

# Rural Matters



Rural policing in Kent – a magazine for residents and businesses

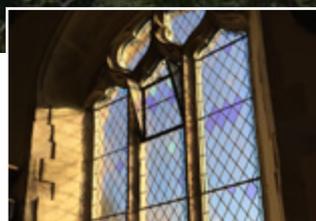
Spring 2019



In this issue:



**Kent  
Police**



Protecting historic sites



Dumped horse saved



Sheep attacks by dogs

Plus the latest news on rural and environmental policing in Kent

# Welcome to Rural Matters

Welcome to Rural Matters. See inside for the latest on the Kent Police rural team. There are now more officers countywide dedicated to tackling and preventing crime in the countryside. We've the latest news on the Rural Liaison Team – officers there to protect and support Kent's rural communities.

**Team Leader**



Inspector  
Dave Smith  
07800 675376

**Rural Sergeant**



Sergeant  
Darren Walshaw  
07870 252185



**North Division – 07528 989095**

- PC Darren Reed
- PC Paul Williams
- PC Adrian Goodsall
- PC Nathan Southern

**East Division – 07980 978202**

- PC Dan Perry
- PC Tim Moody
- PC Harry Callaghan
- PC Michael Sutton

**West Division – 07580 236308**

- PC Marc Pennicott
- PC Tom Smith
- PC Nick Lingham
- PC Anna Verrall

**Rural Crime Co-ordinator**

Doug Robertson 07972 004578

More rural contact information, see back page.

## Report non-urgent crime online



Go to [www.kent.police.uk/report](http://www.kent.police.uk/report)



Report a crime, incident or non-injury collision in minutes



Receive your confirmation email and reference number immediately

To remain anonymous contact Kent Crimestoppers online or call **0800 555 111**.



## Your rural PCs are also on Twitter!

The rural team regularly Tweets updates on what they've been doing and any live incidents.

Follow [@kentpolicerural](https://twitter.com/kentpolicerural) for the latest news and information.



# Latest news

## Owner had dog put down after attack on sheep

A dog owner was so shocked to see injuries caused when her terrier attacked sheep she had her pet put down.

Attacks on livestock by dogs – of all breeds and sizes – are not only very distressing, they have serious financial consequences for farmers.

There have been a number of attacks in Kent in recent months. With the lambing season now underway police are urging people to keep dogs under control and ensure they can't escape onto farm land where ewes and lambs are kept.

An NFU Mutual survey revealed more than 80 per cent of dog owners exercise their pets in the countryside, with over 60 per cent letting them roam off the lead

One recurring problem is dogs left outside in gardens, while owners are out, which escape through insecure fencing – leaving them free to chase livestock unchecked.

Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw said: 'The damage one dog can do to a flock of sheep can be devastating, more than one dog even more so. The injuries caused can be horrific, often fatal, and the animals are often so terrified the shock alone kills them.'

'Ewes attacked can miscarry lambs and at this time of year the newly born lambs themselves are at risk, which is very upsetting and also has a serious effect on farmers financially.'

'It is not just large dogs which can do harm. Even the smallest, friendliest dog can attack livestock. All dog owners must ensure their animals are kept on leads where appropriate and they can't escape into fields from gardens near grazing land and cause harm.'

'Good clear signage on the fields, especially where there are footpaths, is really important as finer weather brings more people out into the countryside to exercise their dogs.'

'Livestock owners are within their rights to shoot any dog they find worrying their animals.' Last year at least two dogs were shot on separate occasions.

In one recent incident at a smallholding in Swale three sheep were attacked, one killed and another had to be destroyed due to severe injuries to its face. Rural officer PC Paul Williams, said: 'The dog's owner was shocked to see the extent of what her dog had done and agreed to pay for the sheep owner's losses. As the dog owner's home was surrounded by grazing land she couldn't risk the dog attacking livestock again and made the very difficult decision to have her terrier put to sleep.'

