



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

Royston Rural Watch, March 2016

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

Sgt Guy Westwood 1604



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

Police, farmers, businesses and local residents tackle rural crime issues in Royston



Around 50 rural residents - including local landowners, farmers, local councillors and rural business owners - attended a barn meet with the police in Royston on Wednesday, February 17.

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The Chief Constable, the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), police officers from the Royston Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team, the Rural Operation Support Team* (ROST), Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue, North Herts District Council, Crimestoppers and representatives from the National Farmers Union and Country Landowners Association also attended. The event, which was held within the grounds of Thrift Farm, Baldock Road, Royston and was hosted by farm owner Robert Law, aimed to discuss how the police can work with local people and businesses to reduce and prevent

rural crime, reduce the fear of crime and to reduce anti-social behaviour to improve the quality of life for local rural communities.

Attendees heard talks by the Chief Constable Andy Bliss, Deputy PCC David Gibson, North Herts Chief Inspector Julie Wheatley and North Herts Safer Neighbourhood Team Inspector Duncan Sales. They spoke about what the police and partner agencies are doing to tackle rural crime and how to prevent crimes which are specific to rural areas, including wildlife, environmental and heritage crime. Subjects covered included fly tipping, hare coursing, burglary and the safety of rural roads. This was followed by a question and answer session.

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The Chief Constable also discussed the equipment and technology the force's rural police officers now have, such as 4x4 vehicles and mobile data equipment - giving them up to date information about crime and criminals - which will help them to effectively fight crime in the countryside.

Chief Constable Andy Bliss, said: "I'd like to thank Robert Law for hosting the event and making it possible. Barn meets such as this enable rural communities to meet with police and partner agencies to discuss issues which affect them on a daily basis in a relaxed and informal environment. They also allow us to update local people about the on-going police work to prevent and detect rural crime.

"It was a great success and valuable to hear the views and experiences of local people. I hope that it reassured everyone who attended that rural crime is being taken very seriously at all levels."

Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner David Gibson added: "It was good to see so many representatives from rural business, parish councils and partner agencies at this latest barn meet to discuss rural issues. We all have a responsibility to work together to keep our community safe.

"Rural communities can feel ignored by the police because crime is lower than in urban areas, but I am confident the Constabulary is taking rural issues seriously and acknowledging the affect crime has on often isolated communities.

"I'd like to see more of this type of event and would encourage rural communities to get even more involved with helping to keep their community safe. This can be achieved on a number of levels, from simply keeping the police informed of anything suspicious or by joining schemes such as Neighbourhood Watch and Heritage Watch, to becoming a Rural Special Constable or a Police Community Volunteer."

Robert Law added: "We were very glad to have had the opportunity to host this event and I was really pleased to see that we had a good turnout of

people from local rural and farming communities. It was really helpful to discuss our main concerns with our local rural officers; we enjoy very strong working relationship with the police in this area and appreciate all of their efforts on our behalf.”

*The Rural Operational Support Team is a five strong team of police officers specialised in preventing crimes concerning wildlife, agriculture, equine issues, the county’s heritage and the local environment.

National fraud warning over fake police

There have recently been a number of incidents where fraudsters have either phoned or attended the home address of elderly members of the public claiming to be police officers.

The fake officer/s claim they are investigating a fraud which they believe the elderly person to be a victim of.

The conmen then request the bank cards and personal identification numbers (PIN) of the victim and claim these are needed for investigation purposes. If first contact is made by a phone call, the fake officer/s will tell the victim that someone will be over to collect the evidence.

In one case the victim was instructed to go to their local bank and withdraw all of the money from their account. The suspect was left alone in the victim’s house whilst the victim carried out the instructions.

Before letting anyone into your home who claims to be from a law enforcement agency, ask to see their identity card and check it by calling 101.

If you have any doubts, ask if they can attend at a pre-arranged time when a family member or friend can also be present.

And if you receive a phone call from someone saying they are a police officer, ask for their name and force and tell them you will call them back. Wait a few minutes and then use 101 to call them back through their force’s switchboard and verify their identity.”

Police will never ask for a PIN or passwords to a member of the public's bank account and will never request that money be withdrawn or transferred to them.

On-Line Watch Liaison (OWL)

Owl is a messaging service that keeps you up to date with on-going crime trends and crime prevention advice. You can choose how you receive the

information for example over the phone or via email. This is a useful tool as it keeps you up to date with current crime in your area and will inform you of this to look out for.

I have attached an Owl form; please take a minute to complete the form and send back to be on this email address –

Christopher.brabrook@herts.pnn.police.uk



Local Crime Information,

G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/15/888	Burglary - Other	Newnham Airfield	18 th Feb
Offenders entered a hanger and have removed aircraft parts			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/139	Theft from MV	Ashwell, Station Road	23 rd Feb
Theft of number plates, offenders were arrested			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/188	Theft	Ashwell, High Street	23 rd Feb
Window box stolen from the front of a property			

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

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/92	Damage	Greenbury Close, Barley	1 st Feb
A vehicle has found			

with a scratch, possible deliberate damage

G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G3/16/105	Theft	Quickwood, Clothall	23 rd Feb
Traps stolen from farmland laid by a gamekeeper			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G3/16/105	Damage	Weston	27 th Feb
Offender damaged a fence whilst retrieving dogs from the rear of the garden			

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