

## Local News

### 13/12/18 - Operation Fortress, Kingsbury

#Op Fortress, which started on Monday 17th December, was a three phased operation targeting the most vulnerable and those with high performance and desirable vehicles within the village. Working closely with Chief Inspector Ash Farrington and his team at Tamworth Police Station (Sgt Paul Stafford and Sgt Steve Marriot) we were able to pool resources and work closer together, sharing information and trends on our respective areas. The operation also saw Warwickshire Police officers work in Staffordshire and vice versa, with good results.



Both respective force areas also monitored each other's radio channel - saving valuable moments when incidents were reported to once force, the other force would be able to assist and respond.

#### During Phase One of #Op Fortress



A combination of high visibility, covert and foot patrols were conducted where over 60 Warwickshire properties were visited and identified as being 'at risk' because there was a high performance or desirable vehicle parked outside. The owners of these vehicles were offered crime prevention packs and were given advice on how to secure their home and vehicle.

#### During Phase Two of #Op Fortress

This was mainly a patrolling phase - morning, noon and night in a combination of marked and unmarked vehicles. This phase yielded some great results with a number of vehicles seized for no insurance, no tax or driver licensing related issues. A number of intelligence reports were gathered across both Warwickshire Police and Staffordshire Police and daily briefings between the two forces made sure we were continually kept in the loop. During the operation a wanted male was detained, a number of stolen vehicles were recovered by West Midlands Police and number of residents were engaged with and re assured about the sudden rise in thefts in the two villages.



#### During Phase Three of #Op Fortress



Phase three utilised the Mobile Police Station in the village from Monday 17th - Friday 21st December, the vehicle was parked in prominent locations and local residents were spoken to and crime prevention advice was offered as well as other Crime Prevention literature was provided. Over 100 engagements were made during this phase which also provided a useful base for the patrolling officers.

The operation was complimented by a number of informative Social Media posts and the creation of some bespoke literature such as the 'Vehicle Crime' leaflet, which can be downloaded from the right hand side of this page.

During this operation the Street lighting was switched back on to aid officers overnight to look for potential thieves, it is expected that the lights will be switched off in the New Year after the conclusion of #Op Fortress.

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/55109/Operation-Fortress-Kingsbury>

### 11/12/18 - Vehicle Crime, Increase in North Warwickshire

Whether it be via Burglary, Robbery or by simply taking the vehicle without the keys it can be worrying and can promote a great deal of fear about being a victim of crime. We have put some useful information together about the current trends with



Vehicle Crime and what you can do to minimise your chances of becoming a victim of Vehicle Crime.



The first way in which Criminals can get hold of your vehicle is by **Burglary**.

This would involve breaking into a house and stealing the keys to the vehicle, then taking the vehicle.

***We have some generic advice to reducing your chances of having your vehicle stolen by burglary***

- Invest in a good quality home alarm, preferably monitored.
- Keep keys secure and away from doors and windows.
- If you are leaving your home then take the keys with you, or hand them to a friend or family member who lives away from you.
- Invest in CCTV and External Lighting for your home. Burglars don't like the light.
- Invest in good quality locks for your doors and natural defences for your home, defensive planting (of plants that aren't that inviting to climb) is a great way of putting the Burglar off.
- Invest in Physical vehicle security, Disk Locks, Barriers for your driveway and using your garage to store your car are all good ways of securing your vehicle physically.
- Invest in a Tracking device, especially if you own a high performance or desirable vehicle.

The second way, is **Robbery**

This is where violence or threats are used to take a vehicle, in some cases this involves the driver being forced to stop their car and being threatened with violence. 4 Vehicles have been taken in North Warwickshire in the last two months, 3 Volkswagen Golf's and a BMW. Thankfully nobody was seriously hurt but the incidents have clearly had a huge impact on the Victims.

***Advice to reduce your chance of having your vehicle stolen by Robbery (Car Jacking)***

- Keep your doors locked and windows up.
- Show extra caution when driving along singles lane roads, back roads and country lanes at night or if alone - especially if you drive a high performance/desirable vehicle.
- Invest in a tracking device, especially if you own a high performance or desirable vehicle.
- If you are forced to stop (after a minor collision) don't get out of your vehicle and talk to the other person through the window. If you are still worried then call the police on 999.
- Don't be tempted to carry weapons with you - this could land you in trouble with the police if stopped.
- Report any suspicious activity you see at the road side - make it your job to report it.
- If you are concerned drive away immediately as long as it is safe to do so.
- Always report any attempted Robbery on 999 - we are aware of a few posts on social media where these have not been reported to the police.