### Dog owners should:

- Always keep dogs on the lead when walking them in rural areas where livestock are kept
- Be aware that even small lap type dogs can attack farm animals
- Report attacks by dogs and sightings of dogs roaming the countryside to police
- Don't let dogs loose in gardens adjoining livestock fields – many attacks are caused by dogs which escape and worry sheep grazing nearby
- Where appropriate familiarise puppies with farm livestock from a young age to reduce the risk of them attacking sheep or cattle as adult dogs



## Recent incidents in Kent

- Five ewes killed and another five injured at a farm in Kingsnorth. A small terrier type dog and larger dog were seen running into woodland.
- One pregnant ewe required veterinary treatment for bite injuries and is expected to lose her lamb after an incident on farmland in Etchinghill on 7 February.
- A farmer in North Kent reported a local dog walker with five dogs ending up in his field where one of his sheep was attacked.
- Three hounds were seen running across fields towards sheep in Eastling while a hunt was taking place. One of the dogs was spotted and held by officers outside a local pub while the hunt was contacted and given strong words of advice.

## Rural Crime Coordinator helps drive action for the team

The rural team is supported by a Rural Crime Coordinator, Doug Robertson.

He previously served as a police officer for 22 years. His role is to work closely alongside the rural sergeant, building an intelligence picture of crime and anti-social behaviour in rural locations.

This helps drive action by rural officers – making the most effective use of resources and operational capability of the team. Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw said: 'The Rural Crime Coordinator maintains positive communication links with the rural community and partner agencies on a

daily basis. He also provides support and advice to other departments within Kent Police on rural related matters.'

The size of the rural team has doubled in recent months. Latest recruit, PC Michael Sutton, joined East Division team in February. Contact numbers, see opposite.





## Recovered property returned

### Photos helped reunite owner with stolen property

A victim of a burglary was reunited with items seized by police, including unique jewellery and custom made items, thanks to keeping photos. Among 200 items found at a Margate address in January, half are believed taken from a storage unit in St Nicholas at Wade last September. Investigating officer Sergeant Liam Johnson said: 'We'd always encourage people to document belongings, take photographs and keep receipts and details of serial numbers separate and safe. It will increase the chances of stolen goods being returned and make it harder for thieves to sell them on.'

### Stolen Teleporter stuck in field returned to farm

On his way to investigate a report of a suspected stolen Teleporter stuck in a field in Goodnestone rural PC Adrian Goodsall received a call from a local farmer to report he'd had a Teleporter stolen overnight. It was confirmed as the stolen vehicle, recovered and returned to his farm.

### Tractor found in East Sussex

A tractor stolen from Yalding was later found in East Sussex. Rural officers liaised with Sussex Police to update the victim and help recover the tractor and a trailer which was also taken.

### Twitter post helps identify burglary items

A Twitter post by the rural team prompted a call from a burglary victim in Cranbrook. She confirmed a number of the items which had been publicised as recovered were stolen in a burglary in November.

## Nuisance off-road riders could have bikes destroyed

Off-road riders are being warned their vehicles could be seized and destroyed if they are used illegally.

Growing concerns around off-road motorcyclists and anti-social behaviour at Holly Hill woods near Snodland prompted a recent police clampdown.

Officers reminded people that police have powers under the Road Traffic Act to prosecute riders and seize any vehicles used illegally.

PCSO Kim Lidbury said: 'As well as damage caused to areas of outstanding natural beauty, these locations are frequently used by families, children, dog walkers and horse riders. For anyone who may be unsure of the law, it's very simple – if you own an off-road bike the only place it can legally be ridden is on private land, with the permission of the landowner. People may have received quad bikes or mini-motos as presents and be unaware of where they are allowed to use them. We're reminding riders it is strictly forbidden to use off-road vehicles on public land such as bridleways, footpaths, public parks and open spaces.'

## Police join forces with MOD to patrol old training ground

Kent Police joined forces with the Ministry of Defence to patrol Canterbury's Old Park – a large wooded area once used as a training ground by soldiers.

Police Community Support Officers worked with military personnel on 20 January to deter the use of off road

motorcycles following reports of nuisance riding.

Three people riding bikes were stopped, had their details taken and were advised if they return within a year the bikes can be seized and impounded under Section 59 of the Road Traffic Act.

PCSO Gavin Dodwell said: 'Whether riding a moped, mini motorbike or quad bike, make sure you have permission of the land owner if you are riding on land you don't own and ride safely with consideration for other people using the area.'



