

January 2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR

It's that time of year again when we make our new years resolutions and plan for the new year ahead. There are exciting times coming for the team too with PC Barber joining us from Colchester local policing team and a new Sergeant soon to be appointed. We are always looking how we can improve the level of service the team provides our rural and farming communities with ideas are being discussed which could lead to some positive operational changes ahead We'll keep you posted on these and our new Sergeant when they arrive. We'd like to wish you all a Happy New Year and hope 2022 see's you happy and healthy.



LOCATING A MISSING PERSON

You may remember that in December 2020 and January 2021 officers from the team were trained to be able to use our 4x4 vehicles off road by our driver training department. This training has allowed the team to attend many places where other vehicles simply couldn't get to, for example our vast array of byways we have in Essex. On 4th December it allowed the team to locate a vulnerable missing lady who was in a very remote location and return her safely back to her family.



For up-to-date information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** in Essex, please check essex.gov.uk/coronavirus* and make sure you **#StaySafeEssex**

 thurrock.gov.uk

* in **Thurrock**, please check thurrock.gov.uk/coronavirus

 southend-on-sea.gov.uk

or in **Southend-on-Sea**, please check southend-on-sea.gov.uk/coronavirus

Now there's a quick online alternative to calling 101 or visiting a police station:
DIGITAL 101



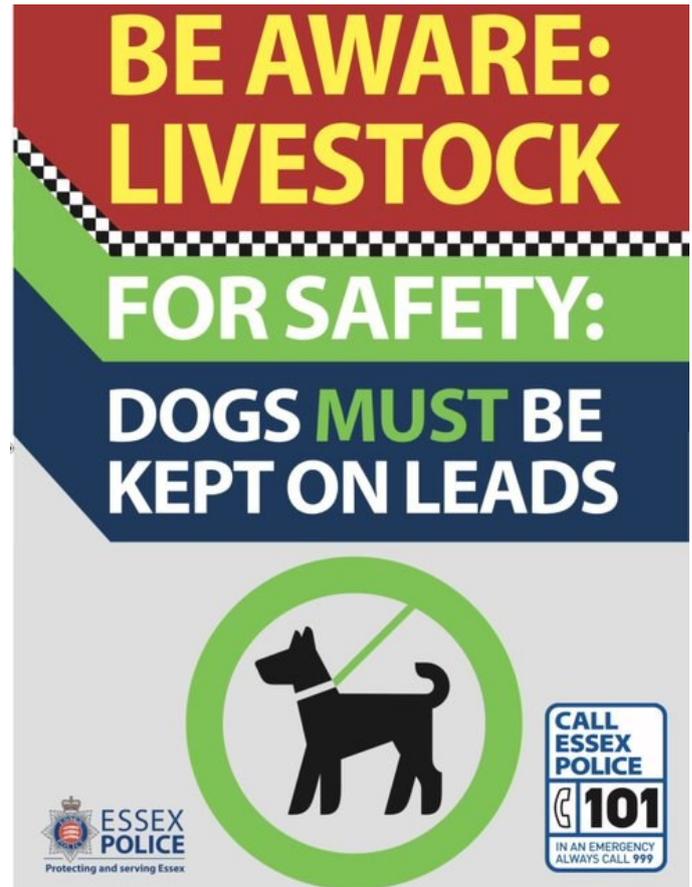
Do it online at:
essex.police.uk

**IN AN EMERGENCY
ALWAYS CALL 999**

PROTECTING LIVESTOCK

Unfortunately we are still receiving reports of dogs being out of control and worrying livestock. On 11th December a sheep was killed and several injured when a dog became out of control in the Colchester District. Officers from RET, the Local Poling Team, Firearms Officers and a British Transport Police Dog Unit all assisted in getting the dog under control. In this incident a lady escaped a criminal conviction thanks to the farmer not wishing to pursue charges. The lady was instead issued with a Community Resolution and paid compensation to the farmer. Please ensure when walking your dog they must be kept on a lead with livestock around.

Failing to do so could see you prosecuted for an offence under the Dogs (protection of Livestock) Act 1953 and issued a fine up to £1000.



REPORTS OF A FOX KILLED.



On the 23rd December officers launched an investigation after receiving reports of a fox being killed. PC Raven was sent footage of a man and girl capturing a fox in a man made earth. The dog is seen to attack the fox before being removed from the animal by the man. A net is removed and the fox is then attacked by the man several times

with a garden fork. The video is distressing to watch. The team liaised with specialist lawyers from the Crown Prosecution Service before acting quickly to locate and arrest the suspect for multiple wildlife offences including offences against the Hunting Act, Animal Welfare Act and the Wild Mammal Protection Act. Due to the nature of this incident the man in question has had his firearms seized whilst a review of his licence is conducted by our Firearms Licensing Department.

