



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

Royston Rural Watch, June 2025

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



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

On the Beat

Keep your home and garden secure this summer

If you are planning a trip away from home this summer, take some time to make sure your home and garden are secure before you go away.

A lot of planning goes into those summer trips, but people often forget to plan for leaving their homes empty for days or weeks at a time.

During May there was a 40 per cent increase in burglaries to sheds.

Leaving your home empty when you go out for days trips or longer holidays, can give burglars opportunities to steal valuable tools and leisure equipment from gardens, especially if they are left unsecured.

Detective Chief Inspector Luke Whinnett, from the Local Policing Command, said: "Many people are out enjoying the weather at this time of year, leaving homes empty for days or weeks at a time. Burglars often target outbuildings as they tend to have less security than homes, but still contain valuable items, like gardening equipment, power tools and bikes.

"Make sure any tools that could assist a burglar, like ladders, trowels, hammers etc, are locked away and ensure outbuildings are as secure as

possible, with strong locks or even an alarmed padlock. Consider installing dusk till dawn security lights and planting defensive plants like roses along your borders, and make sure fences are in good condition, which will help keep your home safe. Remember to close windows and lock doors when you are going out, even when the weather gets warmer.”

Some tips to make your garden and outbuildings more secure:

Always lock your shed, preferably with two 'hasp and staple' locks (one near the top and one near the bottom of the door) or use or an alarmed padlock. Secure your rear garden by locking entry gates with a padlock.



Burglars can use garden tools to break in, so make sure you securely lock away any tools after use.

Ensure boundary fences are secure and in good condition. Spiky plants along garden boundaries are good additional deterrents. Tools and gardening equipment should be visibly marked with your postcode and

house number - this can deter thieves and help police identify the rightful owner.

Remember to lock your garage door securely. Metal 'up and over' doors can be secured with extra locks fitted either side and/or a floor-mounted locking 'T' bar with a closed shackle padlock. Wooden garage doors can be secured with two substantial 'hasps and staple' locks and closed shackle padlocks (your local DIY store can advise on the most secure options).

Make access to the rear of your property difficult, keep rear/side gates closed and locked and ensure boundary walls/fences are in good repair.

Keep wheelie bins secured so they cannot be moved or used as climbing aids.

Plant defensive spiky plants under windows such as berberis, roses and pyracantha. Watch our defensive plants video.

Most bicycles are stolen from home so ensure they are kept in secure sheds, outbuildings and garages. Consider installing ground anchors if you have a concrete floor. If not, look for security rated products specifically for wooden and metal sheds.

Take extra security precautions for storing expensive bikes, it is recommended that they are security marked and registered at Bike Register.

Open day at Royston Police Station is a success

More than a thousand residents came along to Royston Police Station's first ever open day on Saturday 24 May.

The open day gave residents of all ages a chance to meet their local officers.

There was lots on offer, including a tour of the police station and vehicles.

It also gave residents a chance to share their views on local policing and gain crime prevention advice.

Those wishing to join the police as a career – either as an officer or staff – could also ask questions and find out more.

North Herts Chief Inspector Hannah Treadwell said: “We were thrilled to have such a big turnout for the event and I would like to thank everybody who took the time to come along.



“We wanted to host the open day to give people the chance to meet us in a fun and informal setting. There was a great atmosphere and everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. It was a pleasure to host the event and meet everybody.

“If you have any feedback about the event, we’d love to hear it. Please get in touch by filling in our survey on Herts Connected.”

You can use our community voice platform ‘echo’ to let us know what you think we should be prioritising in your area. Your feedback will help towards shaping our local policing priorities, initiatives and campaigns. Visit our community voice platform and tell us your thoughts.

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.

Local Crime

Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

Criminal Damage, Ashwell End, Ashwell – On 27th May at 17.10 a bronze Nissan Navara drove across crops causing damage to sugar beat. The vehicle was believed to involved in Hare Coursing. **41/48505/25 Refers**

Barley, Barkway, Reed, Therfield, Kelshall and Nuthampstead

Criminal Damage, Sandon Road, Therfield – On 3rd May at 02.30 a male who was fishing over night had his tent damaged by youths who had attended the fishing lake. **41/40322/25**

Criminal Damage, Blacksmith Lane, Reed - On 6th May at 2pm – 6pm a vehicle was parked on a driveway away from the road. Between these times a window was smashed on the car. **41/41492/25**

Theft from Motor Vehicle, High Street, Barley – Over night on 6th May a motor bike number plate was stolen. **41/41620/25**

Theft. Rook Nest Lane, Therfield – Between 1st March to 5th June a building site was targeted in Rooks nest lane. A diesel bowers was broken into and fuel stolen from within. **41/51667/25**

Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston

Theft, Halls Green, Weston – Overnight on 27th May to 28th a trailer that was being stored at a farm location was stolen. **41/486644/25**

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