The final way that Criminals can get hold of your car is **Taking the car without keys**

This is quite common and is often linked to vehicles that have 'Keyless Entry' (or "Push-to-Start" buttons). This involves sophisticated software being used to enter a vehicle and start it within a few seconds. This equipment isn't readily available to the criminal, but it is out there.

The process would involve the thief walking round the outside of your house with scanner, looking for the frequency that your car key has. Once it find this frequency it copies it to a blank key the thief has and then they turn that blank key into a copy of your actual key. They then use this key to open the vehicle, start it and drive it away.

***Advice to reduce your chance of having your vehicle stolen by Theft without Keys***

- Keep keys secure and away from doors and windows.
- Invest in CCTV and External Lighting for your Garden/Drive.
- Invest in Physical vehicle security, Disk Locks, Barriers for your driveway and using your garage to store your car are all good ways of securing your vehicle physically.
- Invest in a Tracking device, especially if you own a high performance or desirable vehicle.
- Invest in a 'defender faraday bag' this bag holds your car keys and does not allow the keys to transmit out of the bag so that the copying of the key won't be possible.

### **What are the police doing about the increase?**

Each Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) will ensure that there is coverage and patrols throughout the evening and into the night. The Response teams who provide 24 hour coverage will also be patrolling in both marked and unmarked vehicles, paying attention to key areas and routes.

OPU (Traffic) have a dedicated 'Northern Car' responsible for any Roads Policing matters in North Warwickshire and Operation Diorite increases that number of available police officers even further. Operation Diorite is a dedicated operation to tackle the theft of motor vehicles.

Our crime Investigation teams are working with our neighbours in Staffordshire Police and West Midlands Police and a number of arrests have already been made in response to these thefts.

### **How can we help? As the public?**

Great Question!

- Well, report any suspicious activity immediately.
- Report any attempted theft, even if you think 'it's not worth it' By building up a clearer picture of any criminal attempts we are able to best direct resources to areas that are being targeted and allows us to request extra resourcing - where it is needed.
- Keeping your valuable car safe and secure, follow the advice given in this document.
- Consider a tracker for your vehicle.

Finally a number of vehicles are being recovered, for example a £66,000 camper van was recovered from Kingsbury on Sunday 9th December which was stolen from Tamworth on the 7th. A Mercedes Sprinter which was stolen in Bedworth was recovered whilst the offenders were stripping it, (caught red handed you might say?) as well as some other vehicles stolen from other force areas and dumped in Warwickshire.

Warwickshire is not the only county to suffer this spike in Vehicle Crime, Staffordshire, West Midlands Police and Leicestershire Constabulary have also seen a huge rise in these types of offences.

You are always welcome to contact your local Safer Neighbourhood Team in Atherstone or Coleshill by calling 01926 415 000 and quoting extension **3000 for Atherstone** or **3554 for Coleshill**, Please always use 101 or 999 to report a crime.

Author:1087 Ramsell & Sam Cook Corp Comms.

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/54997/Vehicle-Crime-Increase-in-North-Warwickshire>

## **Community Messages**

### **15/12/18 - Attempted Entry to Property in Water Orton**

A report has been received of an attempt to enter a property in St Peters Close, Water Orton. No entry was gained and nothing taken.

If you saw anyone acting suspiciously in the area or have any information that could help the police with their enquiries

please call 101 and refer to inc 351 of 14/12/18 or email [NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk).

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/55201/Attempted-Entry-to-Property-in-Water-Orton>

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### **15/12/18 - Incidents Reported in Hurley**

Incident 189 of 15/12/18

Unknown offender(s) accessed three secure outbuildings at a rural property in Hipsley Lane, Hurley and stole a number of frozen meals from a freezer.

Incident 293 of 14/12/18

During the day, possibly between 14.00 hrs and 16.00 hrs on 14/12/18, unknown offender(s) broke a rear patio window and entered a rural property in Wigston Hill, Hurley. An untidy search was made and a number of items taken.

If you saw anyone acting suspiciously or have any information that could help the Police with their enquiries please call 101 and refer to the incident number stated or email [NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk).