## 'Clarence' dumped on road nursed back to health

When a horrified member of the public saw a limp, bedraggled horse dumped from a van onto the road near Sevenoaks in freezing weather they couldn't tell if he was alive or dead.

Local patrol officers PCs Luke Birrell and Wayne Snowden arrived at Redmans Lane, Shoreham to find him breathing but unable to move, just before 6pm on 19 January.

But despite being half his normal weight with skin damage to his legs where he'd been chewing them, three-year-old colt Clarence proved a 'real fighter.'

Police called a local equine vet, who despite finding he had an unrecordable temperature was able to warm him up, give him medication and get him to his feet before he was handed over to Kent Police Horse Recovery Contractor, Greenyard.

A Greenyard spokesperson said: 'As Clarence was so weak if he laid down to rest he was unable to get himself up without assistance. He was monitored on the CCTV cameras through the night and for the first 10 days needed help to stand, up to five times a night.'

Weighing just 150kgs he was dehydrated, burdened by parasites and a louse infestation and very weak.

She added: 'However Clarence didn't give up – he continued to improve and loved eating. After 12 days he'd put on 15kgs, and has continued to eat eight feeds through the day and night. Now he can get up easily and is thriving. He's had a full clip to help with his skin, been dewormed, treated for mites and had his feet trimmed. Trauma to skin on his legs has been treated and almost resolved. He put on 28kgs in just 24 days and has a fabulous cheeky temperament coming through. He's proved himself a real fighter. He's been very lucky and secured a place at Redwings Horse Sanctuary once they have space for him.'

### Kent Police horse seizure policy

Under a recently introduced policy seized horses are only in Kent Police's possession for 21 days maximum. Officers try to locate owners and put up posters. When owners come forward they are required to pay a fixed tariff. Any horse unclaimed after 21 days is rehomed.



## Abandoned fish rescued from restaurant

Rural Liaison Team officers worked with the RSPCA to rescue fish left uncared for in a restaurant which had been closed for over a month.

They were alerted by power workers due to shut off the supply to the premises in Gillingham about a large fish tank where there was no food or fresh water.

Officers using powers under the Animal Welfare Act were able to get in to find a Koi Karp in a dirty tank with no light or oxygenated water. The fish was seized and handed to the RSPCA which will investigate pending a prosecution.





# Working together to protect our heritage and history

Around 20 per cent of listed buildings are estimated to be harmed by crime every year. Whether it's plundering shipwrecks off the coast, thefts of artefacts and antiques, or vandalism and the stripping of lead and copper from church roofs – the isolated and rural location of many sites can make them easy targets.

'I can't stress enough the importance of reporting any suspicious activity. It's been through the good communication of suspicious events we've been able to locate, arrest and convict offenders'

Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw



Statues and valuable historic ornaments can be stolen to order from gardens and historic sites.

Kent has the sixth highest volume of heritage assets in the country, including 20,000 designated sites, including listed buildings, 13 protected historic wrecks, 750 Scheduled Monuments, two cathedrals and hundreds of churches, many centuries old.

One of the biggest threats identified by Historic England research is metal theft, particularly from church buildings.

Last October an entire lead roof – about 20 tonnes of metal – was discovered stolen from a Grade I listed church near Bedford. Thefts from churches can include everything from silverware to books and even jam and local goods displayed on sale to help church funds.

In Kent thieves were reported to have stolen lead from a church roof in Swale in February and an investigation is ongoing into vandalism and burglary at two Lyminge churches on 6 January.

Not only isolated sites are targeted. Last year two cast iron stag statues worth £1,000 were stolen from Leeds Castle in June during the day (stolen statues, see page 8).

Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw said: 'Some simple crime prevention measures can be taken to reduce heritage crime, such as postcode marking of items and the use of smart water on lead and tiles. The use of pressure release alarms, covert tracking devices or CCTV should be considered if the items are of high value.'

'I can't stress enough the importance of reporting any suspicious activity to



police, Heritage Watch, Country Eye or 999 if this is in progress. It's been through the good communication of suspicious events we've been able to locate, arrest and convict offenders, and in some cases return stolen property back to the rightful owners.'

