

Richmond Rural Crime Bulletin

November – December 2019

Firstly may we wish you all a very Happy New Year, Mark and I are looking forward to seeing you when we are out and about over the next few months. Rather than detailing any individual crimes I have detailed an overview of the crimes we have had reported most frequently in our rural area.

Across the district we are continuing to see reports of poaching, especially along the A66 corridor and towards the Durham border. Local Officers have been briefed and have increased patrols in these areas. The poachers are also causing damage to crops, fences, gates and hedgerows which is having a financial impact on the landowners. We ask that you remain vigilant and report anything suspicious via 101 or if at the time, you believe that individuals are poaching call 999 as this is a crime in progress.

Several reports have been received about door to door sales persons in our villages. They often purport to be reformed offenders trying to make an honest living, offering home improvements or selling various items at a reduced price. We advise that you do not purchase anything from these individuals and call us via 101.

Finally we have seen an increase in the number of burglaries in the district. The burglaries have predominantly been in outbuilding, sheds and at unoccupied properties where renovation work has been undertaken. This is not unusual for this time of the year due to the dark nights and the fact people are indoors earlier on an evening. Where possible, assess your security measures on these types of buildings to ensure they are adequate for the items you are storing, the type of building you are using and that they are full working order. If you require any crime prevention advice please contact either myself or PC Mark Wood PC 1908. *On the 2nd November 2019 a farm building near Melsonby was entered and a number of metal hurdles and a feeder were stolen. On the 25th November 2019 a garage was burgled in Brompton on Swale. We also had a report on the 14th November 2019 that a works vehicle was stolen from a water treatment plant in Middleton Tyas. On Christmas Eve a property in Gilling west was burgled and the owner's car was stolen, along with other items from the house. On the 18th November 2019 a male was arrested near Scorton on suspicion of going equipped to steal.*

When reporting these types of crimes or when reporting anything suspicious we require as much information as possible. This will help us identify individuals at the time or help identify them at a later date. Here is a list of the things for you to make a note of as the more information we have available the better:

- **What do they look like** – hair colour and style, skin colour, height, their sex, any distinguishing features such as tattoos or scars.
- **What are they wearing** – shoes, clothing, hats or head wear.
- **Are they carrying anything?** – bags, firearms, tools.
- **How many individuals are present?** – including any animals e.g. dogs.
- **Are they in a vehicle** – what is the registration number, the make, model and colour of the vehicle? Any unique markings, writing or even damage on the vehicle.
- **What are they doing?** – as detailed an account as possible.

We will be arranging more of our Rural surgeries in the coming months along with other events. Once we have more information we will update you accordingly.

Finally a huge thank you to the local businesses who donated prizes and anyone who bought a raffle ticket for a fund raising event I took part in. The Richmondshire Community Safety Hub and Foundation Housing held a fund raising and awareness event for PAYRUS, who offer suicide prevention support and advice to young people and their families. We raised over £900 for this worthwhile cause.

As always if you wish to contact either Mark or myself regarding any non-urgent issues or incidents please continue to do so. For any urgent enquiries please call 101 so an officer can be allocated to pick this up if we are unavailable and always 999 for any emergencies or crimes in progress.

Wishing you all the best for 2020.

Kind regards

Helen Sutherland

PCSO 5073

Richmond Police Station.