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/55199/Incidents-Reported-in-Hurley>

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### **14/12/18 - Vehicle Entered in Wood End**

Some time between 22.00 hrs on 12/12/18 and 07.00 hrs on 13/12/18, unknown offender(s) entered a vehicle in Wood Street, Wood End and took some small change and a phone charger from the central console.

If you saw anyone or have any information that could help the police with their enquiries please call 101 and refer to inc 69 of 13/12/18 or email [NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@Warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@Warwickshire.pnn.police.uk).

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/55164/Vehicle-Entered-in-Wood-End>

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### **14/12/18 - Attempted Break In, Attleborough Fields, Nuneaton**

Over the weekend between 17:00 07/12/2018 - 07:00 10/12/2018 offender(s) have attempted to break into business premises in Greenwood Court, Attleborough Fields, Nuneaton. Access to the grounds was gained via climbing over the fence. Once inside the grounds several different attempts were made to get into the building. No entry was gained.

If you have any information in connection with this incident, please contact Police on 101, quoting incident number 0105.

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/55150/Attempted-Break-In-Attleborough-Fields-Nuneaton>

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### **14/12/18 - Local schools join the fight against knife crime**

#### **Local schools join the fight against knife crime**

Police and local secondary schools have joined forces to raise awareness of the dangers of carrying a knife.

The initiative was launched following concerns nationally about a rise in knife crime, especially incidents involving young people.

Officers will be warning school children of the dangers and consequences of carrying a knife.

Over the coming months officers will be visiting local schools in the boroughs of Nuneaton and Bedworth, North Warwickshire and Rugby to talk to pupils about the dangers and consequences of carrying a knife. A video will also be shown in schools.

Inspector Wayne Boulton from the Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer Neighbourhood Team, said: "Most people will be aware of the national problem around knife crime and while we don't have a big problem, we want to be proactive in ensuring this remains the case.

"There are obvious dangers to carrying a knife, but young people don't often think of some of the less obvious consequences. If someone is convicted for carrying a knife this can impact on their future prospects: it could prevent them from getting certain jobs, going to university and travelling to some countries, including the United States.

"The most serious consequence is that they will use it and somebody will get seriously hurt or worse. In Warwickshire in recent years we have seen the tragic consequences that can occur when someone chooses to carry a knife.

"I would like to thank all the schools that have taken part in this initiative. While we don't have a big knife problem in our schools, working with them is the most effective way to get this important message to children. Their support will benefit the wider community."

Paul Senior, Assistant Director, Education and Learning, Warwickshire County Council said: "Knife crime ruins lives. The initiative which will be progressed by the police and supported by schools, will be part of a wider set of activities designed to keep local children and young people safe from harm. Safeguarding our children and young people from all forms of harm remains a key priority for all local schools and agencies."

Officers will also be taking knife surrender bins and knife arches into schools. Inspector Boulton added: "Nobody wants to see knife arches and knife surrender bins become permanent fixtures in schools. But used sparingly they can help to raise awareness of the dangers of carrying a knife, deter those considering carrying a knife and catch those who choose to do so."

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/55139/Local-schools-join-the-fight-against-knife-crime>

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### **13/12/18 - Warwickshire Police Cadet recruitment opens 1st January 2019 and closes 28th February 2019**

#### **Warwickshire Police Cadet recruitment opens 1st January 2019 and closes 28th February 2019**

*All application forms must be received back by 28th February 2019.*

To apply to be a Warwickshire Police Cadet you must be 13 to 16 years on or after 1st September 2019, live anywhere in North Warwickshire - Such as Nuneaton, Bedworth, Coleshill, Rugby, Atherstone, Polesworth, Kingsbury and the surrounding areas in North Warwickshire and you will need parent / guardian permission.

•Go to [www.warwickshire.police.uk/cadets/](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk/cadets/) and download application form.

Either e-mail form to [cadets@warwickshire.police.uk](mailto:cadets@warwickshire.police.uk) or send in via post to PC 387 MARSTON, Bedworth Police Station, High Street, Bedworth, Warwickshire, CV12 8NH

The aim of the scheme is to support Warwickshire Police's strategy of engagement with young people throughout the force area.

It is aimed at young people who wish to be part of a programme that offers an opportunity to gain a practical understanding of policing and develop their spirit of adventure and good citizenship.

Cadets support local policing priorities through volunteering, working with partner agencies and positive participation in their communities. They take part in a variety of activities including self-defence training, marching, fitness, team building, role playing and Outward Bound events. Cadets can gain an insight into police life through talks by guest speakers from different departments and agencies and by taking part in local community policing events.

