

Rural & Wildlife Crime Summer Newsletter



A new all-terrain addition to the Off Road fleet!

Funded through the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer4All grant the Polaris ATV (pictured middle) is the first of its type to be deployed by the police in the region - designed to handle any landscape, even in the toughest of conditions.

Specially trained officers covering rural areas across Bassetlaw, Rushcliffe, Mansfield, Ashfield, Newark and Sherwood will have access to the ATV so they can target hotspots of illegal off road activity and anti-social behaviour, routinely patrol off road areas being damaged and used for criminality and to search for missing or vulnerable people when required.

The ATV is a welcome addition the force's existing fleet of off-road 4x4s, quad bike and off-road bikes already available to neighbourhood policing officers allowing deployments to be regular and frequent across the County. The ATV can operate independently with 2 officers or may often be seen working in conjunction with other vehicles to stop and seize illegal vehicles from farm and private land.



In April, kindly hosted by the team at the National Trust, Clumber Park we joined Hayley Jones from Historic England in the launch of our new **Heritage Crime Team**. Six Officers from across the County have now completed their training delivered by Head of Heritage Crime at Historic England, Mark Harrison BSc (Hons) FSA



The role of these officers will be to advise and support investigations into heritage crime such as night hawking (illegal metal detecting), theft of lead and other assets from historic monuments and buildings, criminal damage to assets of historic importance and much more. Many of these crimes are dealt with as part of day to day policing but the Heritage Crime Officers are on hand to offer specialist advice and escalate concerns where necessary to the correct body. To report a suspected Heritage Crime you can use the link below to create an **online report** or if a **crime is in progress, dial 999** and state you are witnessing a **Heritage Crime**



SUMMER UPDATES:

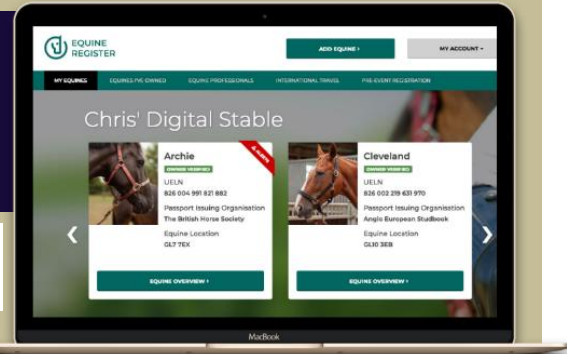
- We continue to recruit new volunteers to patrol our rural areas under the **Rural Watch** scheme – to find out more about joining the scheme email ruralcrime@notts.police.uk a new group has been formed in the Rushcliffe Area and is in particular looking for more volunteers to increase patrol frequency



- **Remove your domes and screens!** Nationally we continue to see GPS equipment being stolen from tractors when left in the open both day and night, we ourselves are working with the National Construction and Agricultural Theft Team NCATT on thefts from Nottinghamshire in April. We know the time and complications of removing these expensive units when not in use however they are still being targeted by organised criminals across the UK and we don't expect that to stop, especially with the situation in the middle east continuing.



- **Operation Magna** – in partnership with National Highways and Bassetlaw District Council we have issued all waste bins across the north stretch of the A1(M) with a warning to drivers about parking overnight in laybys – often targeted by fuel thieves. The warnings are in multiple languages and advise to mention a What3Words when reporting so we can effectively monitor the hotspot and organise ro-active patrols at night to target this relentless crime which damages crops and wildlife in its process. We continue to gather information to take back to National Highways for further investment in safety improvements on this stretch of busy road



TRIALLING ACCESS TO THE CENTRAL EQUINE DATABASE

Nottinghamshire Police are one of a handful of Police forces in the UK trialling new access to the CED, never before have we had direct access to equine ownership details from microchips and have relied on partnerships such as the RSPCA, local Vets and local Councils to obtain this data. The trial will enable us to, at the roadside or in the field, be able to scan and identify the last registered owner of any equine in distress loose, fly grazing or abandoned 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Something we are hoping will improve our response capability in tracing and contacting an owner should their equine be at risk or risking the lives of those on our roads.

We encourage all equestrians to ensure all of your equines are registered in your name, their details are up to date on the Central Equine Database (CED) and you are in possession of their Passport as proof of ownership. The CED website also allows you to receive a FREE digital smart card for your horse and instantly notify your Passport Issuing Organisation of any updates to ownership or equine details. Use the QR code above to access the CED website and set up your Digital Stable, If your equine is missing you can notify the CED through your Digital Stable. The CED can then be checked so you can be reunited when it's found.



OPERATION TRAVERSE Our City Wildlife Crime Officers PC Whittle and PCSO Spencer-Raymond joined forces this May with the Environment Agency Fisheries Enforcement Team in a new joint patrol of the lakes at Colwick Country Park which has unfortunately become a popular destination for illegal fishing as well as ASB and Arson putting local Wildlife there at risk, further patrols are planned throughout the Summer



Upcoming Events

9th June 2026

Regional Rural & Wildlife Crime Forum

Our quarterly meeting between key partners, stakeholders and neighbouring forces to update on the current situation with rural and wildlife crime, share best practice and intelligence and collaborate in future operations, chaired by Rural Crime Lead for Nottinghamshire Cl Clive Collings

27th June 2026 10am—4pm

Rural Crime Showcase 2026!

We are kindly hosted by Rufford Country Park again this year for our rural crime showcase and will be joined by partners and departments such as our drone team, police dogs, Notts Fire & Rescue, and the Environment Agency who will be bringing their enforcement boat! All day parking is £7 per car for the whole site

New for 2026 we will also have Wildlife Crime Officers in partnership with Go Active Falconry talking about Raptor Persecution and national operations to reduce Bird Crime

July -Horse Handling Officer Training

Our next cohort of officers likely to encounter loose or abandoned horses this year including roads policing officers will be trained at Bransby Horses facility in Lincolnshire, giving them the skills they need to approach and deal with situations more confidently


October - Autumn BASC Training in Deer Poaching and Management

To be kindly hosted at Thoresby Estate, as part of their ongoing specialist training our Wildlife Crime Officers will be guided through the legal and non legal practices associated with Deer Management with an input from our CSI and Firearms Licencing departments to give a comprehensive session on how to best attend an incident of deceased deer or reports of poaching on private land.

Please have your say

Reporting crime or suspicious behaviour remains **the single most important thing you can do** to help us tackle all forms of crime which affects your community, without reports the recordings do not show the crime has taken place, and without this we are unable to help

- 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**
- **Use What3Words** to help pinpoint where you saw the crime, please give this information to the call handler or include in your online report
- 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

FCN | THE FARMING
COMMUNITY
NETWORK



Call our helpline
03000 111 999



Email our helpline
help@fcn.org.uk



General Enquiries
help@fcn.org.uk



**Safety.
Support.
Strength.**

24HR HELPLINE
08088000340