This incident received national media coverage with a report on ITV News at 10 on 23rd December.

If you have any information you feel will assist the investigation please get in touch.

HARE COURSING UPDATE

Officers from the team have been proactively preventing and locating those involved in hare coursing. On Sunday 12th December officers from RET, Suffolk Rural Policing Team, Kent Police Rural Crime Team, Officers from Uttlesford, Halstead and our Road Crime Team came together for the national Operation Galileo to tackle Hare Coursing. This operation was a success with 5 males being interviewed and issued with 7 force Community Protection Warnings for Hare Coursing.

On 13th December officers located 3 men suspected of hare coursing in the Ongar area late in the evening and issued them also with community protection warnings.

If you witness or suspect hare coursing is occurring please call 999 to report the crime in action. Alternatively contact 101 (online) or Crime Stoppers.



Speak up to stop rural crime.

Criminal gangs exploit our local wildlife, environment and communities.

Your voice can make a difference.

Speak up to our charity. 100% anonymous. Always.

crimestoppers-uk.org

CrimeStoppers.
0800 555111
100% anonymous. Always.

Keeping rural communities safer together
CrimeStoppers.
Speak up. Stop Crime.

STRAY HORSES

Two people this month has been issued with community resolutions for allowing their horses to stray onto a road. Section 155 of the Highways Act 1980 makes it an offence to allow for animals to stray onto the road. Often officers are finding inadequate fencing is allowing horses to escape the land they frequent. This can cause serious accidents and injury to people and the horses themselves on our road network, especially on fast rural roads. The team will prosecute repeat offenders taking them to court where they could be issued with up to a £1000 fine and costs to get the horses returned.

Also a reminder that since October 2020 it is compulsory that all horses, ponies and donkeys are microchipped.





PROTECTING OUR BADGERS

PC Raven, PC Dawson from RET and officers from Uttlesford attended to reports of badger setts being blocked in Great Easton. Three people were stopped and searched as well as their quad bikes. Items were seized believed used in other wildlife crimes. Badger Setts are protected by law and must not be interfered with. In this incident the setts had been blocked but were unblocked by the team. If you see what you believe to be blocked badger setts then please report this to Essex Police as soon as possible. This causes a real danger to the badgers if not cleared quickly.

PROTECTING OUR HERITAGE

PC Raven worked with Colchester Community Policing Team and Bats in Churches who work with churches to assist in ways to allow for the preservation of churches and for bats to continue to roost within them. This is unique policing work, one which protects our wildlife and heritage.



EAGLE EYES

Eagle eyed PC Davey managed to locate a male who had been wanted since February 2021. Whilst dealing with another incident PC Davey spotted the male who he recognised in Burnham-on-Crouch. The male darted into a shop but when he came out PC Davey was waiting. One male arrested to be put before the courts..... finally.



Digital 101

You can report non-emergency crime by calling **101** or by using **Digital 101**, our quick and easy to use online service that's available at any time.

Digital 101 is available on the Essex Police website: [essex.police.uk](https://www.essex.police.uk)



If you, or anyone you know, is interested in protecting and serving Essex, you can follow us on social media, or search #FitTheBill

#FIT THE
BILL

STOLEN CARAVAN LOCATED

On Thursday 23rd December our Special Constables assigned to RET were out in the early hours of the morning patrolling in the Tendring district when they were made aware of a burglary from a shop in Clacton. Details of a vehicle were given by the victim and our officers went looking for the car which was located at a nearby address. Two males managed to escape after running from the caravan (pictured →) but a third man was arrested at scene.



RET officers have access to the Central Registration and Identification Scheme (CRIS) which is used to store keeper details of caravans and motor homes. Special Sergeant Atkinson used this system to identify that this caravan was stolen. He then noticed that the car used in the burglary had a cloned identity so it was seized along

CARAVAN ATTEMPTED



Pc Raven and SC Lawrence were on patrol in Halstead when they were flagged down by a member of public who reported to the officers that two men were seen tampering with the locks on a parked caravan. The officers were able to identify the vehicle the two men were in and located it nearby. The vehicle failed to stop for the officers but after getting a good look at the passenger they were able to locate him later walking in the High Street. The car involved was later located abandoned in Little Dunmow and was seized by other RET officers.



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