



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

Royston Rural Watch, October 2015

PC Mike Hardiman 2787, PCSO Chris Brabrook 6522,
PCSO Penny Tomsett 6531

Sgt Westwood 1604



***Our Non -
Emergency
Number 101***

Shed Burglar Gets Four Years In Prison



Man sentenced to four years in connection with 38 burglaries committed across Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Essex

A 39-year-old man from Harlow was sentenced to four years at Cambridge Crown Court on Wednesday, October 7 after being found guilty of burglary and handling stolen goods from 38 burglaries that took place between October 2012 and November 2013 across rural parts of Hertfordshire, Cambridge and Essex where over £75,000 worth of goods were stolen.

Dritan Shegani, from Brockles Mead in Harlow, was arrested on November 3, 2013 having committed a burglary in Sandon, Hertfordshire and handling the

stolen property from burglaries in Rushden, Roe Green and Buntingford - predominantly in the North and East Herts rural areas bordering the A10, Cambridgeshire and Essex. The crimes in Cambridgeshire happened close to Hertfordshire's borders and included CB21 Post Code areas - Castle Camps, Horseheath and Weston Colville. In Essex, crimes took place in the Saffron Walden area including Ashdon and Radwinter

Following investigations by police officers in North Herts into the crime series, over 317 items including tools, push bikes, diving equipment, fishing tackle and gardening equipment - such as leaf blowers, strimmers, lawnmowers and chainsaws - were discovered stashed in two lock up garages at addresses in Harlow and Surrey. The estimated worth of all the stolen goods is £75,000.

Since November 2013 police officers and volunteers from Hertfordshire Constabulary - working alongside officers from Essex and Cambridgeshire – have been proactively contacting members of the public who experienced burglaries in the affected areas and invited them to attend special events to see if they could identify their stolen items.

Over 173 items were left over after the events and still need to be identified and retrieved by their rightful owners. If you live in the affected areas and you have had any bicycles, tools, trailers, fishing tackle, gardening, equestrian or scuba diving equipment stolen between October 2012 and November 2013, please contact DC Jeanette Walker via the non-emergency number 101 for further information.

North Herts Local Crime Unit Detective Constable Jeanette Walker, who has been leading on the operation, said: "Our teams started investigating this burglary series in rural areas of North Herts and East Herts as soon as they began to emerge. This included stepping up targeted patrols in affected areas, working with Scenes of Crime Officers and Crime Prevention personnel, together with neighbouring forces who were also experiencing similar offences.

After on-going intelligence work, we were delighted to discover the stashes of stolen goods and to arrest Shegani. Having your home, shed or garage broken into can be extremely distressing but I hope the fact that this man is now in prison will be of some comfort to his victims.

"Whilst Hertfordshire remains one of the safest counties in the country, tackling burglary by both preventing offences taking place and by bringing offenders to justice, remains a priority. I hope that this sentence send a strong message to anyone intent on carrying out these sorts of crimes, that we will do all we can to put a stop to your actions and put you before the courts."

In order to increase the chances of your tools, gardening equipment, bikes or other valuables being returned to you in the event of them being recovered by police after they have been lost or stolen, register them on

www.immobilise.com. It is a free database where people can list their valuables and it can also serve as a deterrent to would-be thieves who won't want to be caught carrying property that is easily identified as not belonging to them.

Speeding enforcement and awareness success in Barley



Police and residents who teamed up to tackle speeding through a North Herts village have successfully reduced the average speed of traffic to within the 30mph speed limit.

A combined effort of police speed enforcement and a Community DriveSafe scheme in Barley (formerly SpeedWatch) has seen average speeds (northbound) fall from 39mph to 30 mph in four years.

Sergeant Guy Westwood, who leads the Royston Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team

that covers Barley, has been working with residents to tackle speeding, which has been an on-going issue for Barley for many years.

He said: "I've only been responsible for this area of Hertfordshire for a few months but in that time I have gained an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the speeding concerns of the villagers in Barley. The B1368 has been used for years as a rat run or bypass by some motorists wanting to avoid the traffic on the A10 and by others as a racetrack, perhaps forgetting that the road passes through villages where there are pedestrians, children, pets, horse riders, slow moving farm traffic and local drivers.

