



Sussex Countrywatch

Monday 15th October 2018

Sussex Countrywatch News

This is the first Sussex Countrywatch information newsletter since Countrywatch has taken over from Farmwatch. We launched Sussex Countrywatch at the Autumn Show and Game Fair at the Ardingly Showground on the 6th and 7th October 2018. The show was a success and although Saturday afternoon was very wet Sunday brightened to give us a lovely sunny day.

On the Saturday, one of the Sussex Police drones attended and gave a demonstration of their capabilities even with the morning low cloud and rain. These are one of the many tools that we have available to us as a partnership to combat rural and wildlife crime. Please contact us if you wish to find out more about the drones.

To give a bit of background, Sussex Countrywatch is a new partnership of organisations and charities. Our objective is to tackle and reduce wildlife and rural crime by pooling resources and working together. We really need help from anyone who lives, works or visits rural areas to be our eyes and ears. Report what you see, one tiny bit of information could mean the difference between solving an issue or not.

There are many ways to report rural crime:

Always 999 in an emergency and if a crime is happening there and then.

101 for non-emergencies to the Police.

E-mail and web reporting via <https://www.sussex.police.uk/contact-us/report-online/> to Sussex Police.

Report an environmental crime such as waste crime or illegal fishing to the Environment Agency on 0800 807060 (24-hour service).

Anonymous reports can be passed through Crimestoppers: 0800 555111 or for large-scale, industrial fly tipping, hare coursing, livestock theft or machinery theft Crimestoppers have a dedicated rural crime hotline 0800 7830137.

We have produced a flyer which explains what Sussex Countrywatch is and a copy is attached to this newsletter. Please let us know if you would like a paper copy.

In these newsletters we are planning on having updates from some of our partners, not only on who they are and what they do but what is currently going on. We will try to keep the news seasonal and relevant with crime prevention advice, current events, what has been happening in rural Sussex and also upcoming events.

If there are things that you would like to see in this newsletter then please get in touch and let us know and we will make efforts to accommodate. At the end of the day this newsletter is for you and we want it to be relevant.

At the bottom of this newsletter you will find a reply button. Please use this to comment on anything.

What has been happening?

We will be using this section to keep you up to date with what has been reported to us and what has been happening. Due to the changeover from Farmwatch to Sussex Countrywatch this first week will be a little less than normal.

Heritage crime has featured highly on my radar recently. Churches all around East and West Sussex have been targeted as victims of burglary and theft. These criminal acts have significant impacts on the community. Please keep an eye on the churches out in rural areas or within your communities and report any suspicious behaviour to the Police.

If you look after or are involved in your local church then please consider security marking church property and items which could be stolen.

Please follow PCSO Daryl Holter who runs our heritage crime twitter account:

[@suspol_heritage](#)

Sussex Police are able to offer advice on property marking and for certain items are able to provide a security marking service, please hit the reply button below to find out more.

Poaching is a year-round discussion, with fields bare this is the perfect time of year for hare coursing, and with Christmas not too far around the corner deer poaching. Calls have also been received regarding individuals using catapults to kill game birds, normally fired from the windows of vehicles these weapons can be used to kill large numbers of birds in a short amount of time over a large area. Please do not confront people firing catapults but call the Police.

Please report any vehicles or individuals who you suspect to be poaching.

A butchered carcass of a deer was found in Bersted Brooks Bognor Regis on the 9th October. It appears to have been poached and the unwanted remains left in situ, please let Sussex Police know if you have any information relating to this quoting ref: **815 09/10/2018**.

Fish poaching occurs over East and West Sussex with reports of poachers trespassing in order to fish from the waterways and lakes. Please capture all

available evidence and notify the Environment Agency or Police of illegal fishing.

A premises in Chidham near Chichester has been the victim of a burglary, a Viking petrol green grass mower, a Stihl FS 240 C-E petrol brushcutter, a Stihl FS 70 petrol brushcutter, a Stihl HS 45 petrol hedgetrimmer, a Stihl MS 180 petrol chainsaw and a Stihl large chainsaw were stolen.

If anyone has any information about this incident or the location of any of the stolen property Sussex Police would be very interested to hear. Please call and quote Serial **146 08/10/2018**.

We recommend that tools and equipment are all security marked and recorded on sites such as www.immobilise.com. This will enable the Police to identify equipment when it is recovered. Please make contact for any advice on security marking.

A Yamaha Kodiak quad-bike has been stolen from a farm in Turners Hill near Crawley. The vehicle was locked in a barn which has been broken into. Ref: **206 08/10/2018** refers.

Small and large agricultural and plant vehicles can be marked with the CESAR registration scheme. Find out more here - <https://www.cesarscheme.org/>. Contact your insurance provider as some give a discount on both the marking of plant and equipment and also insurance premiums for CESAR marked equipment.

Numerous reports of livestock worrying have been received over Sussex. Please be vigilant and if you see anyone acting irresponsibly with their dogs please let Sussex Police know. If it is safe to do obtain photos or video and try to give an accurate location.

There are numerous mobile phone apps which help identify your exact location. A good free one is What3Words which gives your location as a unique combination of three words designating a 3 metre square, find the website here - <https://map.what3words.com/>.

Other reports include fly-tipping and scrap metal collectors. Fly-tipping is a blight on any community. This week a farmer in Coolham, Horsham has awoken to find Asbestos dumped on their land, this has resulted in a costly clear up of the waste by specialist contractors. If you have any information whatsoever which may help us solve this matter please call Sussex Police quoting ref: **844 10/10/2018**.

Please ensure that any contractors which are used to remove waste from your premises are appropriately licensed to perform this task and are legitimately removing the waste to an authorised waste site. If your waste is fly tipped you could end up with investigators on your doorstep. Find approved contractors on the Trading Standards "buy with confidence" website - <https://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk/>.

Help us keep Sussex safe

As the eyes and ears of our rural community, if you have any information about an incident in this message please [contact us online](#) or call 101, quoting the reference number provided.

Alternatively you can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on their dedicated rural crime reporting number 0800 783 0137 or [online here](#)

Wildlife Officers

Please only contact your local Wildlife Officers for any general enquiries or questions, not to report a crime. Report all crimes and incidents to Sussex Police [online](#), email us at 101@sussex.pnn.police.uk or call **101**.

Adur and Worthing: adurandworthing@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Arun: arun@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Brighton and Hove: brightonandhove@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Chichester: chichester@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Crawley: crawley@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Eastbourne: eastbourne@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Hastings: hastings@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Horsham: horsham@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Lewes: lewes@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Mid Sussex: midsussex@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Rother: rother@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Wealden: wealden@sussex.pnn.police.uk

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Sussex Police

Links and attachments: Sussex Police will only ever link you to secure websites we trust. We will only send you attachments where we believe it is absolutely necessary.

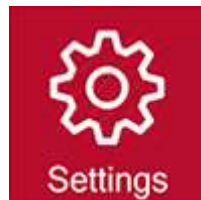
Attachments

[SCW FLYER 1 page.jpg](#) - 253.1 KB

Message Sent By

Tom Carter (Police, Sergeant, Rural, Wildlife, Heritage and Environmental Crime)

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