

PC 2157 EDD MCKINNON

A busy first month on the beat!

What we used to call 'traditional crime' when I worked in the city is low, which is testament to the good people of Rutland, but as with anywhere, crime does still sadly occur, and we have had a particularly saddening large scale theft in Ketton, which will affect the local community coming into the Spring.

But I am heartened to see that a crowdfunding page is already set up to try and put things right for the sports ground and the teams that are based there.

This just reinforces what I have already found in the short time I have worked here - an amazing sense of community everywhere I have been.

I have met some truly wonderful people who I look forward to seeing again. From the team at the Rutland sailing club, the fantastic staff at the natural burial ground in Ketton, to the singularly lovely family who run the Edith Weston Village Store, and everyone in-between, it is truly an honor to Police out here.

RUTLAND SOUTH BEAT

Crimes of Note February 2024

BURGLARY

14/02 – Commercial burglary where a tractor and other grounds maintenance equipment stolen from Ketton Sports and community Centre – Tractor subsequently recovered in Bourne.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

01/02 – Damage to land (by vehicle – suspected coursing) *Normanton Lodge*

15/02 – Damage to land (by vehicle – suspected coursing) *Mill Farm Empingham*

19/02 – Damage to land (by vehicle – suspected coursing) Seaton Rd Glaston

THEFT

04/02 – Theft of 'gator' type vehicle & other items *Wardley*

13/02 – Theft from business Exeter Arms PH Barrowden

ASSAULT

03/02 – Hunting related assault where a hunt saboteur spotter is assaulted by a private security guard employed by the hunt *Braunston Road Brooke*

VEHICLE CRIME

Nothing of note this month.

OTHER

Nothing of note this month.

In Summary:

Criminal damage, and particularly damage to arable land and animal coursing has been highlighted as an issue this month.

As we move into the spring inevitably incidents like this are likely to continue. We have a patrol plan in place to try and cover as many locations where we know incidents such as this have happened before, but our time and sadly our resources are limited.

There is a very active community hare coursing WhatsApp group which is monitored by local officers and the Forces rural crime team. Anyone who is a part of this group please do keep doing what you're doing!

We are moving into lighter evenings now, but our vigilance message remains - Our villages whilst beautiful, are VERY dark at night. Ensure your doors and windows are always locked and leave lights on if you go out.

Rural locations including building sites and Farms are often targeted as their plant equipment are highly desired commodities due to demand exceeding worldwide supply. We continue to run operation Vitality for rural crime with extra officers out patrolling where possible.

If you see, witness or suspect anything similar happening, please call the police. Your call may be all that's required to catch them in the act!

NEIGHBOURHOOD LINK

We continue to encourage local residents to have their say through Neighborhood Link surveys and keep all residents that have signed up to this aware of issues happening in Rutland.



BEAT PRIORITIES

We continue our focus on 3 main areas highlighted through public consultation:

Nuisance Road users Road Safety Issues Rural Crime/farming equipment

Operation ENFORCE continues to attempt to address excessive speed and dangerous driving around the county, and we will carry this forward through regular monitoring of areas highlighted as a concern, and use of community speed watch sites and the forces speed camera vans.

GETTING IN TOUCH

Parish Meetings:

If any parishes would like the beat team to join them, then please let me know (subject to duties & commitments).

Reporting issues:

We are always trying to improve how you can report issues to us and reduce demand on the emergency '999' system.

As well as using the national non emergency '101' number, You can report incidents now through our new website, where the information provided is instantly directed to the correct department:

www.leics.police.uk