



HERTFORDSHIRE
CONSTABULARY

Royston Rural Watch August 2013

PC 431 Paul Marina, PC1277 Nic Musto, PCSO Chris Brabrook



*Our Non-Emergency
number 101*



“Hello and welcome to the Rural Newsletter”

Well, August is upon us again! Children have broken up from school and adults collectively look at the long summer holidays with fear in their eyes. However, this year the local youth services have again put together a mammoth amount of activities for children of all ages, being run from Royston and Baldock. From Dancing and art drop in sessions, to trips to Thorpe Park and dog training. We have in the past had a ‘Crime scene day’ where you (or preferably your children) don detective hat and coat and try and solve a mystery. Might have a go at that myself- might learn something!

I would urge parents to seriously consider getting their children involved in some of the activities, not only are they fun, but you also know where your kids are and know that boredom hasn’t washed over them forcing them out into public to commit petty nuisance.

August is not only a time to throw your children out of the house and into the capable hands of an entertainer, it is also the time of year when the vast majority of people leave their homes and go on holiday. Please remember that if you do go away, criminals will take advantage of your absence. Even if you remain at home on a 'stay-cation' you may still go on away days out, again leaving you home empty.

I have therefore this month included some advice on Summer security.

Lastly, please keep reporting to us any suspicious activity that you see. Especially if you believe that the activity is related to drugs. We are continuing to target drug misuse and dealing within the rural areas, but the more information you supply to us, the more we can do to force entry into drug dealers' homes and disrupt their activities.

Summer advice

If you're planning to go on holiday or are just going out, taking a day trip or doing the gardening, it is important to remember to take the simple steps to secure your home and vehicle to keep criminals at bay.

Keeping your property secure when you're on holiday:

- Make sure that you've locked all outside doors and windows, and if you have a burglar alarm, make sure it is set.
- If you have a UPVC door, ensure you have double locked it. Remember, *lift* the handle, *turn* the key and *lock* the door. Otherwise your door may be insecure.
- If you normally leave valuable pedal cycles or similar items in your shed, consider putting them in the house.
- Consider leaving important documents and valuable items with other family members or a bank.
- Use automatic timer-switches to turn your lights on when it goes dark - don't forget to put them in your bedroom.
- If neighbours keep your keys, advise them not to put your surname, address or even your house number on in case they fall into the wrong hands.
- Avoid discussing holiday plans in front of stranger.
- Cancel any milk or newspaper deliveries.

Securing your home before a day out in the sunshine:

- Lock all doors before you go out, and ensure all windows are secure before leaving your home.
- If you have any UPVC doors, make sure you lift the handle AND use the key to lock it properly.
- Don't leave ladders and tools outside (burglars could use them to help break in).

- Register your possessions on free online property database www.immobilise.com - it can help police return them to you if they are lost or stolen.

Summer gardening:

- Keep your shed securely locked by using a strong padlock as the bare minimum, and remember to lock your garden gate.
- Keep hedges and shrubs in your front garden below windowsill height to prevent a burglar having a 'screen' to work behind.
- ALWAYS put away any gardening equipment and tools when you've finished with them - a shovel could be just what a burglar needs to break in.
- Keep garden fences in good repair and consider having trellising on the top to discourage anyone climbing over.
- Use additional locks (and alarms where possible) for garages, shed doors and outside storage areas, especially if you use them to store valuable equipment such as golf clubs or fishing gear.

Leaving your car on a summer day out:

- Don't leave any valuables in your car - even if you know the bag on the front seat is empty, a thief may still try their luck, leaving you with a broken window to deal with.
- Remove your Sat Nav and its holder from the car - don't leave it in the glove box as that's the first place a thief will look - and make sure you wipe away any suction marks.
- It may sound obvious, but remember to shut your windows and sunroof when you leave your car.
- Put your aerial down to stop it being vandalised.
- Use an approved steering lock or gear clamp.
- Set your immobiliser and alarm if you have one fitted. If you do not have an immobiliser, consider having one fitted.