"Residents have reported many near misses as well as some actual collisions but the main issue is the real fear that speeding vehicles bring to people living along the road and using the pavements.

"As this stretch of road does not qualify for speed calming or safety cameras because of the low numbers of actual collisions, the only option is for police enforcement, whenever possible, and for residents to step up and take action, as they have done."

In 2011 a six-day round-the-clock covert traffic survey, using recording equipment, revealed that there were 11,407 vehicle movements. The average northbound speed was 39 mph in the 30mph zone, with southbound traffic recording an average speed of 37mph.

Following Speed Watch campaigns, police speed enforcement and, more recently, Community DriveSafe awareness events, an identical survey in July

2015 showed 14,169 vehicles passing through in seven days, with an average northbound speed of 30mph and southbound - 29 mph.

Sgt Westwood said: "This is an extraordinary turnaround. There is no doubt that the determination of Barley residents, who have volunteered to carry out speed monitoring and keep the issue in the minds of the police, is key to this achievement."

The Police and Crime Commissioner, David Lloyd, who set up Community DriveSafe in 2013 as a fully police-supported successor to SpeedWatch, said: "This result proves just how effective communities can be when they are determined to tackle a local issue. I congratulate everyone involved on their success in reducing the speed of passing traffic.

"DriveSafe is a powerful way for local people to become actively involved in making where they live an even safer place, working in partnership with their local police to really make a difference. I hope this success encourages others who are thinking of starting their own scheme where they live."

Is your vehicle ready for winter?

With the clocks going back this month, motorists in Hertfordshire are being urged to make sure their vehicle is ready for winter.

Is your vehicle ready for winter?

Police are encouraging people to perform simple vehicle maintenance checks, such as making sure the tread depth on tyres is above the 1.6mm limit, to help avoid being involved in a collision.

Other things to check include lights, breaks, windscreen wipers, screen wash and the vehicle's battery.

The campaign coincides with national Tyre Safety Month. This year TyreSafe conducted the UK's largest survey of tread depths at the point of replacement. The results showed that 27% of people replaced their tyres when they were already illegal. In addition to safety concerns, this could result in a fine and up to three penalty points for each illegal tyre.

Officers from the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Road Policing Unit will be conducting an increased number of vehicle checks throughout the month. They will also be targeting drivers of overloaded vehicles.

The darker evenings mean it is essential that vulnerable road users such as cyclists and pedestrians wear high visibility clothing and bicycles must be fitted with lights. It is an offence to use a bicycle in dark conditions without lights.

Is your vehicle ready for winter?

Inspector Mark Rogers said: “With the clocks going back this month it is vital that people make sure their vehicle is ready for winter. A few simple checks could save your life and the lives of others.

“If you’re unsure about the condition of your vehicle and if it is ready for the colder weather, then book it in for a winter service.

“With less light in the evenings we are also reminding cyclists to make sure they are visible to other road users. This includes using lights on their bicycle and wearing high visibility clothing.”



Local Crime Information,

Reported Crimes

G4E – Ashwell, Hinxworth, Newnham, Bygrave

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/689	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Ashwell	Friday 2 nd October
Number plates removed and stolen from a vehicle			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/715	Burglary	Bygrave	Tuesday 13 th October
Rear patio door smashed, entry gained and jewellery stolen			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/734	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Hinxworth	Sat 17 th to Mon 19 th
Number plates removed and stolen from a vehicle			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/759	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Ashwell	Sunday 25 th October
Number plates			

removed and stolen from a vehicle

G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston

No Reported Crime

G4D – Barley, Barkway, Reed, Nuthampstead, Therfield and Kelshall

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/727	Burglary - other	Barkway	Fri 16 th to Sat 17 th
Entry gained to a garden shed and property removed			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/729	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Barkway	Saturday 17 th October
Centre pieces removed from alloy wheels			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/772	Theft of Motor Vehicle	Therfield	Thurs 29 th to Fri 30 th
Offenders stole a vehicle parked at the roadside			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/776	Burglary - Other	Barkway	Friday 30 th to Sat 31 st
Offenders have cut padlocks, gained entry to a paddock and removed property			

Your local Neighbourhood Police Teams website

<http://snt.herts.police.uk/Teams.aspx?TeamID=G01>

Useful Links

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

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

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

Royston Rural Neighbourhood Team Tel – 01438 757935