



January 2013

A New Year, and time for a Farmwatch Newsletter.

One of our biggest concerns at the moment is the theft of vehicles from farms and other rural locations. Previously I have talked of older landrovers and quadbikes/ATV's. Since the last newsletter we have had 11 Landrovers, predominantly old Defenders stolen from across the county, and 10 quadbikes/ATV's. As I put out on the text alerts in December, there were four people from Hampshire, arrested in TVP area, with stolen vehicles from Wiltshire. And three people from London, arrested in Wiltshire, with a stolen 4x4 from Gloucestershire.

These are "attractive items" to those that are stealing them, and probably vital to your businesses. Consider the security of these items when they are not in use. Secure any buildings in which they are stored to the best of your ability. And consider CESAR (Protective Marking) of the vehicles, or fitting them with GPS tracking devices. You can even get GPS devices that will ring you when the protected items move, or leave a certain area.

Wiltshire Police has two Crime Prevention Officers who will come out to your farms/premises and provide free security advice should you so wish. You can contact;

North Wilts-Robert Walton, 01793507866, robert.walton@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk
South Wilts-Amanda Clarke, 01722435318, amanda.clarke@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

The last two weeks has seen an increase in tractor or plant theft from farms. Eight offences have been reported since just before Christmas, and as much as they are going from across the County, Salisbury Plain is certainly the "centre", with several tractors having been stolen from, or located in the area. If anyone has any information with regards to any of the above vehicle related theft, please contact us, Rural Crime Team, or Crimestoppers as below.

Harecoursing has predominantly been in the area of A338 from Hungerford to Tidworth in recent weeks. Some vehicles to look out for are;

Blue Mitsubishi Shogun	M7**NCG.
Green Jeep Cherokee	T4**RYA.
Turquoise Toyota Rav 4	R**AOE
Green Landrover Discovery	P4**TRL

Harecoursing reports for 2012 were down to 277 reported incidents compared to 328 for 2011. The downward trend was in the first 8 months, as from August onwards the numbers of incidents have been pretty much the same each year.

I was speaking with some of our neighbouring Forces to the east of Wilts, and they are currently suffering a spate of working dog thefts. I am not aware of any such thefts in recent months in Wiltshire, but county boundaries do not mean anything to this type of individual. We have had several cases of ferrets being stolen from south of the county. Again, please consider security of kennels, cages etc in which you may keep working animals.

And finally, some crime statistics... In the last newsletter I gave the first 9 months of the year, so this time I thought I would give 2012 against 2011. Again, they have been searched against the word "farm" on our recording systems.

"Non Dwelling Burglaries" are where outbuildings or structures are entered, and items within are stolen. This can be anything from a horse rug in a stable block, to a JCB in a barn. We have had **190** offences reported in 2012 against **252** in 2011.

"Theft Other" is where any item is stolen from property, but was not in any building or structure. We have had **172** offences reported in 2012 against **277** in 2011.

"Theft from Vehicles" stands at **51** offences for 2012, against **70** in 2011.

In relation to Quads/ATV's, Plant, and 4x4's, these figures are for 2012, and are from anywhere in the County. There have been 52 quadbikes or ATV's stolen, 34 of which have gone from farms. There were 17 pieces of Plant stolen, 7 of which went from farms. And 44 4x4's, 14 of which went from farms. Of these 4x4's, 20 were Landrover Defenders, 10 of which went from farms.

RURAL CRIME TEAM CONTACT DETAILS

Wiltshire Police Non Emergency Number 101

PC 1103 TONY MILES
Royal Wootton Bassett

Telephone: 101 ext 730819
Mobile number: **07817689640**

PC 962 MARK RANDLE
Amesbury

Telephone: 101 ext 724515
Mobile number: **07952989999**

PCSO 6017 JOHN BORDISS
Marlborough

Telephone: 101 ext 739817
Mobile number **07968942116**



