



Introduction



Hello again, I sit here writing this newsletter a few days before you'll read it ...and some days after I should have written it! This is simply because despite the ground still being covered in snow and ice, we have had an incredibly busy few days as a team. More to follow on that.

Needless to say our truck has clocked up a fair few miles helping out on the county's roads due to the weather and while it may not have been as severe as the Beast from the East, it certainly caused various issues at times. Issues the emergency services could have done without given the current situation.

You would have seen in the press that officers continue to deal with people breaching Covid-19 health regulations with regards to people travelling long distances to visit our coastline and Norfolk's other beauty spots. It is always disappointing to see people

flouting the health regulations that have been put in place to protect us and the NHS. Things seem to be heading in the right direction but we cannot let our guard down and must stick with the regulations, and I have no doubt the good times will return.

This newsletter is slightly shorter than usual just because of the time constraints on me.

Please let me know if there is anything you feel should be covered in the newsletter in the coming weeks. Innovative and different ideas are always welcome!

You will probably know I have organised my first engagement event in post. This will be with us, the Chief Constable, PCC, and CPS District Crown Prosecutor and will provide a brief update on where we are as a team as well as a Q&A session for you. This will be hosted on Microsoft Teams, and you will need to email to request the joining link. Microsoft Teams is a free service, very similar to Zoom, that can be used on laptops, tablets, mobiles and other devices. Details on how to request the link are further in the newsletter.



NEED TO TALK TO US?

PC Chris Shelley | christopher.shelley@norfolk.pnn.police.uk | 07900 407106

Theft of dogs

The theft of dogs is an incredibly emotive crime. More often than not our dogs are simply not just a pet, they become a huge part of the family...I know mine doesn't see herself as a dog or pet, the spoilt pooch! So, when people have their loved pet stolen, it has a huge impact on their lives.

On the night of Thursday 11 February 2021, we arrested two people in connection with a burglary in Hockwold. It happened shortly after 8.30pm when a Border Collie dog and a number of doves were stolen from farm outbuildings. We have recovered the stolen dog.

A man aged in his 30s and a woman aged in her 20s were arrested in connection with the burglary and have been released on police bail. Our enquiries continue.

Unfortunately we have seen a couple of dog thefts in the last couple of weeks and we continue to appeal for information in relation to this dogs.



Timely Reminder!

Please check your dog's microchip is up to date. It is a legal requirement for your dog to be microchipped when they're eight weeks' old as well as ensure your details on the database

are up to date. Such information is vital to us, vets, RSPCA and other organisations that routinely scan dog chips to help us identify stolen dogs. If your details are out of date on the database we may be unable to get hold of you.

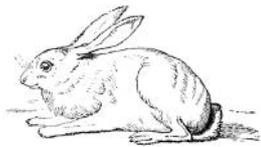
Crime prevention advice

- Please review the security of any outdoor kennels. Security measures to prevent thefts include good quality locks and lighting, while consideration should be given to CCTV and sensors as these offer an early alert to the presence of intruders.
- Gardens should be well secured with fencing or hedges, while gates should be kept locked.
- Owners are advised not to leave dogs out in open gardens and yards when they are not at home and, if possible, they should be brought into the house overnight.
- Ensure your dog is chipped and, if neutered, mark the dog's tag as such as this makes them less attractive to thieves who may want to steal them for breeding.
- When out walking, if you let your dog off the lead, don't allow it to leave your sight.
- Don't give away your personal details online.
- Consider your security settings on social media and avoid giving away details that may highlight your address and the fact you have a dog which could be attractive to thieves.
- Be vigilant of anything that looks suspicious. This includes people you do not know hanging around your property, or any cold callers. Please report such activity to us on 101 or via our online reporting form, with descriptions of the individuals and their vehicles."



WhatsApp Group

The Operation Randall WhatsApp group is expanding. At present the group mainly consists of partner agencies, key landowners and administrators of other social media rural groups. I am currently looking at increasing the size of this group so if you meet one or more of the above criteria – work for a partner agency, are a key landowner or administer another rural group on social media - or if you think you would benefit or be able to contribute in any way— I want to hear from you. You can contact me on email at christopher.shelley@norfolk.police.uk



Hare Coursing

The weather has been on our side over the last week or so and reports remain low. As mentioned in previous newsletters coursing normally happens on flat land that has been softened by the rain. They don't particularly like frozen ground as it can damage the dogs' legs. That said, we did have a couple of reports in North Norfolk in the early part of the week on the soft snow and unfortunately, we weren't able to catch these people. As always, please continue to report anything you feel is out of place or if you see coursing .



