

## Police Briefing Sunday 1st September 2013 South Herefordshire & Golden Valley

### Dewsall

Several bales of hay were set alight and damage was caused to weather recording instruments in fields belonging to a local farm. There was also damage to some pumping equipment belonging to the same farm but some distance from the fire. The incidents are all believed to have happened on Tuesday 27th August in the late evening.

Incident ref 265-s-010913

### Dorstone

An Ifor Williams single axle trailer was stolen from a farm on the outskirts of the village sometime overnight on Saturday 31st August/Sunday 1st September. The offenders dragged the trailer across a potato field to a gate onto the back road from Dorstone to Peterchurch where presumably a vehicle was waiting.

Incident ref 220-s-010913

### Grafton

Between Wednesday 21st and Tuesday 27th August, a silver GT Hybrid racing bike was stolen from a farm in Grafton Lane. The cycle had been chained and padlocked to a trailer.

Incident ref 480-s-270813

### Kentchurch

Entry was gained to a property undergoing extensive renovation sometime during the night on Wednesday 28th/Thursday 29th August; a boarded up door to the house was kicked in. Nothing appears to have been taken however as no tools are kept at the property overnight. The day before on Tuesday 27th at around 4pm, two males in a blue Ford focus came onto the site and tried to grab some tools but they were chased off. They were aged 18-19 years, one was wearing a grey hooded top and blue tracksuit bottoms. Unfortunately, no registration number was taken.

Incident ref 416-s-270813 & 218-s-290813

### Kingstone

There have been more incidents of anti-social behaviour around the village in the past week - there have been groups of youngsters aged around 13-15 years hanging around in the churchyard and in the porch. Flowers have been moved from some graves and put on others, and rubbish is being left around.

An elderly couple in Coldstone Cross had the side of their house bombarded with mudballs at lunchtime on Friday 30th, enquiries made revealed that three local boys were responsible and they have been back to apologise to the couple and cleaned off the mud they could reach - the rest of it was later cleared off by parents of one of the lads.

## Madley

A Yamaha YFM 700 'Grizzly' Quad bike was stolen from a farm near the village overnight on Tuesday 27th/Wednesday 28th August. The bike, which was painted in a camouflage style, had been chained to a refrigerated trailer in an insecure building.  
Incident ref 124-s-280813

## Much Birch

A female driver from Hereford had her Vauxhall tigra coupe seized on Friday 30th August for having no insurance.

## Wormelow

A black Honda civic was seized by police on Thursday 29th August as the male driver from Harewood End had no insurance.

## Suspicious vehicles

**VE5\*VKF** A black Mitsubishi L200 called at two business premises in **Allensmore** on Wednesday 28th August. At one premises the three males in the truck claimed they were in the motor trade and looking for a car; at the other they were looking to buy fern trees! The registered name and address appears to be false, please keep an eye out for this one.

**BX56RWX** - this is not quite the right registration number but will be similar - a yellow van that called at a premises in **Harewood End** on Tuesday 27th August, there were two or three males on board and the vehicle was being driven very slowly round the yard.

## Arrests

A 22 year old male from **Clehonger** was arrested and charged with criminal damage on Monday 26th August. He is on bail to attend court.

A 23 year old male from **Haywood** was arrested on Monday 26th August for a breach of the peace. He was later released without charge.

With regard to the reports of vehicles being seized for no insurance recently, I have copied an item that appeared in the Leominster Rural bulletin this week which explains how we catch uninsured drivers and other law breakers!

# Use Of Automatic Number Plate Recognition

## Why we use ANPR

Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology is used within West Mercia to help detect, deter and disrupt criminality at a local, force, regional and national level, including tackling travelling criminals, organised crime groups and terrorists. ANPR provides lines of enquiry and evidence in the investigation of crime and is used by forces throughout England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

## How it works

As a vehicle passes an ANPR camera, its registration number is read and instantly checked against database records of vehicles of interest. Police officers can intercept and stop a vehicle, check it for evidence and, where necessary, make

arrests. The use of ANPR in this way has proved to be important in the detection of many offences, including locating stolen vehicles, tackling uninsured vehicle use and uncovering cases of major crime. It also allows officers' attention to be drawn to offending vehicles whilst allowing law abiding drivers to go about their business unhindered.

#### Access to stored data

ANPR data from West Mercia Police is submitted to the National ANPR Data Centre (NADC) where it is stored together with similar data from other forces for a period of two years.

We have clear rules to control access to ANPR data to ensure that access is for legitimate investigation purposes. Staff only have access to ANPR data if it is relevant to their role, and the majority of those who have permission may only do so for a maximum period of 90 days from the date it was collected. Some staff are authorised to access data for up to 2 years subject to authorisation of a senior officer. After 90 days, access may only be for serious, major or counter terrorism investigations and after 12 months only for major investigations and counter terrorism purposes. Searches of ANPR data can confirm whether vehicles associated with a known criminal has been in the area at the time of a crime and can dramatically speed up investigations.

#### Camera locations

In addition to being mounted within police vehicles, ANPR cameras within the West Mercia Police force area are used at fixed locations where they will help to detect, deter and disrupt criminality. In line with national policy, we do not disclose details of our fixed locations as this information is likely to be of benefit to offenders and if known could reduce the value of ANPR to policing.

National guidelines state that, if West Mercia Police proposes to install additional ANPR cameras, an assessment must be conducted that demonstrates a clear need, taking account of the following factors:

- national security and counter terrorism;
- serious, organised and major crime;
- local crime;
- community confidence and reassurance, and crime prevention and reduction.

In assessing whether new cameras are to be deployed, a Privacy Impact Assessment will be undertaken. We will consult with persons and organisations with a reasonable interest in the proposal unless that would be contrary to the purpose of the development, namely to detect, deter and disrupt criminality.

West Mercia Police is also committed to regularly review the location of ANPR cameras, in the context of the above criteria, to make sure that the continued deployment remains justified. All reviews will include consideration of the impacts on privacy.

Best wishes

*Fiona*

Golden Valley & Hereford Rural South Local Policing Teams

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**N.B.** Only use the mobile

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