Former Kent officer Mark Harrison, now Head of Heritage Crime and Policing Advice, Historic England, one of the speakers at the Heritage Watch Conference 2019 (see opposite) said: 'Harm caused by crime or anti-social behaviour will often have both a direct and indirect impact. The loss of historic fabric from a listed building through theft or vandalism will have a direct impact by damaging the building. It can also have an indirect impact such as social or economic loss to the amenity of an area.' Historic England works with the

National Police Chiefs' Council and Crown Prosecution Service to tackling heritage offences. A series of national operations target specific crimes:

- **Operation Chronos** – unlawful metal detecting (nighthawking)
- **Operation Crucible** – theft of metal from protected historic sites and buildings
- **Operation Birdie** – unlawful interference and salvage from historic wreck sites

Heritage crime is frequently linked to offences investigated in the rural environment. All Kent rural team officers are trained and can offer advice around heritage, environmental and wildlife crime.



Damage to church windows at Lyminge

## Police work with Heritage Watch to protect county's history



Left to right Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw, Chief Inspector Rachel McNeil, PCC Matthew Scott and Rural Inspector Dave Smith

Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott, with Kelvin Wood, chair of Kent Heritage Watch and head of security at Leeds Castle

The Heritage Watch Conference 2019 'Protecting heritage in urban and coastal environments' was recently held in Thanet.

Kent Rural Inspector Dave Smith and Rural Sergeant Darren Walshaw sit on the local Heritage Watch steering group – including Canterbury Cathedral, Leeds, Hever and Dover Castles, Chatham Historic Dockyard, Historic England, Kent Fire and Rescue Service, and the Diocese of Canterbury.

Insp Smith, who gave a presentation, said: 'The Rural Task Force is a highly motivated and professional team with a proven track record in delivering outstanding results while tackling organised criminals who wish to rid us of our heritage through greed and a total disregard for preserving our past.' Kent Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Scott opened the event which included presentations on the Churches Conservation Trust Campaign and Counter Terrorism Policing South East.

The work of the rural team around heritage crime has been recognised by Historic England with a grant of £1,300 for equipment to help combat offences such as theft and damage to churches, nighthawking and wreck thefts.

### Country Eye

The Country Eye app is very simple to use:



**Step 1:** Take a photo of the suspicious behaviour.

**Step 2:** Tell us where you are using your phone's built-in GPS location.

**Step 3:** Describe what you can see, providing as many details as possible.

A new free dedicated 24/7 Heritage Watch service will share security and emergency information between heritage sites in Kent.



Run by Ward Security based at Chatham Historic Dockyard it will have links to Kent Police's rural team, Sussex Heritage Watch and Essex Heritage Watch.

Ward Security CEO David Ward, said: 'The 24/7 helpline aims to establish a good communications network to inform and advise on heritage crime and suspicious behaviour.' Venues such as Leeds and Hever Castles, the Historic Dockyard, Canterbury Cathedral, Historic England, Country Eye, Kent Crimestoppers and Neighbourhood Watch have joined. Kelvin Wood, Kent Heritage Watch chair, said: 'We're keen for smaller heritage venues to sign up. The more members added the more effective the helpline will be.'

Rural Inspector Dave Smith, said: 'The helpline will be a real asset as communication is key. It's important to highlight it's **NOT** a crime reporting service and will be used in addition to 101 or online reporting.'

Heritage assets, heritage crime prevention agencies and associated businesses can sign up via [heritagewatch@wardsecurity.co.uk](mailto:heritagewatch@wardsecurity.co.uk) or call the helpline **01634 225170**.

## Stolen statues – can you help?

Thefts of statues and ornaments have left owners heartbroken as they often have sentimental as well as financial value.

Some are stolen to order – like two cast iron stags worth £1,000 stolen from Leeds Castle – or for their metal value. Others are opportunist crimes with suspects reported to have jumped over walls, broken down fences and left car or truck boots open and engines running to load up stolen statues, stone lions, metal figures or antique garden ornaments.

Some are recovered. The rural team worked with Sussex Police last year to return a Shepherd Boy stolen from the National Trust's Nymans at Handcross.

It was found on Kent land and rural officers suspected it to be more valuable than an abandoned garden ornament. A 24-year-old man admitted theft and was ordered to pay a £3,692 compensation order.

Two men were found guilty of theft of the Leeds Castle stags and ordered to pay £500 compensation each and a victim surcharge. They never revealed what happened to the statues, which are still outstanding.

