

Police Briefing Friday 21st September 2012

South Herefordshire & Golden Valley

Bagwyllydiart

During the early hours of Thursday 13th September, a generator, compressor and a set of jump leads were stolen from a farm yard in Bagwyllydiart. A witness states that the previous evening he saw a group of males hanging around the area of the property. It is not known though if these males were involved in the theft.
Incident ref- 0206S130912.

Callow

Between 20:15hrs on Wednesday 12th and 08:00hrs on Thursday 13th September, a catalytic converter has been stolen off a Toyota Avensis at Westlands Toyota. The vehicle was parked in the rear of the yard and it's reported that the catalytic converter was forcibly removed.
Incident ref- 0355S140912.

Hoarwithy

Theft of a sign that was chained to the bridge in Hoarwithy has occurred. The sign was an advertisement for the local pub, The New Harp Inn. Sign has been removed by smashing the padlocks. CSO Middleton has looked around the area, but couldn't find the sign.
Incident ref- 0209S130912.

Holme Lacy

At Approximately 10:00hrs on Thursday 13th September, a local resident from Holme Lacy had a cold call from a male, calling himself Mr SMITH, asking for any scrap Gold, Silver or Ceramics. SMITH stated that he had dropped leaflets off in the area the week before and has now returned for possible collection. Informant states that they had received no leaflet.
Male is described as approximately 50 years old, between 5"4-5"6, thin hair and quite round. Informant also describes the male as dressing neatly, but not smartly like a business man. Informant states that the SMITH was quite polite and full of charm. SMITH was driving a white van, possibly a Transit.
Incident ref- 0132S130912.

Madley

Between 20:00hrs on Thursday 13th and 07:00hrs on Friday 14th September, a van was taken without the owners consent from Madley, driven to a near-by field approximately 1 mile away and all the contents were removed out of the van, but placed in the surrounding field. Contents included gardening tools, mowers and strimmers.
The van was later recovered and some tools seized for forensic examination.
Incident ref- 0063S140912.

During the same evening as the previous incident, between 22:00hrs and 07:15hrs, 4 drills and a saw were stolen out of a Transit van. The van owner had heard that items had been recovered and made his way to Hereford Police Station to enquire.

Some of the items that were recovered from incident 0063S140912, were that of the van owners. He was reunited with his items.
Incident ref- 0172S150912.

Sometime between Thursday 13th and Friday 14th September, damage has been caused to a car tyre. Informant states that he was on his way to work when the tyre deflated. On closer inspection he noticed part of a screwdriver was jammed into the wall of the tyre.
Incident ref- 0200S140912.

St Weonards

A report came in on Monday 17th September at 11:30hrs from a resident in St Weonards stating that a white Renault van, no registration given, was driving around in the area calling out for scrap metal. The van had 2 male occupants. An observation message was passed out immediately by Police communications to all officers for an area search. The van was not found and we received no further calls.
Incident ref- 0226S170912.

Walterstone

A trailer and 30 bales of wood shavings have been recovered from a derelict farm in Walterstone on Monday 17th September. The trailer and bales had been reported to have been stolen from the Ledbury area earlier on in the day. The derelict farm has recently been purchased. The trailer and bales were discovered by the new owner after he was paying his site a visit. All items have been reunited with their owners.
Incident ref- 0102N170912.

Twyford

An attempt burglary took place in Twyford between 20:00hrs on Wednesday 19th and 07:00hrs on Thursday 20th September. The attempt to gain access was made on the rear door of the property. Marks left suggest that crow bars were used.
Incident ref- 0062S200912.

Latest scams to be aware of

A company calling themselves "Regional Press" have been in touch with a newly established company setting up a business in Llanwarne. Regional press state that they specialise in advertising for businesses who are just starting out. They also state that they managed to obtain the Llanwarne business number from the local council and they are working along side West Mercia Police!

Regional press said to the informant that they could advertise their business for a special fee. When the informant said that they would have to consult with their business partner first they said that they would phone back in a few days.

A few days went past and Regional Press phoned back stating they could now offer them a bigger advertisement for a smaller fee. Nothing was agreed with the informant and Regional Press.

The informant then receives an automated voicemail. It was unclear exactly what was said but at the end of the message it asked them to press certain numbers to say yes or no to the advertisement. No numbers were pressed.

The informant has now received a bill from Regional Press for £162. Informant managed to get hold of a Elizabeth WILLIAMS and a James PETERSON. Whilst the informant was speaking to PETERSON about the bill, he has become very irate with them. Informant then told PETERSON that they have been in touch with the local police and they aren't aware of this scheme. PETERSON then immediately responded with "Stop, you will never hear from us again, rip up the invoice!" Research into this company shows that their business address is 27 Old Gloucester Street, London, WC1N3AX, with a telephone number of 08455192721. This address is recorded as a hireable address for business use.

An informant from Clehonger reported a scam telephone call on Thursday 20th September. Informant stated that he received a call from a male calling himself Peter saying that he was owed £8000 in bank charges. In order for him to receive this money he would need to give Peter all his details including his bank account details. Informant said to Peter that he wouldn't be giving him any details. Peter told him to phone 02081336604, give them £600 and he would then receive his £8000.

Citadel - Bringing Down Burglary

Citadel is a forcewide initiative aimed at driving down the number of burglaries committed in the force area.

Burglary of people's homes and catching the criminals who commit these offences is a high priority for the Chief Constable and the force. In conjunction with the Police Authority, we have set ourselves stringent targets to ensure that no more than 10 burglaries a day are committed across Herefordshire, Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin and Worcestershire.

While burglary levels remain low compared to other parts of the country, there have been around 140 more burglaries this year against the targets we have set. That's why we've launched Citadel to drive burglary rates back down to where we expect them to be.

We're using a variety of tactics to target known or suspected criminals and these are already having results: since April, we have arrested more than 600 people, many of whom when convicted will be sent to jail.

How you can help

Don't give criminals an easy chance to burgle your home To reduce your chances of being burgled you need to:

Make sure your windows and doors are locked and secure

Put a light on when you go out to give the impression that someone is in

Report suspicious activity in your neighbourhood - call us on 101 if you see

something unusual or you suspect someone you know might be involved in burglary

Help us find people wanted for burglary - visit the West Mercia Wanted website and

tell us if you've seen any of the people listed.

Remember that if a home has been burgled near to where you live, your chances of becoming a victim increase - so take action to make sure you're not next.

Find out more

Visit our Home Security Advice Centre to find out more about how you can keep your property safe, including details of security marking products, garden shed and allotment security, simple home improvements that can deter burglars and information of what to do if you have been burgled.

Visit the Home Security Advice Centre

You can also get more security tips and information about our successes in tackling burglary by following our special Twitter account, @CitadelWMP.

Please click on the link below for more details.

<http://www.westmercia.police.uk/news/news-articles/west-mercia-police-launch-new-initiative-to-tackle-rise-in-burglaries.html>

Thanks for your time,

James.

Golden Valley & Hereford Rural South Local Policing Teams

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