

Police Briefing Friday 22nd June 2012

South Herefordshire & Golden Valley

Crime Trends

A handbag was stolen from the front footwell of a car parked on a grass verge outside a property in **Blakemere** between 11am and 3pm on Wednesday 13th June. The car had been locked but the window had been left open. Incident ref 561-s-130612

A quantity of heating oil was reported stolen from a domestic tank in **St Weonards** last week, the victim is unsure when the theft occurred. Incident ref 512-s-160612

A garage at a property in **Marlas**, near Kilpeck, was broken into sometime between the evening of Monday 18th June and the morning of Wednesday 20th June. The garage door was prised open and a green Atco ride on mower, a lawnmower and a strimmer were stolen.

Incident ref 91-n-200612.

On Thursday 21st June at about 1.30am, a quad bike was stolen from a farm in **Peterchurch**, but was found abandoned a short distance away with the keys still in it, possibly because there was no fuel in it. The bike had been chained up in a barn on the farm, the chain and lock were missing. Incident ref 17-s-210612

Overnight on Wednesday 20th/Thursday 21st June, a green Kawasaki 'mule' **VX59EDL** was stolen from a farm in **Cobhall Common**. This is a buggy type vehicle, used for transporting feed etc round the farm, it was taken from an open barn and wheeled or driven across two fields to a lane. The offenders had to go through several gates, which they thoughtfully closed behind them - quite unusual! Incident ref 56-s-210612

Between 4pm on Wednesday 20th and 9am today (Friday 22nd) several items were stolen from a farm in **Bredwardine**. A Briggs & Stratton generator, a Stihl chainsaw and a Honda pressure washer are among items stolen. It is believed the theft occurred during the daytime as the shed is locked most of the time, but open during the day at times. There was no sign of forced entry.

Incident ref 148-s-220612

Suspicious Incidents

At about 10.45pm on Thursday 14th June, a male on a motorbike was stationary outside a property in **Longtown**. The rider was described as a white male in his 40's with short blond hair, wearing a dark blue and grey jacket with a black and grey helmet. The bike was a black Yamaha, part registration **V606*E***. The male was just staring through the window at the occupant, she couldn't understand what he wanted but he hung around for a while, then left. Incident ref 154-n-140612

A White VW transporter van **MT55*SY** was seen in **Tretire** in suspicious circumstances on Thursday 14th June. This vehicle is connected to a male known to us, so keep an eye out for it!

A young male allegedly part of an offender rehabilitation scheme was in the **Wormelow** area last Friday 15th June offering items for sale. He sold a few items to one householder, then returned to the same property and said his supervisor had sent him back to sell more items. He was sent on his way. He did have a card with him with a mobile number, which the householder passed on to police, but we have been unable to establish if this is genuine. If in doubt - do not engage with such callers. Incident ref 726-s-150612

A passing motorist was flagged down last Wednesday (20th) at around 10 am on the B4348 at **Thrupton** by a dark saloon car. The driver, a foreign male in his 40's with dark greasy hair, wearing a stripy shirt, asked the motorist for money for his mother, he offered a watch and a ring. The offer was declined and the motorist left the scene, we don't have the registration number.

Incident ref 166-s-200612

A farmer in **St Owens Cross** received a telephone call from a male purporting to be from a Crime Prevention publication offering support for farmers in the county. He was asking for £130 and thanking him for his 'continued support' of the organisation. When pushed to explain more and for a name and contact number, the male hung up, and the number was withheld.

From Ringmaster

Crimestoppers help bring 134 criminals to justice in West Mercia thanks to public information

End of year statistics released by crime-fighting Crimestoppers have revealed that almost 2,174 pieces of information were passed to police between April 2011 and March 2012 in West Mercia – leading to over 134 arrests and charges.

Various campaigns such as Burglary and Domestic Violence, have been launched in the area to help bring wanted criminals to justice with local volunteers playing an integral role in engaging with local communities and finding out which crimes are affecting them.

With the charity celebrating its 25th anniversary next year, these numbers represent a continuing awareness and trust of Crimestoppers as both a charity, and an organisation that aids the fight against crime.

Regional Manager for West Midlands, Pauline Hadley, said: "We continue to work hard in West Mercia from Hereford to Worcester to Shrewsbury and Telford to ensure that the area is a safe place for people to live in and criminals are brought to justice.