Just before Christmas a distinctive bronze statue of champion racing greyhound Ballyregan Bob was stolen from the front lawn of a property in Godmersham.

Rural PC Dan Perry said: 'The statue has great sentimental value and the owner is appealing for anyone with any information to get in touch with us in the hope it can be returned safely.' A large cast bronze hippopotamus weighing almost three quarters of a tonne and measuring around two metres long was stolen from a garden ornament business at Langton Green near Tunbridge Wells between 5.30pm on Wednesday 9 January and 7am the following morning.

PC Nick Lingham said: 'The hippo is extremely heavy and in the past it has taken five people to lift it. It is clear those responsible would have needed a large vehicle such as a flatbed truck and may have also needed to lift it by mechanical means. It is a hugely distinctive object and unlikely the offenders will find it that easy to sell on as scrap or to a collector. Because of its sheer size we are hoping people may have seen it being transported and also asking members of the public to keep their eyes open and report anything suspicious.'



This 130cm long 75cm high bronze of Ballyregan Bob (left) was sculpted by James Osborne, whose commissions also include one of the Queen's racehorses. Anyone with information should quote reference 46/4976/18

This large cast bronze hippo (below) weighs three quarters of a tonne and was stolen from a site in Langton Green. Anyone with information should quote reference 10-0236.



This Land Rover Discovery and deer statue (below) were stolen from an address in Dunks Green on 13 January. The rural team put out a Twitter appeal and the vehicle was discovered by the Kent Police Roads Policing team at Kemsing, with the statue still in the back. It has now been returned to the owner.



Two of these cast iron statues stolen from Leeds Castle last June are still missing.

Anyone with information about any of the above should contact the rural team (see page 2) or ring Kent Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.



## Rural officers join national campaign to target fish poachers



Fresh water fish poaching can cause serious financial losses to businesses and destroy important stocks.

Large scale operations are often associated with organised crime. The Rural Task Force regularly works with partner agencies and Kent Police is now supporting a national campaign.

On 7 February Assistant Chief Constable Peter Ayling and Rural Task Force officers met with The Angling Trust to sign up to Operation Traverse – aimed at tackling poaching and associated criminal behaviour. Officers pledged to continue working closely with key partners like the Environment Agency to jointly target those fishing illegally.

Rural Inspector Dave Smith said: 'Poaching fresh water fish is a worrying crime for rural communities. Businesses can be devastated by the effects in a short space of time. For example, a 40lb carp can be very valuable and would have a massive impact on a fishery if stolen.'

'Fishing clubs are concerned about the destruction of fish

stocks, the knock on effect to their business and the wider range of criminality offenders are engaged in.'

'This isn't about taking a few fish, poaching on a large scale is often associated with organised crime and it's about potentially devastating businesses and damaging rural communities. Often offenders are aggressive and intimidating when challenged and it's not acceptable people feel fearful of those committing crime on their property.'

'The Rural Task Force has been working to tackle this for some time and this campaign gives us the opportunity to

work closely with a number of partner agencies as well as other forces.'

Dave Wilkins, South East Angling Trust Regional Enforcement Manager said: 'The Angling Trust has trained nearly 100 volunteer bailiffs in the South East who act as 'eyes and ears' on riverbanks and lakesides to report incidents and suspicious activity to a high evidential standard. Partnership working can have a big impact on reducing fisheries crime, so having Kent Police join Operation Traverse is terrific news for all law abiding anglers.'



## Rural roads round up

### 1000 litre fuel tank found in stopped trailer

A rural patrol in Faversham stopped a curtain sided trailer on the A20 Lenham with no back lighting. They found an empty 1000 litre tank, numerous barrels and a strong smell of diesel. None of the three occupants could explain their actions and inconsistencies in the vehicles' details. The vehicle and trailer were seized.

### Driver caught with no insurance after ban

A driver who'd just got his licence back after being banned for having no insurance had his vehicle seized – for driving with no insurance. Rural officers spotted him acting suspiciously – waiting at a junction in Cranbrook to watch where a police car was going before moving. He admitted driving again with no insurance. He was issued with a Traffic Offence Report.

