

Rural Engagement Team

Newsletter

February 2024

RET AT THE DOE SHOW

In February the team spent three days at the Ernest Doe 'Doe Show 2024'.

The annual agricultural show, one of the biggest in Europe is held every year in Ulting, Maldon.

The team took along the wildlife and heritage crime trailer, packed with leaflets and useful information.



Over three days the trailer was visited by over 100 people, most linked to the farming community.

Sgt Felton said 'We are always delighted to attend the Doe Show. It's an opportunity for us to meet Essex residents and business owners who are involved in all aspects of the rural community.. We enjoyed telling people about our successes tackling hare coursing and theft of high value plant'.

The team even flew the police drone over the event, capturing the sheer size of the show as well as demonstrating one of our capabilities.





Domestic abuse is all about control. If you notice that someone seems to be controlled in all areas of their life, it could be a sign they are being abused.



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



IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 999



MORE PROPERY RECOVERED

The team have been busy scouring the county for stolen property.

In Chelmsford, the team located two stolen quad bikes taken during rural burglaries. They also located a stolen pick up truck in the same location.



The team also swung into action after a Maldon farmer reported one of his 12ft gates stolen. The gate was clearly marked with his post code and farm name.

In under 24 hours the team had located the gate already installed on a new building plot. Despite its size the gate was recovered and returned to its rightful



owner.

In Thurrock we tracked down a stolen Nissan pick up truck.



We also continued our regular operation at Harwich Port. The team checked over 100 trucks and multiple items of plant and vehicles.

Working with officers from the National Construction and Agricultural Theft Team (NCATT) two large earth movers were detained for further checks after serial numbers were found to have been removed.



ALWAYS CALL 999

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FOCUS ON DOGS

Two dog owner engagement events were held in Colchester and Tendring.

The team deal with live stock worrying, wildlife attacks and stolen dogs.



Officers attend popular dog walking sites across Essex and engage with owners, encouraging responsible ownership and offering free microchip checks on pets.

LOCAL PRESENTATIONS

RET have carried 12 presentations and visits to various community and industry groups during February.

We were pleased to attend a joint meeting of Maldon farmers with the NFU.



The team visited Ramsey Parish Council, and the Country Land & Business Association.

Most fun was a visit to Mountnessing Primary School



PROPERTY MARKING

RET have recently obtained a property etching machine to help tackle theft and ensure recovered items can be returned to owners.

The machine can etch any surface including metal, plastic and leather.

The team spent the day marking horse riding equipment at Broomfields Equestrian & Country Store in Earls Colne.

Over 70 saddles and other items were marked. The machine will be used throughout the year.



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FARM SEARCHED

Our wildlife crime officer, PC Raven led an operation at an Essex farm following several poisoning incidents involving birds of prey.

We teamed up with Natural England, the Health and Safety Executive and the National Wildlife Crime Unit to search the farm for evidence of poisoning.

Several offences were uncovered, including an unlicensed firearm.



Enquiries continue with all agencies working together to deal with this matter.

If you have information relating to wildlife crime, report it to us via the Essex Police website or by calling 101.

SPEEDING

RET continue to tackle speeding on rural roads.

We were delighted to meet up with Community Speed Watch in Stondon Massey, Brentwood.



We also carried out speed checks in Abberton and Aldham in Colchester, as well as White Roding in Uttlesford.





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



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