



Leicestershire
Police
Protecting our communities



Rural Policing Team Newsletter

September 2024

Welcome to the third edition of 2024 for the rural communities of Leicestershire and Rutland. We aim to keep you updated as frequently as we can about rural crime in our area, what we've been up to and what the current crime trends look like.

The Team

continues to work together, to combat the issues within the rural communities of Leicestershire & Rutland. Each rurally located police station has an individual officer assigned. PC 4037 Matt Houghton and PC 2066 Chris Vickers covering Melton & Rutland, PC 553 Kelly Tones covering Market Harborough & Wigston, PC 1427 Lauren De Wet covering Charnwood, PC 3004 Mike Statt covering Hinckley & Bosworth & PC 237 Emma Holmes covering the North West.

The team continues to be led by PS 207 Rob Cross. Rob, with INSP 2194 Shaun Wilson at the head of the team, covering all aspects as the inspector.



In June the team were recognised by Leicestershire Police and the National Farmers Union for their continued work and service excellence towards Rural Policing. The team received chief constable commendations and recognition from the NFU. A thank you from the team to Harriet Ranson formally of the NFU for her help and guidance. We wish her all the best in her new role with the CLA.

This is as well as the whole team receiving their service medals for the King's Coronation. A special mention also to PC Chris Vickers who also received his long service and good conduct medal.



Crime happening 'now'? Call 999.



Crime happened? Call 101 / www.leicspolice/reportcrime.



Use 'What3Words' to accurately pinpoint locations.





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Rural Crime:

We continue to see a decrease in rural crime across Leicestershire and Rutland as a whole, looking at the figures from a year to date basis, there is a current decline of **13.6%**. This is positive news and we will continue to strive to drive down the numbers.



The team continues to manage crimes across the county, dealing with a number of various issues that have arisen, including; breaks to outbuilding, thefts, criminal damage, disturbing nesting birds, just to name a few.

It is pivotal that crime in rural areas continues to be reported. The reporting of rural crime allows officers to depict the data and find arising crime patterns and details. This can be done by reporting online via the Leicestershire Police website or via 101.

Engagements:

We have been doing what we can to keep the engagements high this summer across the county, this has seen the team visiting county shows, attending local events and working with our volunteers to be at as many places as we can.



We have had to manage this alongside supporting our colleagues with an increase in summer demand across all aspects of policing, including those that have been well publicised in the media recently.

Chris and Matt have also been volunteering with the Belvoir Cricket and Countryside Trust, working with primary school children from across Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, building trust with the police and engaging them in rural activities.



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Call anonymously with information about crime



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TAKE ACTION
AGAINST
RURAL CRIME

Rural Recoveries

£1.7 MILLION

The team has now amassed over £1.7m worth of recoveries since it was formed. Returning stolen items to their owners is something that we always endeavour to achieve, although not always possible, we like to share the good news stories.



The recovery of items is always easier when owners have taken due diligence to ensure their items are either; **trackable, identifiable or even better a combination of them both.**



Notifiable recoveries and incidents recently have involved telehandlers. An incident which occurred in South Leicestershire, whereby a Manitou telehandler was stolen this has led to the arrest and investigation to 5 males. This investigation is an on-going investigation therefore specific details will not be published, however we will publish further details on the investigation when we can.

Please endeavour to secure your premises and items the best you can, ensuring that keys are removed from machines and stored in a safe place. Serial numbers for kit such as trailers, power-tools and agri vehicles. It is always worth reviewing your security on a regular basis, ensuring that CCTV is in working order, security lights are working and active, boundaries are secure, etc.



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 **CRIMESTOPPERS**
0800 555 111
Call anonymously with information about crime



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Other News . . . Our wonderful horseback volunteers have been busy helping the team with engagements, they have been able to offer tack marking amongst helping us keep our Op Snaffle operations in full flow.

Where have we been?

- Rutland County Show
- Blaston Show
- Quarterly Hub Meeting
- Drop in visits in the community
- NFU plant machinery training
- Regional meetings
- Bradgate Park open day



If you have any upcoming event which you think would benefit from the team being there, then please get in touch.

Positive Outcomes

- Person found to have disturbed roosting bats in Charnwood, issued with a conditional caution to pay £500 to a wildlife charity and supply timber for the building of bat boxes
- 5 males arrested in connection with the theft and handling of a stolen Manitou telehandler - Further information will be posted in relation to the investigation a later date
- Person found to have stolen soil in Rutland and given a community resolution after admitting the offence
- Person found to be illegally fishing and in possession of a lock knife, charged and set to appear at Leicester Magistrates Court.

August saw us introduce the latest 4x4 vehicle to our fleet. The new vehicle has been kindly funded by **Triumph Motorcycles** at Hinckley. This new vehicle has been kitted out with ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition), another tool in the kitbag for catching those responsible for committing crime.



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Follow us

Our Facebook page, below, has more up to date information, news and positive outcomes from the team. It shows the work that we conduct week in, week out. Please give us a follow and see the world through our eyes.



Leicestershire & Rutland Rural
Policing Team

If you cant wait for our posts, but you wish to hear about things closer to the time they are happening, then maybe joining one of the rural community run WhatsApp groups is for you. The groups across Leicestershire and Rutland are for sharing information about crime, loose animals and suspicious activity. Please email us using the address below if you are interested.



WhatsApp

We are now more accessible to the rural community than we have ever been. There is a rural officer based at each main rural station—Melton/ Rutland, Loughborough, Hinckley and Blaby, Coalville and Market Harborough. We're always keen to help wherever we can, but we need you to report, report, report. If you see something, say something, either by using 999/101, or our online reporting via the QR codes below.



Report a rural crime.



Report a wildlife crime.

You can email the Rural Policing Team on the address below with any enquiries/questions (please do not report a crime to us on email) — Leicsruralcrime@leics.police.uk.



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