



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

## ***Royston Rural Watch, April 2025***

PC 396 Tom Wollard & PCSO 6048 Hannah Moss PCSO  
6522 Chris Brabrook



***Our Non -  
Emergency  
Number 101***

## **On the Beat**

### **Police engage with rural community at North Herts barn meet**

Hare coursing, fly-tipping, unlicensed music events and criminal damage were among subjects discussed as police held a barn meet with North Herts farmers.



The well-attended event, held at Quickswood Farm, Clothall on Thursday (6 March), saw presentations given by the North Herts Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT), the Rural Operational Support Team (ROST), Police and Crime Commissioner Jonathan Ash-Edwards and security marking specialists Data tag Security.

The event also gave attendees the opportunity to ask questions and network before and afterwards.

North Herts Chief Inspector Hannah Treadwell, said: “This was a really good barn meet. Events like this are essential as they enable us to update the rural community about the kind of work we are doing to support them, but also, most importantly, it gives the rural community the chance to ask questions of us and raise any issues which are important to them.

“Of course our rural communities face issues which are very different to our urban communities and we can take their concerns on board and ensure we look to tackle those issues; questions were raised around hare coursing, fly-tipping and unlicensed music events.

“Thanks to the National Farmers’ Union (NFU) who helped to organise and run the event.”

Join our community messaging platform Herts Connected and select ‘police’ when you sign up to receive free local messages. You can also choose to hear from other agencies.

## Countywide operation to target fly-tippers



Members of the public have told us during recent engagement events that they’d like to see more being done to tackle fly-tipping across Hertfordshire.

As a result, a countywide operation, led by the Rural Operational Support Team (ROST) took place last week, to ensure that those carrying waste were doing so legally.

Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) officers set up checkpoints in their local areas and stopped commercial vehicles throughout the early evening, to check for waste, waste carrier licenses and waste transfer notices.

Sergeant Alex Winning, from ROST, said: "Feedback from farmers during our recent series of Barn Meets, and from members of the public via our Herts Connected community messaging system, has highlighted fly-tipping as a real concern across the county.

"Fly-tipping is not only an eyesore, but it can be hazardous to health and create a dangerous environment for walkers, road users and wildlife. There is also a significant cost to both the taxpayer and landowners to remove fly-tips.

"Around 70 vehicles were stopped during the operation, with words of advice given, referrals being made to local councils and traffic offences being dealt with.

"These operations will continue, to ensure we're doing all we can to support our hardworking farmers and target those who commit crime in Hertfordshire."

If you come across a fly-tip, please report it to your local council. If you witness fly-tipping in progress, dial 999 straight away.

## **Force celebrates first anniversary of Herts Connected**

More than 3,000 targeted messages have been sent to Hertfordshire residents signed up to receive police alerts on a range of local topics including updates on incidents, events, crime prevention advice, court results and good news over the last 12 months.

The majority of the 50,000 residents (10 per cent of Hertfordshire households) signed up to the force's community messaging platform Herts Connected are pleased with the local messages they receive - as the force marks its first anniversary this week!

Sergeant Alex Smedley, who has led on embedding Herts Connected across the constabulary, said: "It has been a fantastic year with the majority of residents rating the messages as useful, informative and relevant. That is largely thanks to the 500 officers across the county who are posting about what they have been doing and alerting the public to local issues."

Almost 4,000 engagement events have been advertised on the system over the last 12 months, where the public can speak to their local officers face-to-face about any concerns. The three main issues across the county are anti-social behaviour, drugs and vehicle crime. Many local neighbourhood policing teams are focusing on these issues as they have become neighbourhood priorities following this feedback from residents.

Residents can have their say by letting us know their issues [here](#).

Sergeant Smedley added: "We would love more people to receive our messages – so we can help prevent crime and better understand the issues that have an adverse effect on local communities, so we can work on short and longer-term plans to address these with our local partner agencies. What are you waiting for? Why not sign up today by selecting 'police' when you register."

## **Local Crime**

### **G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote**

**Outbuilding Burglary, Ashwell Street, Ashwell** – Between 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March a metal storage shed in the garden of a property in Ashwell Street was targeted. The offenders have forced the shed door and stole two off road motor bikes. **41/28110/25 Refers**

### **G4D – Barley, Barkway, Reed, Therfield, Kelshall and Nuthampstead**

**Theft, Upper Coombe Road, Kelshall** – Overnight on 2<sup>nd</sup> March the offenders have cut through a farmers gate, driven onto land damaging post and rail fencing. The offenders have then removed an trailer being stored at the location and made off. **41/19965/25**

**Outbuilding Burglary, Bakers Lane, Barley** – At 20.27 on 5<sup>th</sup> March offender drove up the drive of a property in Barley. The offenders prised open a door to a stables and removed an amplifier from within. The owner of the property called out which disturbed the suspects who made off. **41/21061/25**

**Theft from Motor Vehicle, Church End, Barley** – Overnight between 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> both front and rear number plates were stolen from a vehicle in Church End. Possibly linked to the above offence. **41/21380/25**

**Burglary Business, A505, Services** – On 9<sup>th</sup> March at 5.56am offenders smashed through a window of a local garage, once inside the smoke cloak security system was activated. The offenders were unable to see what they were doing and fled the scene. **41/22231/25**

**Burglary Business, Rooks Nest Lane** – Between 7<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> March a diesel bowser was stolen from a building site in Rooks Nest Lane. The offenders stole £1000 worth of fuel. **41/22538/25**

**Theft, Nuthampstead** – Overnight on 14<sup>th</sup> March the offenders cut a chain securing a gate onto the property. The suspect entered the site and removed a trailer being stored at the location. **41/24391/25**

## **G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston**

**Outbuilding Burglary, Mill End Rushden** – Between 5th & 11th March a container being stored on land was broken into. The offenders removed a wooden shed being stored at the location. **41/22940/25**

## **Your local Neighbourhood Police Teams website**

<http://snt.herts.police.uk/Teams.aspx?TeamID=G01>

### Useful Links

<http://www.herts.police.uk/>

<http://www.doglost.co.uk/>

<http://www.stolenhorseregister.com/>

**Royston Rural Neighbourhood Team Tel – 01438 757935**