### Motorist taken home to refit number plate

An officer who stopped a vehicle in Sittingbourne issued the driver with a Traffic Offence Report for failing to display a front number plate. Despite his excuses for not having it in place he was escorted to his home nearby – where he refitted the number plate in seconds.

### Hole in road damage after drivers move signs

A vehicle was damaged after impatient drivers moved roadwork barriers unaware of a hole left in the road. The incident was at water company works on the A227. The road was fully closed with diversions. As a result of barriers being moved a motorist travelling on the road damaged their vehicle. Police restored barriers with extra cones to keep the route shut.



## Guns and ammunition handed in during firearms surrender

Weapons including a Kalashnikov AK47, a revolver made in 1898 and 36 shotguns were handed in during an extended two week firearms surrender across the county.

Running from 21 January to 6 February the campaign allowed people to dispose of unwanted or illegally held firearms or ammunition.

Originally due to end on 1 February officers extended the surrender until 6 February because of the positive response. Many firearms are held innocently with owners unaware they are illegal, or are overlooked heirlooms.

A total of 172 firearms and 3,857 rounds of ammunition were handed in.

The de-activated AK47 was surrendered at Canterbury. Three Italian starting pistols and a Walther PPK blank firing replica pistol with some blank rounds were also handed in. A Colt 'New Service' .445 calibre revolver was surrendered on the first day of the campaign.

Made in 1898 these were used by British and Commonwealth forces until the end of the Second World War. Detective Chief Inspector Patrick Holmes said: 'We've had an excellent response to this surrender and I'd like to thank the public. Every firearm off the streets is another weapon which has been prevented from being potentially used in criminal activity.'



## Family reunited with stolen dog four years later

She'd been living more than 250 miles away in another part of the country. But distance was no barrier when Nala was reunited with her rightful owner. The Staffordshire Bull Terrier was delighted to see owner Adrian Gleadhill, four years after being reported stolen in Blackpool in 2014.

PC Martyn Tulk, from the Citizens in Policing Team, helped bring them together after a routine check up at a Kent vet revealed her identity through a microchip.

Her new owner, who'd unwittingly purchased a stolen dog, had brought her down to the Snodland area when she moved to Kent. PC Tulk contacted Lancashire Police and was able to trace Nala's family.

PC Tulk said: 'It was a pleasure to be able to reunite Nala with her rightful owner. After being away for so long it was great to see the recognition she had for her family.'

'The person who had innocently bought Nala was extremely supportive and although they were also a victim in this they helped us to ensure she was returned.'

'It shows the importance of microchipping your pets, which is a legal requirement, in returning lost and stolen pets with their rightful owners.'

PC Tulk is currently working with a team dedicated to focusing on education and enforcement in relation to dogs. It includes dangerous dog awareness, working with volunteers on microchipping initiatives and liaising with charity 'DogLost.'

## Fly tipping – vehicles crushed



Rural officers regularly support council teams with days of action targeting illegal fly tipping.

In Medway a vehicle linked to fly tipping offences was seized in November and crushed on 18 February. During the most recent operation with police on 7 February, four more vehicles were seized. Two were deemed unroadworthy and consequently crushed.

## Pheasant catapult attacks – Community Protection Notice warning issued

An 18-year-old man was issued with a Community Protection Notice warning following reports of pheasant poaching near Snodland.

Incidents at Upper Halling on 15 January involving catapults and at Holly Hill on 20 January involving pheasants targeted with an air rifle from a vehicle were reported to police.

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 stipulates the recipient of the warning is not allowed to be in possession of any weapon capable of causing harm to wildlife and also excluded from entering certain areas.

PCSO Kim Lidbury said: 'Warnings such as these mean if we catch the same person involved in trespassing or poaching again, they can face fines and criminal prosecution.'

'Poaching is carried out by people who have absolutely no permission to do so. It is also often done in an inhumane way which can cause great distress and suffering to animals targeted.'

'Trespassing on private land can lead to criminal damage, which is costly and disruptive to landowners and local communities.'

Kent Police works with the National Farmers Union (NFU) and other partner agencies to encourage people to report incidents of suspicious behaviour as soon as possible.