Police cadets are a family where discipline, friendship and team work are all important, developing your leadership skills. If you become a Police cadet, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that as a young person you are making a difference to your community and developing yourself for any future career.

In return we ask you to commit to attend the weekly meetings that take place every Thursday evenings between 18.15 and 21.10 hours at the North Warwickshire and Hinckley College, Hinckley Road, Nuneaton and volunteer for 15 hours of voluntary work or events per quarter.

You can contact us at [cadets@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cadets@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

You can also follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/warkscadets](http://www.facebook.com/warkscadets) or Twitter [@warkscadets](https://twitter.com/warkscadets)

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/55069/Warwickshire-Police-Cadet-recruitment-opens-1st-January-2019-and-closes-28th-February-2019>

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### **10/12/18 - Reassurance given that local policing will be unaffected by alliance changes (issued on behalf of Warwickshire PCC)**

**Reassurance given that local policing will be unaffected by alliance changes (issued on behalf of Warwickshire PCC)**

Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe has reassured communities across the county that there will be no adverse impact on local policing following the decision of West Mercia Police to terminate its alliance with Warwickshire Police.

Since October's announcement by the West Mercia PCC and Chief Constable, detailed planning work has been begun by Warwickshire Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to plan for a post-alliance future. This has included looking at options for Warwickshire Police to operate on a stand-alone basis; or work with other forces and external organisations; or to continue some new form of collaboration with West Mercia; or a combination of all of these options.

This evaluation stage is now progressing in earnest, alongside additional work to plan for the 2019-20 budget for Warwickshire Police, which will be set in February.

To facilitate an easier transition to a post-alliance future, Mr Seccombe and Warwickshire Police's Chief Constable Martin Jelley met recently with their counterparts at West Mercia and agreement was reached to separate out the budgets for local policing for each force. Previously these were pooled, with resources being shared between the two forces.

The decision means that the funding for neighbourhood policing, patrol officers, crime investigation and roads policing will now revert to each respective force's control from the new financial year onwards.

Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Seccombe said: "This agreement is good news, as it means that around 55% of the policing budget reverts fully back into my control. This will allow me to ensure that the funding I am able to give to the Chief Constable for local policing across Warwickshire can be protected and will therefore be unaffected by the decision made by West Mercia to end our strategic alliance.

"I have been very clear from the very beginning of my term of office that I regard Safer Neighbourhood Teams as the bedrock of policing in Warwickshire and this will continue to be the case, whatever the future direction of the force may be once the alliance ends next October.

"I am pleased to have reached this early agreement with West Mercia, which will also protect the investments that have also been made elsewhere across local policing, including the increased numbers of patrol officers and the boosted investigative capacity that this year's precept raise has funded."

Warwickshire Police Chief Constable Martin Jelley said: "I am confident that local policing will remain largely unchanged following the end of the alliance. In particular we have a great Safer Neighbourhood Team structure here in Warwickshire and when I go out and about and meet with residents and our communities, they consistently tell me how valued our neighbourhood officers and PCSO's are.

"I firmly see our SNTs as the backbone of everything that we do and that's why I've always been committed to maintaining them. I see no reason for that to be any different going forward - they are very much here to stay.

"At present the force is actively recruiting new police officers, my shared ambition with the Commissioner is to grow our officer numbers over the next year so our Warwickshire communities are better protected. This will mean officer growth into local policing and safer neighbourhood teams. I am confident our towns and villages will see and feel a real difference as these new recruits come in."

A full public consultation on the police precept element of local council tax will be launched by the Commissioner later this month, once the national police funding settlement has been announced by the Home Office.

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/54953/Reassurance-given-that-local-policing-will-be-unaffected-by-alliance-changes-issued-on-behalf-of-Warwickshire-PCC>

### **10/12/18 - Burglary in Kingsbury**

Unknown offender(s) have entered a property in Mill Crescent, Kingsbury and after an untidy search have taken jewellery.

If you saw anyone or have any information that could help the police with their enquiries please call 101 and refer to inc 348 of 9/12/18, Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or email [NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:NorthWarwickshireRuralAlerts@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk).

<https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/article/54929/Burglary-in-Kingsbury>

## Contact Details

Warwickshire Direct, Coleshill Library and One Stop Shop  
19 Parkfield Road  
Coleshill  
B46 3LD  
101 (In an emergency always call 999)

