

## Police Briefing Friday 1st March 2013 South Herefordshire & Golden Valley

### Broad Oak

Two chainsaws and a leaf blower were stolen from the rear of a van whilst the owner was working nearby, sometime between 9.30am and 3pm on Friday 22nd February. One of the chainsaws was a Stihl, as was the leaf blower, the other chainsaw was a Husqvarna.

Incident ref 491-s-220213

### Callow

Damage was caused to a large glass entrance door at a car dealership on the A49 at around 8.30pm on Sunday 24th February. A set of old brake discs were thrown through the window causing the alarm to activate, no entry was gained. Before this however, the suspects had been to the rear of the premises and removed the bonnet and wing of a mini that was parked there.

Incident ref 481-s-240213

### Eaton Bishop

A resident of the village got in touch and informed us of a suspicious incident that happened on Thursday 21st February. A man in a small rough looking dark blue 4x4 stopped her on the lane leading to her property. He had just got into his car having come from another cottage that is near the top of the lane. The man looked to be in his 60/70s very scruffy asked her if she had any diesel, she asked him if he was running low & he replied "Well I wouldn't be asking if I wasn't" She told him she couldn't help him. As he drove off she noticed he had a very big plastic container suitable to hold diesel or petrol by the side of him on the passenger seat. The lady didn't get the registration number but she did notice he had painted a white strip the front bumper of his car and painted the numbers on in black.

### Ewyas Harold

An isolated bungalow was burgled between 9am on Monday 25th and 9am on Wednesday 27th February, and several items of jewellery were taken from a drawer in one of the bedrooms. There was no sign of a forced entry, and it may be that the suspect found the spare key hidden elsewhere.

Incident ref 136-s-270213

### Holme Lacy

A washing machine in working order that had been left out for collection by a friend was stolen from Hardinge Close between 12.15pm and 4pm on Thursday 21st February.

Incident ref 376-s-210213

### Kingstone

Two units on the Gooses Foot Industrial Estate were broken into sometime overnight on Tuesday 19th/Wednesday 20th February. One unit had a key safe containing keys taken off the wall, and a key from it was used to open a vehicle parked in the yard from where a mobile phone was stolen from the glove box.

At the other unit, two large metal containers at the rear of the business were forced open, but nothing was taken.

Incident ref 131-n-200213 & 150-s-200213

Between 3pm on Tuesday 19th and 11am on Thursday 21st February, three cycles worth over £4000 were stolen from a locked stable at a residential property in the village. The description of the bikes are as follows - a Merida mission elite full suspension mountain bike, disc breaks, carbon handle bars, fluorescent green and yellow; a Scott mountain bike with hardtail suspension on front, red forks by Marzochi, polished aluminium colour; and a Cyclocross kensis crosslight, black with blue stripes, carbon forks. All three had distinctive saddles, photos attached.

Incident ref 205-s-210213

### Madley

A garden gate and part of a garden fence in Bailey Close were damaged between Wednesday 20th and Monday 25th February whilst the occupiers were away. The fence is a woven willow one, as is the gate, and will be expensive to repair. Enquiries made so far lead us to believe that it happened on the afternoon of Thursday 21st February. If you have any information, please call 101 and quote the incident reference number.

Incident ref 462-s-250213

There were reports of anti-social behaviour overnight on Friday 22nd /Saturday 23rd February in Patterson Close and Rosemary Lane when rubbish was strewn around, wheelie bins tipped over and a large chunk of metal was thrown at a house. Several names have been given to the police and visits are being made to parents. Please contact us if you have further information.

Incident ref 18-n-230213

### Peterchurch

An Ifor Williams trailer and a Husqvana CTH170 ride on mower were stolen from the rear of a residential property in the village between Tuesday 19th and Sunday 24th February. The trailer had been on the driveway at the rear of the property, not visible from the road, and the mower was in a locked outbuilding.

Incident ref 356-s-240213

A 32 year old male from the village was arrested in Hereford on 28th February for possession of a controlled drug. He was charged and bailed to court.

### Suspicious Vehicles

**HJ5\*HBL** - This is a grey Ford transit van that has been on our area a couple of times over the past few days, in **Dorstone** on Monday and **Ewyas Harold** on Wednesday, and

this morning it pinged the ANPR camera coming out of town heading south on the A465, so it is likely to be in the area again as I write! There were 3 males in the vehicle previously, and were asking for scrap. I have made enquiries with my colleagues in the Community Protection Team at Herefordshire Council and they can't find a record of the occupants having a Waste Carriers Licence. If you see it, let us know and we'll inform the CPT - if they catch up with them and they have scrap on board they can issue a £300 on the spot fine!

**KW5\*FJZ** - this is a white Ford transit panel van, seen in **Broad Oak** on Monday 25th, the occupants asking for batteries, again, we don't think the occupants are in possession of a Waste Carriers Licence, and it is highly likely that they are up to no good, so please let us know if you see it around.

The item below was published on our website recently, and although it is about incidents in Shropshire, there have been several similar incidents on our patch lately, so I thought it may be of interest!

### **Warning Over Roadside Fake 'Gold' Sellers In Shropshire**

Police have arrested seven people in Shropshire on suspicion of attempting to sell fake gold rings at the roadside in two separate incidents. Motorists are warned to be vigilant to people trying to flag them down and get them to hand over cash for goods.

Patrols were called to a lay-by on the A41, near the junction for the M54, at about 11.15am on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013 after an off-duty police officer reported men trying to flag him down. When officers arrived, they searched a silver Mercedes E Class saloon and recovered various gold coloured rings, believed to be cheap costume jewellery. Three men from the car were arrested on suspicion of going equipped to commit fraud and remain in custody at Malinsgate Police Station at this time.

In another incident on the same day, officers were called by a member of the public who spotted a man also attempting to flag down cars on the A458 near Ford, just after 2pm. Three men and one woman were arrested on suspicion of going equipped to commit fraud, after several gold-coloured rings were found in their blue Volkswagen Golf. At this time, all four remain in custody at Shrewsbury Police Station.

Like in the A41 incident, the rings are believed to be cheap costume jewellery and the Volkswagen has been seized by police.

Previous incidents in Shropshire have seen drivers conned into buying cheap rings and necklaces, believing they were real gold, when flagged down by fraudsters who claimed they needed money for fuel. Offenders often also suggested they had a family emergency to convince victims to hand over their money, believing they were helping out someone in need.

No money is believed to have been handed over in the two recent incidents. Sergeant Chris Haslam, who attended the incident, urged motorists never to stop for people at the roadside.

"There have been several reports in recent months of these apparent scams taking place in Shropshire and I urge people to be on their guard and not be taken in," he said.

### **West Mercia Police Cadets**

Just a reminder that the West Mercia Police Cadet Programme will be starting Sept 2013 for 16 - 18 year olds across the force area and we are now into the recruiting phase.

Detachments will be located in Worcester, Hereford, Redditch, Shrewsbury and Telford.

Cadets will meet once a week at their detachment as well as weekends away and an adventurous training week.

The programme has been defined to provide a safe environment in which young people can learn as individuals, develop positive relationships with the police, and actively support communities of Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Worcestershire.

The aim is to help prepare young people for their future by providing varied activities and opportunities to develop qualifications, enhance inter-personal skills and confidence, and achieve a sense of pride through supporting Local Policing activities.

The programme will enhance opportunities for further education, employment and training.

Best wishes

*Fiona*

Golden Valley & Hereford Rural South Local Policing Teams

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**Non emergency number 101**