' survey**, sent out periodically throughout the year direct to your inbox, or visit <https://survey.nottspolice.co.uk/Survey>
- Follow us on Social Media if you use it, there are **local pages** set-up for news more local to your community, such as East Bassetlaw Police: Retford, Harworth..... West Bassetlaw Police: Worksop, Blyth.....Sherwood Police, Newark Police: Rural Villages, Mansfield Police, Ashfield Police, Rushcliffe South Police: Radcliffe, Bingham....(in addition to our Nottinghamshire Police main page and Nottinghamshire Police Horse Watch) to hear about **local Beat Surgeries where you can meet the team**

 **Call 999 to report an immediate threat to life or property. (Textphone: 18000)**



Report by phone

Telephone: ☎101

Textphone: 📠18001 101

Calls to 101 are free of charge.

Report anonymously

Contact **Crimestoppers**.

www.crimestoppers-uk.org 

Telephone: ☎0800 555 111

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