Keeping your bicycle secure this summer :

- Mark the frame of your bike with your postcode using a UV pen or contact your local cycle shop, as most will mark them for a small cost. You can contact your local Crime Prevention Officer for advice about other property marking initiatives on 0845 33 00 222.
- Register your bike on www.immobilise.com, a free online property database which police use to check stolen property. That way, if your bike does get stolen, you have more chance of it being returned to you.
- Never leave your bike unlocked - even if you're just popping into the newsagents.
- The best kind of lock is a quality solid steel D-shaped shackle lock. You can buy these at any bike shop.
- Always lock your bike to something solid like a lamp-post or railings, preferably in a public area.
- If you have quick release wheels, take off the front wheel and lock it to the frame and back wheel.

- If you have a pump or detachable lights, take them with you when you leave your bike.
- Make sure you have adequate insurance cover for your bike.

You can contact me by phoning 101 and giving my name or warrant number which is 1277. My email is Nic.Musto@herts.pnn.police.uk

SPEED CHECKS

Village	Area of check	Date and times	No of cars/Top speed/ Average speed
Hinxworth	High Street	23/07/13 1835 - 1905	16 vehicles / 32 mph / 26.3 mph
Newnham	Ashwell road	24/07/13 1705 - 1735	20 vehicles / 40 mph / 27.9 mph
Bygrave	Lower Bygrave	23/07/13 1750 - 1820	25 vehicles / 37 mph / 27.5 mph
Ashwell	Station Road (40 limit)	23/07/13 1920 - 1950	20 vehicles / 45 mph / 34.2 mph
Ashwell	Newnham Way	24/07/13 1625 - 1755	28 vehicles / 34 mph / 26.3 mph
Weston	Maiden Street (School)	24/07/13 1810 - 1940	31 vehicles / 33 mph / 24.7 mph

REPORTED CRIME

G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
G4/13/439	Theft-From Motor Vehicle	Ashwell	16/07/13
Offenders stole property from vehicle			

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
G4/13/464	Burglary-(Dwelling)	Hinxworth	27/07/13
Offenders entered house and stole property			

Crime no.	Offence	Location	Time & date
G4/13/469	Burglary-(Outbuilding)	Newnham	29/07/13

(Outbuilding)

Out building broken into

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
G4/13/472	Theft-From Motor Vehicle	Ashwell	30/07/13

Catalytic convertor stolen

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
G4/13/473	Theft-From Motor Vehicle	Ashwell	30/07/13

Catalytic convertor stolen

G4D - Barkway, Barley, Reed, Nuthampstead, Newsells, Kelshall and Therfield

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
G4/13/424	Damage	Therfield	05/07/13

Car window smashed

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
G4/13/437	Damage	Barkway	15/07/13

Car window smashed

G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
G3/13/274	Theft-From Motor Vehicle	Sandon	04/07/13

Catalytic convertor stolen

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Time & Date
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G3/13/286	Burglary-(Dwelling)	Weston	16/07/13
Offenders entered house and stole property			

Illegal Hare Coursing

Incidents In our area

	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
02-03	10	12	30	10	8	12	9	8	100
03-04	03	13	28	3	8	13	9	3	80
04-05	4	13	4	0	4	0	1	0	26
05-06	0	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	6
06-07	0	4	4	6	1	0	2	0	17
07-08	3	10	4	6	9	2	4	3	43
08-09	7	5	2	4	4	4	2	1	29
09-10	3	3	10	3	1	1	2	1	24
10-11	0	2	2	4	1	1	0	9	10
11-12	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	7
12-13	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	6

Parish Council Visits

Rushden	14/05/13	Sandon	12/09/12
Therfield	07/05/13	Reed	16/05/13
Barkway	10/03/13	Barley	04/03/13
Kelshall	08/04/13	Nuthampstead	15/06/11
Ashwell	05/06/13	Bygrave	01/05/13
Caldecote	28/05/11	Weston	11/04/13
Radwell	10/05/11	Wallington	14/05/13
Hinxworth	02/05/13	Clothall	04/06/13

Police Surgery times and dates:

<http://snt.herts.police.uk/aCMS/team.php?nptID=63&dID=5>

Useful Links

<http://www.herts.police.uk/>

<http://www.doglost.co.uk/>

<http://www.stolenhorseregister.com/>

Thank you for reading this newsletter.

If you would like to see anything
email on

added to it then please contact me via
Nic.Musto@herts.pnn.police.uk