

**Incidents Recorded - 01/11/2021 to 30/11/2021 - JG3J**

Offence	Recorded Crime 01/11/2021 to 30/11/2021	Recorded Crime 01/11/2020 to 30/11/2020	Recorded Crime % Difference
Violence without Injury	1	0	-
Shoplifting	1	0	-
Criminal Damage	0	1	-100.0%
Total	2	1	100.0%

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Incident Closing Category	Incidents - 01/11/2021 to 30/11/2021	Incidents - 01/11/2020 to 30/11/2020	Incidents % Difference
Anti Social Behaviour	0	1	-100.0%
Crime Recorded	1	4	-75.0%
Public Safety	9	8	12.5%
Transport	8	5	60.0%
Total	18	18	0.0%



MONTHLY THEMES

It's the time of year again when we typically see an increase in the theft of fuel and batteries.


In light of recent events around fuel shortages, supply issues and an increase in the price of fuel across the board, it is likely this will be an issue this winter. These offences can effect both commercial, industrial and domestic premises and also those within rural, isolated areas. It can be inconvenient, disruptive and also costly for those unfortunate enough to be targeted.



**Devon & Cornwall
POLICE**

If you are part of a farmwatch group, ensure you are discussing fuel and oil theft, and its prevention

**Devon & Cornwall Police
Rural Affairs**




Working in partnership to protect rural communities

Speak to neighbouring farms. Thieves regularly operate in the same area

Install a tank monitor/alarm. This will alert you to drop in fuel level

Get into the habit of regularly checking your fuel level



Keep your tank out of public view by hiding it behind fencing or defensive planting

Put a lock on your tank. If possible use more than one lock

#FuelTheft

#DontGetCaughtOut

Fuel and Battery theft

Why is this important?

On farms, fuel and batteries are one of the most likely things to be targeted by criminals. Thefts often increase during the longer nights with the extended cover of darkness giving more opportunities. Unprotected tanks can be emptied in minutes using basic methods causing both financial and emotional impacts on farmers and businesses.

What do you need to do?

Reduce fuel theft with simple crime prevention measures. Working together, land owners, rural businesses and members of the public should be vigilant reporting any suspicious activity to the police - noting vehicle details, descriptions and an accurate location.

How can you prevent this?

- Landowners and managers, where possible, should secure gates and block unused entrances.
- Protect fuel and batteries with locks, lighting, CCTV and fencing.
- Store machinery, tanks and batteries out of sight where possible.
- Consider the use of signage or other means to prevent cold callers to farms and businesses.
- Notify the police using 999 if you suspect an offence is being committed.
- If you have any information regarding fuel and battery theft please email 101@dc.police.uk, call the non-emergency number, 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.
- Join Devon & Cornwall Alert, Watch schemes and local social media groups so that you can find out what is happening in your area.

The Devon and Cornwall police rural affairs team have produced a calendar which highlights rural issues throughout the year to focus problem solving activity for police, partners and public with key messages and prevention activity.



CLARKE'S CORNER

FLY-TIPPING

In recent weeks we have sadly seen a significant rise locally in 'pockets' of fly-tipping.

Fly-tipping is the illegal deposit of any waste onto land, e.g waste dumped or tipped in a place with NO licence to accept it. This can be both on public or private land. DO NOT search the fly tip yourself as it may contain items which may be hazardous and it may also contaminate any evidence contained within the fly tip.

The fixed penalty for fly tipping is £400.

What's the problem?

Waste crime is a major issue across the country, not only spoiling our environment and impacting our health, but also affecting the economy and undermining legitimate businesses. The Environmental Services Association have estimated that illegal waste activity costs over £1 billion annually in England. Waste crime is much more than fly tipping, it also includes operating without the correct permits and authorisations, large scale illegal dumping, burning of waste, mis-description of waste, operating illegal waste sites and illegally exporting waste. Waste criminals are becoming highly sophisticated, working in a more organised manner and infiltrating legitimate industry. They operate across county boundaries and they are likely to be involved in a wide variety of other criminal activity such as drugs trafficking, modern slavery, firearms and fraud.

How you can help

Successful prevention and disruption of waste crime depends on our ability to gather information. By working together and sharing information we can develop our intelligence picture, intervene earlier, improve our effectiveness and be better informed of the dangers posed. We need you to report information to us when you spot waste crime or come across information relating to waste crime.

How to report things

If you spot waste crime or come across any information, the sooner you can get the information through to us the better as it will allow us to respond quickly to developing events. Please report it to us through the following channels –

Incident Hotline - 0800 807060 – for things happening in real time, or

Crimestoppers – anonymously on 0800 555 111 or using the Rural Crime Reporting Form: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/rural-crime-reporting-form>

Report it - Clean Devon

When reporting fly tipping, any of the following information you can supply would be helpful:

- A description of the person fly tipping
- The date and time of the fly tipping was seen, including the time the offence started and finished
- Details of where you were at the time (use of what3words can be very useful)
- Details of any witnesses with you
- A description (make, colour, markings) and registration number of any vehicle(s) involved

Next month I will be addressing local and rural problems associated with GREEN LANING.

Green laning or trail riding is the recreational use of minor unsurfaced roads, public rights of way where vehicular rights exist....As all these routes are legally carriageways, green laner bikers need to be road legal, including having number plates, silencers, tax, MOT and insurance.

More to follow next month.....

Finally, I would like to wish you ALL a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year!!!!!!



Contact info:

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SAUL'S CORNER

You may have noticed in the media over the last few weeks, articles on road safety and the 'drive' to reduce road casualties to net zero over the coming years.

You may not think this has anything to do with you, but ask yourself one question, do you use the road network? If the answer is yes, then you can play your part in reducing the road casualties in our area.

Are you fit to drive? Your fitness to drive depends on a lot of factors, the mood you are in, your attitude to other drivers, are you on medication and can that effect your ability to drive. When did you last have your eyes checked, as we get older our eye sight deteriorates and these changes in your sight can be minor, but over a period of time reduces your ability to react to dangers on the road. If you have not had your eyes checked recently then it is worth visiting the opticians, or at least consider it once every two years. Speak to your GP about the medication you are on and make sure you are safe to drive whilst taking it.

As the winter takes hold, driving becomes more challenging, coping with colder mornings having to de-ice the car before driving and icy road conditions. Leave more time for your journey, reduce your speed and leave more space between you and the vehicle in front.



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Check your car over more regularly, checking the tyres, washer fluid and your lights, replace any bulbs that are not working, top up your washer fluid regularly. When starting your journey, make sure all windows are free from ice, drive within your capabilities and all this will help to reduce road accidents and death or serious injuries on our roads.

Obeying the speed limits is another way to reduce collisions, the speed limit on the road is exactly that, a limit not a target you may well have seen in the local area Community Speed Watch operators stood on the side of the road recording vehicle speeds. You may, if you have been travelling around some of the smaller villages seen the speed detection trolley. This has been deployed as a means to reduce speed in the villages where Community Speed Watch can't operate. Both, Community Speed Watch and the speed trolley are run by volunteers and we are really struggling to recruit volunteers to run both schemes.

If you would like to volunteer for either or both, this would be another way to play your part in making the roads around our local area that much safer. You will find a poster for volunteers in this edition of the gazette.

Have a very Happy Christmas and hope that the new year is better than the last.....Saul