## Key signs for residents to look out for include:

- Vehicles parked on verges, in lay-bys or on bridleways
- Lines of people walking through fields with dogs, trying to raise hare or game
- Damage to gates and boundaries around land

Documenting vehicle details and passing them to police helps early intervention. If you see anything suspicious call the rural team or Kent Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

## Are you good with people and passionate about helping others?

Could you be #MoreThanTheBadge?

Kent Police is recruiting 180 more officers in 2019/20 and looking for people looking for a new challenge.

The role of a Police Constable can be demanding but it's that variety which makes it one of the most rewarding jobs around. Every day presents a new challenge, dealing with different situations to keep people and property safe.

You'll be responsible for prevention and detection of crime and working as part of a close team to serve the diverse communities and businesses of Kent.

Kent Police has over 30 specialist teams – from rural policing to public order, child protection and cyber crime.



To find out more about force recruitment [www.kent.police.uk/jobs](http://www.kent.police.uk/jobs)

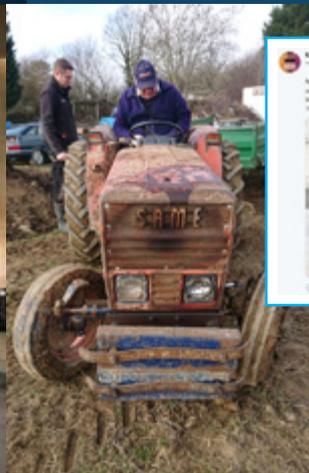
# Partnerships

## Working with partners to protect rural communities



The team use their expertise to support Local Neighbourhood Policing Teams, PCSOs or core response officers. The team are all fully trained Wildlife Crime Officers.

## Good news



Remember to follow the team on Twitter: @KentPoliceRural

New rural team member PC Anna Verrall managed to track down this tractor after walking across fields to trace it when it was reportedly spotted down a rural lane. A man was arrested and the vehicle returned.

## Key partners working with Kent Police to keep rural communities safe

### CRAG – Crime Rural Advisory Group

CRAG, formed in 2012, brings together main rural stakeholders, including the National Farmers Union and Country Land & Business Association – representing a large percentage of land occupancy countywide. They bring their own insights to CRAG to help keep Kent Police informed on ever-changing issues in rural Kent.

[www.btfpartnership.co.uk](http://www.btfpartnership.co.uk) email: [michael.bax@btfpartnership.co.uk](mailto:michael.bax@btfpartnership.co.uk) phone: **Michael Bax 01233 740077**

### Kent Association of Local Councils

KALC is a not for profit membership organisation serving member parish and town councils and parish meetings in Kent and Medway. It offers training, advice and services to member councils. KALC works with rural officers to disseminate information on their behalf, and to gather crime information from towns and parishes.

[www.kentalc.gov.uk](http://www.kentalc.gov.uk) email: [kalc@kentalc.gov.uk](mailto:kalc@kentalc.gov.uk) phone: **01304 820173**

### National Farmers Union

The NFU champions British farming and provides professional representation and services to its farmer and grower members. Around 70 per cent of full time farmers are NFU members. They aim to support Kent Police to engage with members' extensive local knowledge, working in partnership with CRAG and other stake holder organisations.

[www.nfuonline.com](http://www.nfuonline.com) email: [isobel.bretherton@nfu.org.uk](mailto:isobel.bretherton@nfu.org.uk) phone: **01730 711950**

### Kent Fire and Rescue Service

Kent Fire and Rescue Service is responsible for delivering fire and rescue services to more than 1.7 million people. Each year fire officers deal with around 16,500 incidents including road crashes, house and barn fires and more than 2,400 non-fire rescues. KFRS works with the Kent Police, NFU, and CRAG to provide safety and risk reduction advice to support the agricultural business community.

[www.kent.fire-uk.org](http://www.kent.fire-uk.org) email: [enquiries@kentfire-uk.org](mailto:enquiries@kentfire-uk.org) phone: **01622 692121**

### Historic England

Historic England is a public body which looks after England's historic environment. There are over 400,000 protected sites and buildings in England and Historic England works across a range of partnership to prevent the loss and damage to our shared cultural heritage. Former Kent police officer Mark Harrison advises the organisation and works closely with rural officers and CRAG.

[www.historicengland.org.uk](http://www.historicengland.org.uk) email: [southeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:southeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk) phone: **01483 252020**