"With your help, you can bring even more criminals to justice next year by contacting Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or through our secure online form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org."

Across the UK, information passed onto the police by Crimestoppers increased by almost five per cent.

Crimestoppers operates the 24/7 **0800 555 111** telephone number for people to pass on information about crimes anonymously. Information can also be passed anonymously through the charity's online form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for Crimestoppers, please fill out our volunteer enquiry form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org/volunteer

For more information on Crimestoppers and this campaign please contact Pauline Hadley Regional Manager For West Midland on 07743895643 or by email on pauline.hadley@crimestoppers-uk.org

- **Around 23 people are arrested and charged every day as a result of information given to Crimestoppers.**
- **Since Crimestoppers began in 1988, it has received over a million actionable calls, resulting in over 113,000 arrests and charges. Over £123 million worth of goods has been recovered and over £232 million worth of drugs has been seized.**
- **In 2005, Crimestoppers launched the UK's Most Wanted on its website which allows the public to view images of criminals and pass on vital information about their whereabouts. It has been highly successful with over 1,000 arrests to date.**
- **Crimestoppers UK was founded by Lord Ashcroft, KCMG, Chairman of Trustees. In 1988, he launched Crimestoppers in the Metropolitan Police area. Crimestoppers' 'call to action' is built on a three-way partnership between the business community, the police and the media.**
- **Crimestoppers is an independent charity which helps the police to solve crimes, making communities safer. It does this by operating the 24/7 telephone number 0800 555 111 which people can ring to pass on information about crimes anonymously. They can also use our 'giving information' form via our website www.crimestoppers-uk.org which can also be accessed via mobile devices.**

Police Authority Approves Alliance Plan

A four-year plan to deliver high-quality, value for money, policing services across Warwickshire and West Mercia police force areas was today agreed by members of West Mercia Police Authority.

The plan will enable both forces to maximise the protection they can deliver from a reducing policing budget, by streamlining support services that enable policing to take place, as well as management costs.

West Mercia Police needs to reduce its operating costs by £20.1 million by the end of 2015/16 and Warwickshire by £10.2 million.

The plan will be considered by Warwickshire Police Authority tomorrow (Wednesday July 20) and, if approved will see:

Policing delivered across seven geographic areas, each led by a local Superintendent responsible for local policing, including Safer Neighbourhood Teams, response, local investigation and harm reduction. These areas are: Herefordshire; North Warwickshire; North Worcestershire; Shropshire; South Warwickshire; South Worcestershire; Telford & Wrekin.

Other policing services will be managed once across both forces and delivered locally in accordance with need, tackling the highest harms that exist in both force areas at all times. Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs, also known as Local Policing Teams) will be allowed to concentrate on harm reduction in their communities by focusing on communications, local engagement, problem solving with partners and offender management.

Local Safer Neighbourhood policing teams (SNTs) remain fundamental to serving the public and will operate across all four counties. We will work with Authorities and then elected

Police and Crime Commissioners to determine how to best utilise them.

SNTs will be supported by other officers and staff working in the community performing functions such as patrol, crime investigation and forensics.

A new estates strategy will be completed. We will discuss potential changes to individual police buildings, stations or front-counter arrangements with Authorities, (then elected Police and Crime Commissioners), local communities and partners to decide how they can best be used to support local policing.

There will be fewer people employed in supporting functions, fewer managers and police supervisors and both forces are seeking to increase the number of Special Constables and other volunteers to assist in delivering policing.

In agreeing the report presented to them, West Mercia Police Authority asked Chief Constable David Shaw to "drive forward future design and implementation work as quickly as professionally possible", in consultation with the Police Authority and the elected Police and Crime Commissioner from November 2012.

Sheila Blagg, Chair of West Mercia Police Authority said: "We believe the arrangements agreed today are capable of delivering more protection for communities in Herefordshire, Telford & Wrekin, Shropshire and Worcestershire than would be possible without an Alliance with Warwickshire Police.

"However, it would not be appropriate to comment further until colleagues on Warwickshire Police Authority have had an opportunity consider the report at their meeting tomorrow."

West Mercia Police's Chief Constable David Shaw said the Alliance design provides 'innovative, effective and efficient' ways of policing to ensure that protection of the public is maximised.

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