Illegal Green Laning

We have seen reports recently of what is called "green-laning". This is usually people driving on unsurfaced lanes normally in 4x4s. While it can be legal in some locations, we are getting reports of this happening on footpaths, fields and other unauthorised areas. Only this week, and with the farmers' help, this vehicle was seized as it was believed to have been



involved in crime and causing significant damage to a field.

Any information in relation to "green-laning", please contact me. We are looking to work with local officers and local councils around this issue. It's important to remember if you choose to go "green-laning" legally the vehicle must be road worthy with tax, MOT and insurance that covers this activity. Legal "green-laning" is defined as driving on unsealed public highways, not footpaths, farmer's fields, woodlands etc. You must still abide by the highway code and relevant rules of the road. In truth there are not many legal green lanes left these days.

If this is something you are interested in doing, it's sensible to do your research before taking part. Failing that consider going to an official off-road site where you can pay to use your vehicle legally. We will continue to take robust action with anyone caught illegally "green laning" or off-roading.

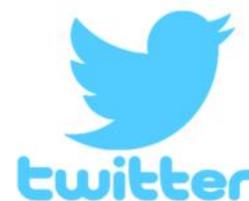


Final Thoughts

Thanks for your time. It's been an incredibly busy couple of weeks with plenty of catching up now required.

– If you have any issues or concerns, please contact me. As always keep warm and safe, look out for each other.

Chris



@RuralCrimeNfk

NFU Reporting line:



The NFU crime reporting line and website is now live. This is a really useful tool to report a range of rural crimes anonymously by calling 0800 783 0137 or through the website at: www.ruralcrimereportingline.uk .



Rural Crime Briefing with Q+A 8 March 2021 at 6pm

If you are interested in joining, email us.

Would you like to join our Rural Crime Online Event?

This will take place on Monday 8th of March at 6pm.

We will be joined by the Chief Constable, Police and Crime Commissioner, the District Crown Prosecutor from the CPS and the OP Randall team.

To join the meeting and submit a question please email:

OperationRandall@norfolk.police.uk

This will be hosted online through Microsoft Teams, a free to use web application or downloadable software on laptops and smartphones.



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Witness Appeals

Puppies Stolen from Rougham Area (8th of February Appeal)

Police are appealing for information after three Cocker Spaniel puppies were stolen from the Rougham area on Friday night.

The red Cocker Spaniels, who are just three months old, were stolen from kennels in the back garden of a property in the Rougham area at about 11.30pm on Friday (5 February 2021).

Their owner, Gemma Wright said: "My whole family is absolutely heartbroken. My twin children already had an unbreakable bond with them and they're absolutely devastated.

"My husband and I are trying to stay strong for the children's sakes but this is a horrible situation for everybody. It's bad enough knowing our puppies have been stolen, and to think that strangers have been on our property while we were sleeping – we were only woken up by the dogs barking – is so upsetting. We feel violated and my children are struggling to sleep at night."

The stolen puppies consist of two bitches and one dog. All are microchipped.

Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Dale Reynolds at Dereham Police Station on 101 quoting crime reference 36/7859/21

Tools Stolen from Saham Toney (9th February Appeal)

Police are appealing for witnesses following a burglary in Saham Toney where suspects stole tools and a Ford van.

The incident happened sometime between Monday 25 and Thursday 28 January 2021 at the Old Chapel in Bell Lane.

Offender(s) have gained access to the building, stealing keys before entering containers on the site. A number of

tools including a generator, cement mixer, nail guns, concrete breaker, chainsaws and strimmers, have been stolen. A white Ford transit style van was also taken and has since been recovered in Suffolk.

Officers are keen to hear from anyone who may have witnessed the incident or noticed anything suspicious in the area between the dates stated.

Anyone with information should contact PC Austin Clarke at Watton Police Station on 101 quoting crime reference 36/6942/21

Trailer Stolen from Downham Market (3rd of February Appeal)

Police are appealing for witnesses following the theft of a trailer in Downham Market.

A Bateson Trailer was stolen from an area of land off Downham Road, Salters Lode between approximately 1pm on Sunday 31 January and 9am on Tuesday 2 February.

The trailer is described as a twin axle open trailer with a timber plywood bottom. It is approximately 10ft x 6ft.

Officers are appealing for anyone who may have witnessed the incident or witnessed any suspicious activity in the area during the times stated to come forward.

Please contact PC Ady Craske in Op Solve on 101 quoting crime reference number 36/7172/21.



Alternatively contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111