



03 July 2012

A brief notice with regards to vehicles involved in hare coursing, and being reported in suspicious circumstances on farms and in rural locations. Not a full blown newsletter, but some things are just too much for the 160 character SMS message!

The text messages last week related to a quadbike that was stolen overnight from the Trowbridge area. There was also a landrover and trailer stolen from a farm in the Swindon area, and the trailer was found at the scene of a JCB theft in neighbouring Thames Valley Police area. There was also a RangeRover stolen from a rural location near Swindon.

The other text related to tractors. One was stolen from the Tisbury area, and there were also attempts to steal tractors in the Netheravon and Royal Wootton Bassett areas. A male was arrested in the attempt tractor theft at Royal Wootton Bassett.

We have had several vehicles reported as acting suspicious on farms or in rural locations. We do not pass out the entire registration number, as sometimes they are passed to us incorrectly, and really, we want you to be mindful of all vehicles acting suspiciously on your land, not just those we are indicating.

Anyway, over the last few weeks you have called us regarding the following;

L5VAM, Silver Audi** seen in East Knoyle area on 12/06/12.

R*5*AWE, Silver Subaru Forrester seen in Sutton Mandeville area on 21/06/12

V7EBY, Red Peugeot Partner**, seen in Middle Woodford area on 25/06/12

Y15GK, White Ford Transit** seen in Ludgershall area on 27/06/12

SVJWL, White Ford Transit**, seen in Bromham area on 27/06/12.

And then we have our hare coursers. This has started to pick up over the last couple of weeks. At the moment it is predominantly south Wilts, with the Woodford Valley north to the A303 (Stonehenge), and the A345 valley from Upavon to Enford as the main areas being hit. It tends to be early evening, and then the associated rural crime occurring when dark. There have been numerous diesel thefts in the area, and many wire fences cut and crops driven over. There have also been some thefts of ferrets, and an attempt to take working dogs from kennels.

The vehicles that are being reported to us are as follows;

P9MNP Red Vauxhall Monterey** This we think is being mistaken for the red Isuzu Trooper?

P3NEG Green Suzuki Vitara**

V*9*DCU Maroon Subaru Forrester

T*9*EBM Black Subaru Forrester

R9STR Green Jeep Cherokee** *seized by police having been abandoned after causing damage (driving through fences).

FAYAJ Green Subaru Forrester** in North Wilts/Lambourne area.

As we have said, please report these vehicles to us. None are from Wiltshire, and with your information, we can speak with the relevant police forces with a view to taking action against these individuals.

We now have over 2000 on our Farmwatch and Horsewatch schemes across the county, but still have areas where we could do with more – so if you know of neighbours who are not yet on, please have them get in touch with us and we will add them to the schemes.

And lastly, for those that use social media on their smart phones, Rural Crime Team can be found on Facebook, and on Twitter. There are advantages to these IT systems, but don't worry, there are no plans to do anything to replace the SMS system, it is simply a case of using every medium possible to reach as many people as possible.

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