




East Devon: Rural Policing Newsletter

July 2023 



*Keep up to
date with us
on social
media:*



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Rural East Devon Police



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DC Police

Devon & Cornwall Alert



Is a two-way community messaging system covering Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly that helps us to connect with our communities. It tells you what is happening in your area.

You can choose what information you receive, from whom, and when.

D&C Alert plays a significant role in our rural crime prevention activity. We utilise the platform to circulate key prevention messages and crime appeals. Messages will be tailored to your specific location and interests, so you can ensure the information you receive is always relevant.

To find out more, you can register for free at
alerts.dc.police.uk

RESPECT EVERYONE

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

FOLLOW ADVICE AND LOCAL SIGNS



For further information, please visit:
gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code#full-publication-update-history

2023	THEMES
JANUARY	Rural road safety
FEBRUARY	Illegal off-roading
MARCH	Livestock worrying
APRIL	Agricultural plant, vehicle & machinery theft
MAY	Equine crime
JUNE	Heritage crime
JULY	Agricultural plant vehicle & machinery theft
AUGUST	Trespass & rights of way
SEPTEMBER	Livestock theft
OCTOBER	Fly tipping
NOVEMBER	Poaching
DECEMBER	Fuel and battery theft



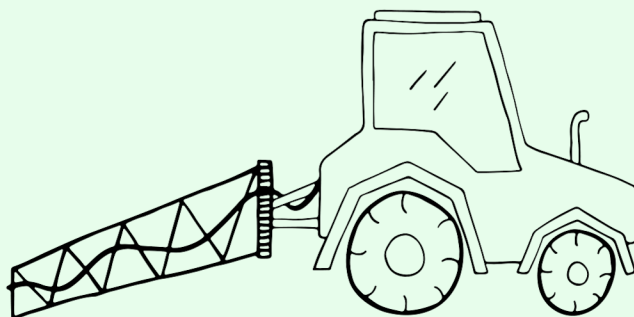
03000 111 999

7am - 11pm



The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution

0800 188 4444



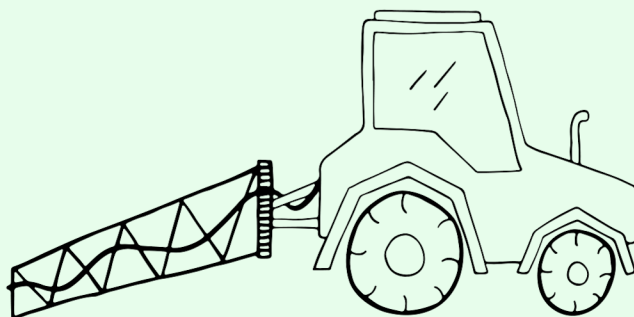
MONTHLY FOCUS:

AGRICULTURAL PLANT, VEHICLE & MACHINERY THEFT

Plant and vehicle theft costs the UK millions of pounds each year, and in some cases the stolen vehicles are used to commit further offences. Thefts are often linked to organised crime groups, and some equipment may be taken out of the UK for sale. Thefts have a significant impact on farming businesses, and a knock-on effect on wellbeing.

What are some examples of agricultural machinery and vehicles?

- Quad bikes/ATVs
- Agricultural trailers
- Combines
- Telehandlers
- Land rovers
- Tractors
- Horse/livestock trailers
- Excavators
- Loaders
- Horseboxes
- Tippers
- Dumpers
- Cranes
- Forestry machines
- Forklifts
- Scissor lifts
- Skid steers
- Rollers
- Other plant attachments or equipment, such as peckers, forks, trenchers, buckets, generators, and whacker plates
- All farm equipment, such as bailers, drills, toppers, feeders, tractor GPS systems



MONTHLY

FOCUS:

AGRICULTURAL PLANT, VEHICLE &
MACHINERY THEFT

Prevention advice and resources:

- Remove keys from vehicles when not in use and keep them safe - ensure they are kept away from windows and doors in the house
- If possible, keep vehicles and machinery in a lockable garage or shed or building
- Layer your farm security from the perimeter right up to the piece of equipment you are protecting: lock gates, fit lighting where suitable, install cameras and drive detectors, tremor alarms, CCTV, and use appropriate signage
- Consider marking your property using datatags and DNA markers provided by SelectaMark, SmartWater, or TecTracer
- Remove GPS systems when not in use, and PIN enable StarFire Systems
- Accurately record your vehicle and machinery VIN, engine, and chassis numbers
- Photograph your equipment and vehicles
- Register your equipment with the free national property register on Immobilise
- Join Farm Watch and other local social media and community groups to stay connected with what is going on in your area
- Join the Farm No Cold Caller Scheme
- Consider the use of property tracking systems, such as GPS tracking devices



WHAT'S ON NEAR ME?

JULY 2023 EVENTS WITH YOUR LOCAL POLICING
TEAMS

DUNKESWELL MEET THE POLICE at *Dunkeswell Market at Throgmorton Community Hall*

- 08/07/23
- 09:00 - 12:00

HONITON PRIMARY SCHOOL FETE at *Honiton Primary School, EX14 1QF*

- 08/07/23
- 11:00 - 16:00

COTLEIGH VILLAGE FETE

- 15/07/23
- 13:00 - 17:00

MID DEVON SHOW - *see website for details*

- 22/07/23
- All day!
- Come and see Optimus Crime, and have a chat with your local Neighbourhood Policing and Rural Teams!

CHARTER DAY at *Allhallows Field, Honiton*

- 29/07/23
- All day!



By Alert Officer Linzi Berryman

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**SILENT 999 CALLS: PLEASE DON'T JUST
HANG UP - TELL US YOU ARE SAFE**

Devon and Cornwall Police is calling on the public to tell them they are safe if they accidentally dial 999.

The force has seen a significant rise in the number of silent 999 calls it has been receiving in recent weeks.

These 'silent calls' as they are named, can be where the person making the call is not aware they have done so, and the operator cannot hear anyone on the line.

Demand for the 999 service has risen over the last few weeks and as part of that, there has been a 25 per cent increase in the number of silent calls.

As an illustration of the numbers being dealt with, on Sunday 18 June, between 12am and 7pm, the force received 169 silent 999 calls.

Superintendent Matt Bourne, of Contact Resolution Command, said: "If you do accidentally dial 999, please don't hang up. If possible, stay on the line and let the operator know it was an accident and that you don't need any assistance.

"Silent calls to 999 are never just ignored. Contact Officers will need to spend valuable time trying to call you back to check whether you need help."

Nationally, all emergency services are currently experiencing record high 999 call volumes, which is for a number of reasons, but it is believed that there has been a significant impact as a result of an update to Android smartphones.

The update, which was issued between October 2022 and February 2023, added a new SOS emergency function for devices to call 999 through the power button being pressed five times or more on devices but this seems to have inadvertently caused an increase in silent calls.



By Alert Officer Linzi Berryman

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

**SILENT 999 CALLS: PLEASE DON'T JUST
HANG UP - TELL US YOU ARE SAFE**

If you do dial 999 by mistake, please don't hang up – just let us know it was an accident and that you don't need assistance – it will save valuable time for the contact officer, who can then answer a genuine emergency call.

If you have an Android phone, you can check your emergency settings to turn off the functionality added in the latest update, if you wish to.

Go to 'Settings' then 'Safety and Emergency' and slide the button which says 'Emergency SOS' to switch the functionality off.

As always, if a crime is in progress or if there is an immediate risk to person or property, always dial 999.

If a crime is not in progress, then please consider reporting the incident online via our website in the first instance. Alternatively, you can call 101.

**Thanks for reading! Stay tuned
for the August issue...**